

STORYTELLERS:
WOMEN WRITING TAOS
1912-2012
a bibliography



May 2012

To bibliophiles, regardless of gender, and anyone interested in northern New Mexico, I hope you'll enjoy exploring the books described in the following pages as much as I've enjoyed gathering them.

Inspired by the Remarkable Women of Taos campaign and the New Mexico Centennial, this project grew to involve many talented Taos-based writers and literary champions whose names and works I've come to know and value. Muchas gracias to all who've provided input and encouragement, and especially to those who've generously given permission to use their words.

Though it now includes nearly 150 titles and over 100 authors, the bibliography continues to be a work in progress. Please forward suggestions for additions or amendments to taostreehouse@gmail.com with "Bibliography Feedback" in the subject line.

Mya Coursey

Addendum: Some authors and titles have been added since original publication in 2012.

STORYTELLERS: WOMEN WRITING TAOS 1912-2012

When New Mexico became the 47th state of the United States in 1912, the area now called Taos County was no *tabula rasa*. The Pueblo at the base of the sacred mountain had been continuously inhabited for 500 years; archeological traces gave evidence of even older settlements; descendents of armies, missionaries, and traders from Spain, Mexico, France, and the U.S. had gathered around plazas and established small farms. For the most part, men had made the rules and written the history. This bibliography celebrates the women who for the last century have brought a feminine sensibility to the recorded stories of this enchanted land.

The books listed here were all written by women between 1912 and 2012. All make reference to the Town of Taos or places within an easy daytrip, omitting Santa Fe. They tell stories, that is, they are not exclusively reference or technical. Each listing includes title, author's name, original publication date, a brief description, and a code letter indicating type of book, e.g., history, fiction, children's. (*Refer to legend at the bottom of each page.*)

Titles are informally arranged under eight headings, each with a brief introduction:

- 🗑 The Pueblos & The Wild West
- 🗑 Historically Hispanic
- 🗑 Luhan's Salon & Other Writers
- 🗑 *De Poesía* (Poetry)
- 🗑 The Artists
- 🗑 Fiber Arts Tradition
- 🗑 Day Trips to Taos Neighbors
- 🗑 Mostly Mysteries

Scattered among the listings, you'll find *nichos* with images by or about some of the writers.

At the end ...

1. Suggested survey of ten titles;
2. List of books written for children or teens;
3. Bookstores and other resources within the targeted area; (*Many books listed are out of print or otherwise challenging to find, but the hunt can be part of the fun.*)
4. Alphabetical list of authors.

THE PUEBLOS & THE WILD WEST

Two of the three oldest books fall into this category, as well as three choice children's books and an intriguing assortment of classics, fiction, nonfiction, and feminist analysis.

Taos Indians by Blanche C. Grant (1925) **H**

*After moving to Taos in 1920, artist Blanche Chloe Grant became a writer, one of few with whom Taos Pueblo people shared their stories; considered an important, though dated, historical account; also look for her very small but interesting volume **Taos Today** (1925)*

The Pueblo Potter: A Study of Creative Imagination in Primitive Art by Ruth Bunzel (1929) **N**

Classic, covering everything about Indian pottery, from gathering clay through firing and marketing

When Old Trails Were New by Blanche C. Grant (1934) **H**

400-year history of tough little town of Taos, including tales of rebellions, explorers, mountain men, and artists

Little Boy with Three Names: Stories of Taos Pueblo by Ann Clark (1940) **C**

Stories of young boy with three names (Indian, Hispanic, Anglo) and his coming of age over a summer home from boarding school; charmingly illustrated by Tonita Lujan of Taos Pueblo

Maria: The Potter of San Ildefonso by Alice Marriott (1948) **B**

Early account of legendary potter Maria Martinez who, with her husband Julian, revived the ancient Pueblo craft of pottery-making and prompted the national interest in collecting; book has remained in print for 60 years

See also **Alice Marriott Remembered, An Edited Memoir** by Charlotte Whaley (2009) **M**

Trained as anthropologist/ethnologist, Marriott's writings gave fresh and lively accounts of the complex cultures of the Southwestern Indian; a collection of delightful personal stories from her full life

