

Sally Bartos

The work of Sally Bartos evokes the mystery of Indian cultures of the Southwest. She creates mystical motifs of the vanishing races as well as of contemporary Native Americans. The high regard she holds for Indian women is reflected by painting dignity & beauty, which is their natural mantle.



We attended Snake Dances at Polacca & I enjoyed running through the ins & outs of First & Second Mesas with little Hopi kids. We had friends in Taos, Zuni, Acoma & of course from all over Navajo land; almost every weekend we went exploring, getting lost or stuck in the sand, encountering people who would become friends, many of whom came to stay at our house when they had business in Window Rock.”

Sally Bartos’ art training developed from living with an extremely creative & encouraging family. Her creations are visions of rich color & bold design. She lives in Albuquerque, where she paints every minute spared from caring for three young children.

Having lived most of her life in the Southwest, much of her childhood was spent exploring canyons with ancient petroglyphs & caves. Her family of photographers, artists & archaeologists gave her the lifelong love of Indian cultures & the appreciation of their arts.

Growing up on the Navajo Reservation, her life was filled with the mysticism, serenity & even the whimsies of Indian life. She accompanied family & friends to many Indian gatherings & spent happy times with her Navajo schoolmates.

“My family always seemed to be visiting someone,” she says. “At Hopi land, Kachina Carvers & Potters were my parents’ friends.

