

## Kristeen Garcia Rizkilla



Kristeen was born & raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The youngest of eight children, she is of Native American, Hispanic genealogy. As a child she enjoyed making mud pies & playing with the tortilla dough her mother periodically gave her. This experience formed the beginning of her

artistic training. Self-taught, she uses low fire clay, stains & glazes are also applied to bring out the folds in the clothing & character to the faces. Because each figure is hand-built, all are unique. Feathers, beads & an occasional pot or basket is added for adornment. The artist invites you to look past the process of sculpture in this medium & focus, if only for a moment, on the wisdom, strength & timelessness of this great people.



Like her mother, the women Kristeen portrays reflect a strength of character & purpose gained through a life of selfless giving. In contrast, the figures reflect a tenderness that comes from a deep seeded need to love & nourish those around them. These balancing qualities are the essence of the artist & the art.

Like the people made of clay, the artist believes we are here to love God & each other through the caring, nurturing spirit within us making sensitivity & frailty independent from one another.

