



THE INDIAN CRAFT SHOP

Department of the Interior • 1849 C Street, NW • Washington, DC 20240 • (202) 208-4056
 Open Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm & The 3rd Saturday of each Month 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
 www.indiancraftshop.com • email: indiancrafts@erols.com
 Representing American Indian Arts and Crafts Since 1938

Welcome Spring!

Come to The Indian Craft Shop and celebrate Spring. One of the most beautiful times of the year in Washington, D.C., it's a great time to renew your spirit after hibernating through those long cold winter months! The Shop has planned an exciting year of shows highlighting some of the finest Native artists in the country, kicking off with Navajo jeweler **Gloria Yellowhorse**.

YELLOWHORSE FAMILY TRUNK JEWELRY SHOW

Friday and Saturday, March 16th & 17th
 (Saturday hours: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm)

We are so excited! After several years of conflicting schedules, we've finally found a date when Navajo jeweler **Gloria Yellowhorse** can join us at the Shop. For those of you who have collected her work or other members of her talented family, now is your chance to see the whole array of jewelry they create.

Gloria's driving force is her view of beauty in life and of life that she expresses in every one of her classic, yet contemporary, designs, many of which have become family traditions. It's fun to coordinate by mixing and matching her bracelets, rings, belts, pins and earrings because many include complementary designs. Her "sunbursts", a domed center surrounded by dollops of round silver beads, are a favorite. They can be framed with a wire twist or shadow-box for a more dramatic effect. In addition to turquoise, Gloria uses semi-precious stones, including amethyst, carnelian, pearls and amber to adorn her pieces.

Gloria's modesty of her own work comes through as she proudly represents and promotes work by her son, **Richard** and her sister, **Artie**. Working in heavy gauge silver, their standards of quality have never slipped. Sensitive to imports and copies, Gloria has incorporated her own stamps/hallmarks. Her philosophy is that quality and beauty cannot be duplicated and the Yellowhorse family artwork will always stand out and survive. We have enjoyed our continued relationship with Gloria over the years and are happy to offer the opportunity for you to meet with her in person.

THE CHARM AND WHIMSY OF NAVAJO FIGURATIVE FOLK ART

Folk art is a growing field with more and more dedicated followers. What makes folk art different? Like any art, it is very personal to each individual. It is often whimsical and usually reflects the charm of rural life. It has also been described as completely honest and passionate, reflecting the love of art that comes from the individual artist. A collector looks for art created by artists who are self-taught and whose work comes from communal traditions that are part of the everyday life of the people.

The Indian Craft Shop enjoys sharing the colorful and enchanting works of the folk artists from Navajo Nation, expressing the Navajo view of the world and its people, animals and spirits. The Shop carries work from a number of Navajo folk artists, some of those currently available are described below.

Humor makes **Delbert Buck's** work a favorite. For the recent "Flag and Eagle" show, we featured an eagle flying a propeller plane, a grandmother carrying a flag while riding a rocking horse and an Indian cowboy flying on an eagle — complete with saddle.

Betty Emerson's colorful clay figures of Navajo men and women tending sheep give a charming picture of country life.

Work by her son, **Travis Emerson**, echoes her style. Usually working on a larger scale, his sculptures make ordinary scenes come to life, with each figure radiating its own personality. One shows an older Navajo woman getting ready to make frybread. Another figure shows a Navajo woman holding a young lamb in one hand with a bottle to feed it in the other.



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ARTIST OF THE MONTH PROGRAM

The Indian Craft Shop *Artist of the Month Program* showcases the work of an individual artist each month, demonstrating the tribal area diversity of the Shop and giving visitors an opportunity to appreciate the wide variety of artistic expressions and traditions found in this country today. While there is a special highlight and larger selection of work available during the month an artist is featured, be sure to ask to see the work from previous *Artists of the Month*. A written *Artist of the Month* biography is available on each artist.

January 2001 – Alfred Joe (Navajo)

Known for his painstaking precision and graceful designs, this award-winning jeweler works in silver or gold. He has mastered a variety of techniques, such as hollow forming, overlay and raising metal. When incorporating stones into his pieces, he chooses magnificent, high grade, natural turquoise stones from historic mines like Lander, Bisbee, Morenci or Indian Mountain. The Indian Craft Shop has been representing his work since the mid-1980s. Al Joe was recently awarded the Indian Arts and Crafts Association Artist of the Year Award for the year 2001.

