

Connie Smith Kani



In 1988, while living in Albuquerque and teaching piano, my sister handed me a box of paints and brushes and few blank t shirts. She had reached the point in her stay-at-home-mom years where

she could go back to the work force. Always looking out for me, she must have had a sense that I too posses an artistic bone (she was right) and that I'd want

to stay home with my as of yet unborn children (she was right). Her gift to me was a blessing. I moved to Colorado and started my family.

After my babies were born I painted clothing while they slept or played. I entered my work into shops and art shows and was thrilled that I could make money doing what I love while my kids "made stuff" nearby.



As they grew, so did I. I ventured into wire art, jewelry, mosaics and currently paper quilts.

The paper quilts are combination of my loves: nature, beads, beautiful paper, textures, colors and found objects. I make one quilt at a time and the feeling of the piece is determined by which objects I have chosen to use. Some pieces are inspired by the beauty of Colorado. I use twigs from trees, aspen leaves, sand and pebbles from the river. Others are brighter with jewelry and found treasures.



Having lived in New Mexico for 10 years I feel that I can capture the magnificence of the culture by using Kokopelli, other Southwestern shapes, and of course incorporating the beautiful colors of New Mexico.