*Among many other books about Maria Martinez... **B***

The Legacy of Maria Poveka Martinez by Mary Jane Gagnier Mendoza with Richard Spivey

Maria Making Pottery: The Story of Famous American Indian Potter Maria Martinez by Hazel Hyde

Maria Montoya Martinez: Master Potter by Elsie Karr Kreischer

The Living Tradition of Maria Martinez by Susan Peterson

Murder & Mystery in New Mexico by Erna Fergusson (1948) **H**

Nine well written stories of outlaws and episodes in NM from late 1800's and early 1900's, including one in Taos and another in Cimarron

Satan's Paradise by Agnes Morley Cleaveland (1952) **H**

Not as well known as Cleaveland's classic memoir of ranch life in southern NM, No Life for a Lady, this book tells of Cimarron's gun-slinging, outlaw history

Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko (1976) **F**

Moving story of a troubled veteran healing from his war experiences, "filled with the somber majesty of Pueblo myth;" author praised by New York Times Book Review as "the most accomplished Native American writer of her generation"

Many Winters: Poetry and Prose of the Pueblos by Nancy Wood (1979) **N**

Graceful record of Taos Pueblo wisdom; a classic

COVER STORY TELLER

Pueblo pottery making continues to be a wellspring of beauty and source of wonder in northern NM. Witness the extraordinary storyteller figure on the cover, produced several years ago by Taos Pueblo artist Tseme. See examples of her more recent work at <http://www.taospueblonativefires.com>.

Kit Carson: A Pattern for Heroes by Thelma Guild with Harvey Carter (1988) **B**

Well researched, entertaining biography of Western legend separates myth from fact

Spider Woman's Granddaughters: Traditional Tales and Contemporary Writing by Native American Women by Paula Gunn Allen (1990) **F**

Praised by NY Times Book Review, this is a powerful collection of traditional tales, biographical writings, and short stories, many by today's most accomplished Native American women writers

Crazy Woman by Kate Horsley (1992) **F**

Story of Virginia woman captured by Apaches in 19th century northern NM

From Martyrs to Murderers by Jacqueline Meketa (1993) **H**

Carefully researched and entertainly written early New Mexico tales of people caught up in exciting or unusual events whose "deeds range from the foulest to the finest"

A Killing in New Town by Kate Horsely (1996) **F**

Award-winning novel of kidnapping in 19th century NM and its unlikely avengers

The World of Flower Blue: Pop Chalee by Margaret Cesa (1997) **B**

Beautiful story of nationally recognized Indian artist, daughter of Taos Pueblo, and "the world in which she gracefully negotiated for herself and her family"

Writing the Range: Race, Class and Culture in the Women's West **H**

edited by Elizabeth Jamison with Susan Armitage (1997)

"Twenty-nine essays that present women of all races as actors in their own lives and in the history of the American West... ."

Engendered Encounters: Feminism and Pueblo Cultures 1879-1934

by Margaret Jacobs (1999) **H**

Interdisciplinary exploration of changing relationship between Anglo women and Pueblo Indians before and after turn of the century

Thunderwoman by Nancy Wood (1999) **F**

With magic realism rooted in legend, mysticism, and myth, a compelling tale of the destruction of Native American culture by Anglo greed and religion

A Woman of the Century, Frances Minerva Nunnery (1898-1997) by Cecil Dawkins (2002) **M**

Story of a determined, ingenious entrepreneur whose career and personality defy every stereotype about women "as told in her own memorable voice...."

Old Coyote by Nancy Wood (2006) **C**

Beautifully illustrated story of wise old creature's last day, using traditional Pueblo images; comforting tale suitable for helping explain death to young children

Kiki's Journey by Kristy Orona-Ramirez, illustrated by Jonathan Warm Day (2006) **C**

Nicely illustrated story for younger readers of city girl returning to Pueblo where she was born, experiencing challenges and rewards of Indian life today

Matilda Coxe Stevenson: Pioneering Anthropologist by Darlis A. Miller (2007) **B**

First full biography of first woman anthropologist to work among the Pueblos of the Southwest, who helped define the contours of anthropological research at the turn of the twentieth century. challenges older interpretations of Stevenson's life and work as she traces one woman's quest for professional recognition in a male-dominated profession.

