

Patricia Burns

My fascination with jewelry started at an early age. The first piece of jewelry I ever owned was a turquoise & coral inlay Navajo bracelet, purchased for me by my parents. Ironically, at the time, I was living in Pennsylvania, where I was born & raised. Native American art was a scarcity. I am presently living in Albuquerque, NM, where I am constantly surrounded by Native American art. I do believe that first piece of jewelry must have been the beginning of a lifelong appreciation for art from various cultures. I started admiring & collecting jewelry from that day forward.

One day it occurred to me that if I enjoyed jewelry that much, I should try making it for myself. I took several classes at a university, then later on at an art college. What I discovered was that I really enjoyed the process of making jewelry.

I find myself drawn to unusual & odd shaped stones. The stone usually dictates the conception of a piece. The silver is then designed to compliment the shape of the stone. I saw the shape out of a sterling silver sheet. I then texture the metal by hammering, hand stamping or roller printing. I have some wonderful hand-made stamping tools that were handed down to me by my father. I use them regularly to add unique patterns & texture to my pieces. I have always had a fascination & love of wire, so I incorporate sterling silver wire into most of my pieces.

My designs are inspired & influenced from various sources. I love art from ancient civilizations & the natural beauty of the earth. I strive to create pieces that reflect a natural, earthy feel. I individually design & handcraft each piece & hope that you enjoy wearing it as much as I enjoy making it.

Product Information

Each piece is individually designed & hand-made. Each piece is unique, no two are alike. All components of the jewelry are made from sterling silver, including the wire used. Stones are all natural, semi-precious stones with unique one-of-a-kind patterns. Each shape is sawed out by hand, using sterling silver sheet when possible, a stamping pattern is created to compliment & bring out the texture pattern.

The texture is achieved by hand stamping, which that every mark you see takes on blow of a hammer with a stamping tool. Depending on the piece, it could take many, many repetitive hammer blows to create the design & texture. The edge are then filled repetitively, until they are clean & smooth. They are also "beveled with a file (front & back) to create additional smooth lines & cleaner edges. This also creates an "outlining edge" that ensures that the silver will be smooth & comfortable to wear against the skin.

Each piece is signed with the artist's initials & hallmarker with sterling.