February 2001 – Lorenzo Hogue (Navajo)



Working in steel, this talented artist transforms traditional images into contemporary and striking works of art in sculpture form. Accenting his hand cut steel sculptures of ye'i figures and occasionally eagles, Lorenzo uses torching methods to achieve hints of rainbow colors, or fuses brass to add gold contrast. He describes his graceful creations, cut

from sheets of metal, as “. . . little beings looking for a home.”

March 2001 – Jean Bad Moccasin (Oglala Lakota)

Named as one of the “Avant-Garde” potters in Susan Peterson’s *Pottery of American Indian Women: The Legacy of Generations* we are proud to represent Jean Bad Moccasin in The Indian Craft Shop. Jean brings a new dimension to pottery, working with traditional designs in a non-traditional form for the

Northern Plains. Jean takes clay to create parfleche shapes which, at first glance, do not appear as clay. Ledger-style drawings take on a new character when painted on clay vessels. The creamy clay background becomes her canvas, almost deceiving the viewer that the background is made of rawhide instead. We celebrate Jean’s work in March as our tribute to Women’s History Month.



April 2001 – Suzanne Wardlow (Yup’ik)

Suzanne’s lifelike dolls reflect her joy in sharing the Yup’ik way of life. She received early teachings of the ways of the Yup’ik women from her mother, Alice Abraham, as she grew up in Bethel, Alaska. The skills she learned — weaving a basket, sewing, preparing grasses and skins, beading, gathering food, and “a lot of patience” help her as she creates each doll. Each doll has a place in the Yup’ik culture — the Berry Picker has a basket of fresh berries, the Eagle Dancer



has a removable dance mask, the Basket Maker sits comfortably on a mat surrounded by her tools. Suzanne takes great pride in her work and is a perfectionist in completing each piece. She includes a mounted description with each creation.

May 2001 – Andrea Wilbur-Sigo (Squaxin Island)

From a family that has produced generations of carvers, Andrea is the first known woman to take on the craft. Growing up around carvers, beadworkers and basketweavers, Andrea applies what she has learned to her art forms. She

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Figurative Folk Art

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Delightful mudtoys from **Elsie Benally** have young girls and boys riding on the backs of sheep, and even Uncle Sam perched on top of a pony. Many of **Harrison** and **Reva Juan’s** men and women sport sunglasses that reflect the desert landscape. Sturdy sandstone horses by **Homer Warren** sit beside a wooden eagle by **Les Herbert** and a (red-white-and-blue) turkey by **Lucretia Hebert**. Also look for multicolored chickens and other animals by **Alonzo** and **Cher Herbert**. And, if you’re lucky, there might still be a red- white-and-blue chicken with moccasins and leg wraps by **Jean Yazzie** left on the shelves. For more information, pick up a copy of *The People Speak, Navajo Folk Art* by Chuck and Jan Rosenak (1994, Northland Publishing), also available at The Indian Craft Shop.

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carves bent-wood boxes, masks and panels with an attention to detail that makes each piece a collector's item. Traditional Coast Salish designs take on a fresh look with her clean lines and modern colors mixed with those of the past. Her newest art form includes dolls with carved masks, hands and feet, wearing traditional clothing.



June 2001 – Ray Winters (Standing Rock Sioux)

Ray enjoys working in a variety of mediums, from making traditional buckskin dresses to painting on rawhide and other leatherwork. He creates finely painted miniature parfleche, made with exacting details. While he also makes full-size buckskin dresses, his miniature dresses on wooden stands (approx-



mately ten inches) make a wonderful art form enjoyable in any display or purely on their own. Each is a work of art, from the painstakingly cut fringe to the exquisite painted designs and adornments. His miniature parfleche are leather jewels, with exacting details and finely-painted Plains designs.

July 2001 – Kenneth Johnson (Muscogee)

Ken's jewelry reflects his Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole heritage. Exquisitely crafted bracelets, necklaces, buckles, pendants, hair ties, one-of-a-kind boxes and traditional Indian neck ornaments, called gorgets, feature patterns taken from the ancient moundbuilder culture, Seminole patchwork and South-eastern pottery. Johnson specializes in stamp work and engraving, often employing silver, gold, platinum, copper and coins as an integral part of the work. Recent works include stones found on the San Carlos Reservation, including peridot, garnet and androdite. We're excited to highlight a jeweler who comes from a different tribal area this month.