Taos Pueblo and Its Sacred Blue Lake by Marcia Keegan (2010) **H**

Colorful story of Taos Pueblo people's 400-year struggle against attempts to suppress their religion and confiscate their land; forewords by Stewart Udall and Frank Waters

HISTORICALLY HISPANIC

Leading off with Cather's venerable classic, ending with Zamora's recent and well-received memoir, and in between Church's rediscovered children's story, books in this section paint a rich picture of the area's Hispanic gestalt.

Death Comes for the Archbishop by Willa Cather (1928) **F**

Classic follows lives of two Jesuit missionaries from France to 19th century New Mexico, including their conflict with Taos' powerful Padre Martinez

Brothers of Light by Alice Henderson (1937) **H**

Early, classic work on penitential brotherhood written by poet with insight into experience of the sacred

New Mexico: A Pageant of Three Peoples by Erna Fergusson (1951) **N**

Entertaining, informative classic about the Indians, Hispanics, and Anglos in New Mexico

Romance of a Little Village Girl by Cleofas Jaramillo (1955) **M**

Memoir offers unique and engaging portrait of daily life and customs of Hispanic culture in northern NM from the late nineteenth through the early twentieth century

Camposantos by Dorothy Benrimo (1966) **H**

Photographic essay – with commentary by Rebecca Salsbury James and historical notes by E. Boyd – of Hispanic cemeteries in NM that photographer saw as “the last cultural expression of the Spanish-American” and a “continuity of expression in honest devotion and love and passion.”

Enchanted Temples Enchanted Temples of Taos: My story of Rosario

by Dora Ortiz Vasquez (1975) **H**

Record of northern NM historical adventure/myth as passed down through author's family

Brothers of Light, Brothers of Blood: The Penitentes of the Southwest

by Marta Weigle (1976) **H**

Award-winning, comprehensive study of the religious fraternity

La Partera: Story of a Midwife by Fran Leeper Buss (1980) **B**

Story of Jesusita Aragon's journey from 14-year-old midwife apprentice to community leader; with supplemental historical account of Hispanic and Anglo female healers

Hovels, Haciendas and Housecalls by Dorothy Simpson Beimer (1986) **B**

Early 20th century doctor returns to work in northern NM community where his own illness was cured; by Las Vegas native

Villages of Hispanic New Mexico by Nancy Hunter Warren (1987) **H**

Photos and text documenting history and culture of NM's Hispanic communities in the 1970's; “...blends first-rate... scholarship with...arrestingly beautiful photography.”

A Century of Hands: An Architectural History

by Corina Santistevan with Van Dorn Hooker (1996) **H**

Informative book about the iconic St. Francisco de Assis Church in Ranchos de Taos

Tradiciones Nuevomexicanas: Hispano Arts and Culture of New Mexico **N**

By Mary Montaña (2001)

First comprehensive overview of religious and secular folk arts of New Mexico from 16th century to the present; well researched, highly readable, generously illustrated book by NM journalist

Life on Torrez Road: a Northern New Mexico Family History by J. Marie Judy (2005) **M**

Illustrated by Joanne Dulmaine

Mama Fela's Girls by Ana Baca (2006) **F**

Compelling tale of the strong women of Hispanic family in rural New Mexico during the Depression

Acequia: Water Sharing, Sanctity, and Place by Sylvia Rodriguez (2007) **N**

Essential reading to understand how water is still a significant presence in the life of Taos Valley

New Mexico's Crypto Jews: Image and Memory by Cary Herz (2009) **H**

Photos and essays documenting search for Hispanic descendants of crypto-Jews, who were forced to convert to Catholicism in the Spanish Inquisition

Road from La Cueva by Shiela Ortego (2009) **F**

Award winning "existential drama" of a woman's struggle to find her path, discover her strength, and know her heart; by respected poet/professor

Shoes for the Santo Niño by Peggy Pond Church, illustrated by Charlie Carrillo (2009) **C**

Charming tale for children reflects traditions of both Hispanic and Native American cultures; originally written in 1930's, rediscovered story was published with illustrations by award-winning artist in 2009 and staged as NM Centennial opera in 2012

Sweet Nata by Gloria Zamora (2011) **M**

Warm memoir about family, tradition, and the author's childhood experiences during 1950's and 1960's in Mora and Corrales

