

## Artist's Biography and Statement

Of

Linda Saucier Boatwright

Linda was born in Jackson, Mississippi in the 50's. Her family moved to Atlanta, Georgia when she was a teenager. Through her youth, her family spent their summers at their Grandmother's home in Mississippi, where she and her sister were instructed in the art of pastels by a great Aunt. She loved her summers there and from a young age wanted to be an artist. She attended DeKalb College in 1969 where she met her husband in a painting class. She attended the University of Georgia and finished her art training at the Atlanta College of Art where she majored in Painting and Photography. She and her husband, Cecil, opened a Gem and Mineral business in Atlanta, called The Great Outdoors in 1973. They moved their business over the years and changed their name to The Jewelcrafters. She has been creating gold and silver jewelry since 1973, while her husband did fine lapidary work. They moved to Silver City with their two teenagers in 1995. They operated the Azurite Gallery for 20 years. After the death of her husband in 2016, she moved to Los Lunas to be closer to their children and grandchildren.

After having moved to the Southwest, Linda was inspired to renew her work in photography in 1996 and pastel painting in 1998. She finds the landscape we live in is often taken for granted because we are so busy in our day-to-day existence. With her paintings, she tries to capture and show the beauty of a lone tree on a hillside, a magnificent cloud or the deep shadows to the late afternoon that we all see but seldom notice. Most people think of our landscape as drab in color but being a lover of color, she wants to push the colors that are already there to a higher level of intensity. And with this intensity, hope to bring the viewer to a new awareness of the beauty around them and inspire them to take a second look.

Her award winning pastel paintings are in private collections from coast to coast.