GET ONLINE WITH THE INDIAN CRAFT SHOP

Have you visited our website, www.indiancraftshop.com? We continue to add and update. While the Shop gets numerous requests for a catalog, the one-of-a-kind nature of the art makes even an on-line catalog difficult to manage. For out-of-town customers and those of you who like to shop by Internet, we are able to send you alerts on new arrivals and e-mail you photos of available art. Just send your e-mail address to indiancrafts@erols.com. Let us know if you want all alerts, or have a special area of interest. We will continue, of course, our regular mailing list for the newsletter and show announcements.

BEYOND THE MONUMENTS – NEIGHBORHOOD WALK DAY, SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Mark Your Calendars for Saturday, June 2 for the Neighborhood Walk Day. The Department of the Interior Museum joins a citywide celebration of Washington's lesser-known destinations. The DOI Museum and The Indian Craft Shop will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. For more information on Neighborhood Walk Day, call the Museum at (202) 208-4659.

SEE OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER FOR PROFILES OF THE ARTISTS OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST THROUGH DECEMBER.

- August 2001- Jerry Laktonen** (Alutiig), carver
- September 200 - Allen Lynn Lewis** (Zuni Pueblo), fetish carver
- October 2001- Charlie Pratt** (Cheyenne-Arapaho), sculptor
- November 2001- Artist TBA** (Tohono O'Odham), basketmaker
- December 2001- Glendora Fragua** (Jemez Pueblo), potter

CONGRATULATIONS TO DIRECTOR SUSAN POURIAN!

Indian Craft Shop Director Susan Pourian became the 2001 President of the Indian Arts and Crafts Association Board of Directors. Established in 1974 to promote authentic American Indian arts and crafts, IACA (www.iaca.com) is headquartered in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The membership is comprised of individuals and businesses that represent the whole industry of American Indian arts and crafts: artists, retailers, wholesalers, museums, government agencies, collectors and supporters.



Book Corner - New Arrivals

AMERICAN INDIAN TEXTILES: 2,000 ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES, by Gregory Schaaf. CIAC Press, 2000. \$65.00.

INDIAN BASKETMAKERS OF CALIFORNIA AND THE GREAT BASIN, by Larry Dalrymple. Museum of New Mexico Press, 2000. \$24.95.

HALLMARKS OF THE SOUTHWEST, SECOND EDITION, by Barton Wright. Schiffer Publishing. 2000. \$45.00.

A GUIDE TO HOPI KATSINA DOLLS, by Kent McManis. Rio Nuevo Publishers, 2000. \$9.95.

POW WOW, by George P. Horse Capture. Buffalo Bill Historical Center, 1989. \$14.95.

SOUTHWEST SILVER JEWELRY, by Paula A. Baxter. Schiffer Publishing, 2001. \$49.95.

UNDERSTANDING NORTHWEST COAST ART: A GUIDE TO CRESTS, BEINGS AND SYMBOLS, by Cheryl Sheerar. University of Washington Press, 2000. \$17.95.

SPIRIT OF THE FIRST PEOPLE: NATIVE AMERICAN MUSIC TRADITIONS OF WASHINGTON STATE, with accompanying CD, edited by Willie Smyth and Esme Ryan. University of Washington Press, 2000. \$29.95.

WEAVING THE DANCE: NAVAJO YEIBICHAH TEXTILES (1910-1950), by Rebecca M. Valette and Jean-Paul Valette.. Adobe Gallery, 2000. \$19.95

Show Calendar

Trunk Jewelry Show -Yellowhorse Family
March 16 – 17
With Guest Artist Gloria Yellowhorse (Navajo)

Annual Indian Craft Shop Sale
April 9 – 21
Open Until 8pm on Thursday, April 12

American Indian Doll Show
September 4 – 21

History of Santo Domingo Jewelry
October 18 - 20
With Guest Artist/Speaker Martine Lovato

Arts of Alaska
November 5 – 30

Arts of the Zuni Pueblo
November 14 – 17
With Guest Artist/Demonstration
Michael Cobol (Zuni)

Contemporary Jewelers of the Southwest
December 13 – 15
With Guest Artist – TBA

REMEMBER: The Indian Craft Shop is open the third Saturday of each month from 10am to 4pm



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Guest Services

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