Milagro of the Spanish Bean Pot by Emerita Romero-Anderson (2011) **C**

Beautifully illustrated story for "middle readers," brings to life the culture and history of Spanish Colonial times in northern NM through the trials of 11-year-old Raymundo as he tries to save his village from drought, famine, Comanche raiders, and his mother's ill health

LUHAN'S SALON & OTHER WRITERS

Wealthy socialite Mabel Dodge Sterne arrived in Taos the year before the 19th Amendment became law and set about transforming the little town into a Mecca for the era's most creative writers. Their lives -- and hers -- were the stuff of legend, and their legacies are evident in the area today.

Starry Adventure by Mary Austin (1931) **F**

Last novel by notable early feminist, activist, and author; her views on marriage, culture and nature resonate with today's readers

Lorenzo in Taos by Mabel Dodge Luhan (1932) **M**

Collection of letters among Luhan, D.H. Lawrence, and poet Robinson Jeffers give intensely personal account of relationship among three extraordinary talents

Lawrence and Brett: a Friendship by Dorothy Brett (1933) **M**

Written shortly after the death of D. H. Lawrence, Lady Brett's account of their relationship was praised by contemporaries for its honesty and incisiveness; updated by author in 1974

Not I But the Wind by Frieda Lawrence (1934) **M**

Frieda Lawrence's own story of her life with the man now regarded as the greatest English novelist of the 20th century

Winter in Taos by Mabel Dodge Luhan (1935) **M**

Simple, journal-like narrative of author's first winter in Taos; celebrates her awakening spiritual connection to the earth

Edge of the Taos Desert: An Escape to Reality by Mabel Dodge Luhan (1937) **M**

Describes author's 1917 arrival in Taos, her spiritual journey, appreciation for Pueblo life, and growing relationship with Tony Lujan

Frieda Lawrence: the Memoirs and Correspondence by Frieda Lawrence (1964) **M**

Posthumously published writings of D. H. Lawrence's controversial widow

A Taos Mosaic by Claire Morrill (1973) **H**

A legend in her own right, bookstore proprietor Morrill gives charming first-hand account of early 20th century Taos and its characters as well as sketches of earlier historical events

Santa Fe and Taos: The Writers' Era, 1916-1941 by Marta Weigle (1982) **H**

Highlights writers drawn to Taos by Mabel Dodge Luhan, resulting in a "glorious literary period"

Mabel Dodge Luhan: New Woman, New Worlds by Lois Palken Rudnick (1987) **B**

Luhan was not only mistress of salons in Europe, New York, and Taos, she was a leading symbol of the emancipated woman emerging from the Victorian age; definitive biography examines all aspects of her "real and imagined lives"

The Spirit that Wants Me: a New Mexico Anthology

by J. Dianne Duff, Jill Kiefer, Michelle Miller editors (1991) **N**

Reflections by variety of writers on their experiences in and attachment to the area

Taos, A Memory by Miriam Hapgood DeWitt (1992) **M**

Moving memoir of young woman's coming of age, from her first summer as Mabel Dodge Luhan's houseguest in Taos through marriage, motherhood, and loss; glimpses of Luhan's fascinating circle of artist and writers

Spud Johnson and Laughing Horse by Sharyn Udall (1994) **B**

Account of the "quirky editor, poet, journalist, diarist, and printer Walter Willard Johnson," his iconoclastic literary magazine of the 1920's and 1930's, and circle of famous friends

A Genius for Living: The Life of Frieda Lawrence by Janet Byrne (1995) **B**

Lively biography of the unconventional wife of D. H. Lawrence, from aristocratic Prussian childhood, through numerous affairs and marriages, to her years in Taos

Utopian Vistas: The Mabel Dodge Luhan House and the American Counter Culture

by Lois Palken Rudnick (1996) **H**

Rudnick explores the house Luhan built and the artists and visionaries who visited as well as the countercultural influences under actor Dennis Hopper's ownership in the 1960's

Celebrating the Coyote by Barbara Waters (1999) **M**

Charming memoir by widow of iconic Southwestern writer Frank Waters begins with his death in 1995 and winds through recollections, dreams, literary references, and friendships as she recovers from the loss; richly describes culture and characters of Arroyo Seco

*The visitors sat in **Barbara Waters'** living room drinking tea as they drank in the art on the walls and words of their hostess. They were talking about her memoir **Celebrating the Coyote**, written after her husband's death in 1995. Barbara was charming them all with tales of Frank and the many famous and infamous local characters the couple had known.*

*When Deborah asked about the similarity between **Coyote's** cover and that of Frank Waters' memoir **Of Time and Change**, Barbara was delighted to tell the story:*

Frank's book was published posthumously in 1998 with a cover photo of the handsome writer standing in his beloved aspen grove. When Barbara's memoir was published the following year, she decided to use the same picture but with a lighted space in place of Frank's image to represent his corporal absence. The space can stand as well for his transition and continuing spiritual presence.

Barbara still lives in their lovely old adobe home in the aspen grove.



Translating Southwestern Landscapes: The Making of an Anglo Literary Region

by Audrey Goodman (2002) **H**

Wide-ranging history of the "Anglo cultural fantasy" that resulted in the Southwest becoming symbolic in word and image from 1880's through early 20th century

A Woman's Place: Women Writing New Mexico by Maureen Reed (2005) **B**

Collective biography of six remarkable 20th century New Mexicans highlights distinct role of women in shaping American multiculturalism

Beside the Rio Hondo by Phaedra Greenwood (2007) **M**

Life challenges reinforce author's attachment to unique, colorful land and culture of Taos area

Literary Pilgrims: The Santa Fe and Taos Writers' Colonies, 1917-1950 by Lynn Cline (2007) **B**

Highlights 16 well- and lesser-known writers whose collaboration resulted in lasting literary communities; includes guide for walking/driving tours of Santa Fe and Taos

From Greenwich Village to Taos: Primitivism and Place at Mabel Dodge Luhan's House

by Flannery Burke (2008) **H**

Portrait of the house as it took shape in the imaginations of visitors and the lives of locals; perceptions of Luhan's patronage by African- and Native American, Anglo and Hispanic artists

A Richer Dust by Amy Boaz (2008) **F**

Inspired by life of British painter Dorothy Brett, includes vivid descriptions of New Mexico landscapes, page-turning suspense; dramatically contrasts social mores of 1920's, 1960's

Lost Homelands: Ruin and Reconstruction in the 20th Century Southwest

by Audrey Goodman (2010) **H**

Original historical view of role of artists and writers in Southwest's evolution from "homeland," through dislocation by modern influences, to a new sense of community

Searching for Beauty by Cherie Burns (2011) **B**

First comprehensive biography of socialite and fashion icon Millicent Rodgers, who spent the last years of her glamorous life in Taos



WHERE'S MILLICENT?

"Because Millicent Rogers lived in many places, least of all New Mexico, I had to look for her story mostly back east. She was covered tirelessly by the newspapers, so the archives of the major and local newspapers and society columns of the time were some of the best resources. Hollywood, during the days of her affair with Clark Gable, was another place that kept track of her. It is challenging reporting and writing about a legend because the legend often overtakes the facts. I knew what I was getting into by the time I actually began working on the book, so there weren't a lot of surprises. What was remarkable about Rogers was how she managed to keep re-inventing herself and keep going. Her final years in Taos were the best example of that. Her deep and abiding affection for Tony Lujan came as close to a surprise as anything."

– Cherie Burns

DE POESÍA (poetry)

Many fine poets have found inspiration in the Taos area, though locations are seldom named. Their poems evoke the region's sights and sounds, geography and architecture, culture and spirit. Look for books, chapbooks, anthologies, and poetry journals containing work by the women whose collections are listed below and by ERIN BAD HAND, LISE GOETT, VERONICA GOLOS, ANNIE MCNAUGHTON, DORA E. MCQUAID, NANCY RYAN, CATHERINE STRISIK, LESLIE ULLMAN.

Indians, Horses, Hills, Et Cetera (1981) Poems and illustrations by Ila McAfee

Nostalgic reflections by Taos artist, who is herself fondly remembered

Giacometti's Dog (1990) by Robin Becker

Includes several beautiful poems with vivid images from Taos area

The Skins of Possible Lives (1996) & **The Storm That Tames Us** (1999) by Renee Gregorio

Both volumes are full of Taos references, from the Rio Grande gorge to Lama, earthships to acequias, the Pueblo to Cid's

A Bee In The Sheets (2002) by Beth Enson

With references to El Salto peak, Arroyo Seco, and El Prado

Accidental Magic (2004) by Peggy Pond Church

Posthumously published collection by one of northern New Mexico's best loved writers

The Sound A Raven Makes (2006) by Sawnie Morris, Michele Holland, Catherine Ferguson

Winner of NM Book Award; Morris's poems specifically inspired by the Taos landscape; she won 2010 Poetry Society of America Bogin Award

Love and Death: Greatest Hits (2011) by Reneé Gregorio, Joan Logghe, Miriam Sagan

That Fall (2011) by Christine Hemp

Among other Taos references throughout the book, the Rio Hondo flows through the poem "To the River and Wait" even as it flows through the valley of Valdez

Collecting Life: Poets on Objects Known and Imagined (2012) co-edited by Andrea Watson and Madelyn Garner

Includes Watson's Seven Reasons Why Frida Kahlo Is Alive And Well In Taos

Carousel: a Distillation of Time (2019) by Phyllis Hotch

New and selected poems by an original leader of SOMOS

THE WATERY SOUND A RAVEN MAKES



*The soul picks and threads
On a day bright with cloudlessness,
Wind, and a cottonwood*

*trailing its fingers in feathery currents
void of water or rain, though a sally of ravens
caresses the air. Obsidian wings*

*flapping their skirts. Round dance in blue,
sky-filled quadrille. Inversion. Ellipsis:
trapeze without wire, without net.*

*Euclidian tip of a hat. Birds
entranced by tutelary gossip.
Mail box. Billboard. Garbage bin.*

*Their cackle and caw is rain
in the mind of the desert.
Uneven chatter of droplets.*

*Gardens thirsty and shy.
Large black birds
of middle-morning, circle.*

*Rock. Fence. Dirt. Wind.
Anguish of drought.
Passion of rain.*

*By permission of Sawnie Morris; from **The Sound a Raven Makes**, 2006*

Seven Reasons Why Frida Kahlo Is Alive And Well In Taos

- I. *Open tap: Eske's Pub: Diego lifts
a microbrew, dreaming a mural of you, amber
and naked, with nine strong communists.*
- II. *Three porcelain dollies from Dallas try on your cape
of midnight at a little shop, all the while watching
out for the evil monkey you lost in 1946.*
- III. *Meanwhile, the child you would never have
miracle-dances in a courtyard right off the Plaza,
her gypsy's skirt sewn with ribbons and veins.*
- IV. *Pain of the iron rod weeps at the infants' headstones
(back of the camposanto). Its tears grow tomatillos--
green like your loneliness*
- V. *Or coral, lining the robe of la Virgin in the tiny church
of two altars. Braids piled about her head are a volcano,
spewing your mysterious tint of Coyoacán blue.*
- VI. *Soft road shoulder near San Cristobal, and the biker
who resembles Dennis Hopper invites you to swing
your leg over; fire-glow near the wheels means climb on.*
- VII. *Looking back, the vanishing horizon beneath
the forehead of Taos Mountain is your eyebrow:
a single dark sunset.*

*By permission of Andrea Watson;
from **Collecting Life: Poets on Objects Known and Imagined**, 2012*

THE ARTISTS

One has only to drive to Chama, visit Taos Pueblo, or stroll through any local museum to feel the magic that has inspired visual artists for centuries. In addition to the books, look for monographs, booklets, guides and the like by the town's remarkable women, like Helen Blumenschein.

Taos and Its Artists by Mabel Dodge Luhan (1947) **N**

Word portraits of the artists living in and visiting Taos during period of Luhan's salon

Fechin: The Builder by Eya Fechin (1982) **N**

Talented in many disciplines, Russian immigrant Nicolai Fechin considered Taos his American home; his daughter celebrates the house he created, now home of the Taos Museum of Art

Laura Gilpin: An Enduring Grace by Martha Sandweiss (1986) **B**

Beautiful biography and photo study of the difficult life and extraordinary work of a premier Southwest photographer

Paintbrushes and Pistols: How the Taos Artists Sold the West

by Sherry Clayton Taggett with Ted Schwarz (1990) **H**

Role of Taos Society of Artists in creating westward migration and radically changing styles in American art and illustration

Visions and Visionaries: The Art and Artists of the Santa Fe Railway

by Sandra D'Emilio with Suzan Campbell (1991) **H**

Beautifully illustrated story of the birth of tourism in the Southwest at beginning of 20th century

Independent Spirits: Women Painters of the American West 1890-1945

by Patricia Trenton with Virginia Scharff (1995) **H**

Collection of essays examining diverse artists and social/political forces shaping and shaped by their work during a time of profound change

Contested Terrain: Myth and Meanings in Southwestern Art by Sharyn Udall (1996) **N**

Collection of essays exploring the work of painters who were drawn to the ideas, people, and myths of the Southwest

Portrait of an Artist: A Biography of Georgia O'Keeffe by Laurie Lisle (1997) **B**

First biography of legendary artist to encompass whole of O'Keeffe's long and extraordinary life

Joseph Imhof - Artist of the Pueblos by Nancy Hopkins Reily with Lucile Enix (1998) **B**

Biography by recognized authority on Imhof, master lithographer, inventor and artist whose works present authentic detail of Pueblo life

Taos Then: Only in Taos Stories from a Bride Who Lived Them by Lucile Lattaner Reid Brock (1999) **M**

Illustrated with original sketches and watercolors by the author

Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life by Roxana Robinson (1999) **B**

A New York Times Notable Book of the Year

My Name is Georgia: A Portrait by Jeanette Winter (2003) **C**

Story of artist Georgia O'Keeffe for the younger reader

Passions in Print: Private Press Artistry in New Mexico 1834 - Present **N**

by Pamela S. Smith (2006)

Charming, informative, and beautifully illustrated record of small presses including writer Spud Johnson's Laughing Horse in Taos and printmaker Ralph Pearson's in Ranchos

Illumination: The Paintings of Georgia O'Keeffe, Agnes Pelton, Agnes Martin, and Florence Pierce by Karen Moss (2009) **B**

Celebrates careers of extraordinary artists in four beautifully illustrated essays and in-depth chronologies, focusing on unique ways each portrayed "the light of nature"

Cady Wells and Southwestern Modernism by Lois Palken Rudnick (2009) **B**

Comprehensive retrospective of the art and life of one of America's finest watercolorists

Clay Culture: Plasters, Paints and Preservation by Carole Crews (2010) **N**

Stories of building, restoring, and decorating structures in Taos Pueblo, Lama, Ranchos; photos document an art, philosophy, and lifestyle as much as a building process

FIBER ARTS TRADITION

Traditionally, fiber arts have been women's work. They are multi-cultural artistic expressions interwoven with stories of families and communities. Interested readers will be richly rewarded by visiting these related northern New Mexico venues:

Espanola Valley Fiber Arts Center

www.evfac.org

Tapetas de Lana & Mora Valley Spinning Mill

<http://moravalleyspinningmill.com>

Martinez Hacienda Museum in Taos

<http://www.taohistoricmuseums.com>

Weaving Southwest (online only)

<http://www.weavingsouthwest.com>

The Wool Festival at Taos (fall)

<http://www.taoswoolfestival.org>

Tapetas de Lana & Threadbear Fabrics in Las Vegas

The Weaving, Spinning, and Dyeing Book by Rachel Brown (1983) **N**

Back to the earth weaving bible by Taos legend who founded Weaving Southwest (Note: See Carole Crews' Clay Culture in preceding section for pictures of Rachel Brown and family building their adobe home.)

Three Weavers by Joan Potter Loveless (1992) **N**

Lyrical account of the way three Taos craftswomen worked and supported each other at a time of crisis

Los Ojos del Tejedor: The Eyes of the Weaver by Cristina Ortega (1997) **C**

Descendant of Ortega family of weavers in Chimayo shares memories of learning to weave from her grandfather; for younger readers, but also enjoyed by older children and adults

The Centinela Weavers of Chimayo: Unfolding Tradition

by Mary Terrence McKay with Lisa Trujillo (1999) **N**

Intertwined story of tradition, rug patterns and yarn preparation, community life, and the art of the Trujillo family

Surviving the Winter: The Evolution of Quilting in New Mexico by Dorothy Zopf (2001) **N**

Stories of quilt designs, their histories and the Hispanic and Anglo women who created an enduring legacy out of scraps of cloth

The Tooth of Time by Sue Henry (2007) **MY**

Fun mystery with appealing 60-something heroine, who becomes involved with Taos' weaver community

New Mexico Colcha Club by Nancy Benson (2008) **H**

Story of how a small group of determined women saved the cultural tradition of Hispanic colcha embroidery

QUILT WONDERFUL

*In her beautifully illustrated book, **Surviving the Winter** (2001, UNM Press), Dorothy Zopf tells us how quilting evolved in New Mexico, and indirectly reveals how her enthusiasm led her to become a prize-winning quilter and author.*

During the winter of 1981, Dorothy struggled to make Arroyo Seco home, after having reluctantly relocated from Ohio. She joined a group of weavers and quilters who met at the local church, and in so doing, she made new friends and learned new ways to create quilts, not just the method her grandmother taught her.

In time, she recognized that New Mexico's traditional way of life was disappearing, and she wanted to record that life for history. Naturally, she looked to quilt making as the way to illuminate the disappearing rural traditions.

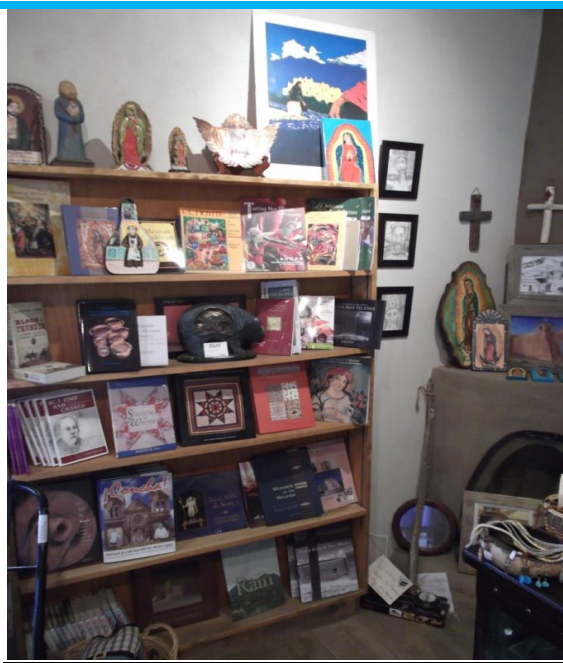
Dorothy started out by gathering information for a symposium speech on the quilts of Taos County. The limited project of writing a speech grew to become a book; she traveled over 3,000 miles, and with the help of dear volunteers, photographed 800 quilts and interviewed 331 quiltmakers. She went on to establish herself as a master quilter, with her creations gracing collections across the United States and Europe.

In documenting the works of New Mexico quilters, she noted that they turned fabric scraps into works of art and recycled feed sacks into serviceable bed covers. Their stories provide a lasting written record; the dozens of colorful photographs illustrate the diversity of their quilts. Through their lives and their common bond, they demonstrate how we, too, might join together around a quilting frame and survive the winter.

CONTRIBUTED BY MARGERY READING, A RETIRED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST WHO CURRENTLY CREATES WALL ART AND STUDIES WRITING AT UNM.

La Hacienda de los Martínez Museum

*This historic family compound is a must for visitors interested in the area's Hispanic heritage. AND its fine gift shop offers many fiber arts books and histories as well as hand crafted jewelry and other art. On Thursdays artist Annie Wild demonstrates authentic weaving; and on Fridays a group of local quilters, including author **Dorothy Zopf**, gather to practice their colorful craft. Examples of both types of fiber art are included in Museum displays and also are available in the gift shop.*



DAY TRIPS TO TAOS NEIGHBORS

Los Alamos, the town built on the remote and beautiful Pajarito Plateau for the purpose of creating the atom bomb; Chama and Abiquiu of the surreal landscape, home of artists and outlaws; the High Road, the Enchanted Circle, the hippie communes -- one could spend a lifetime exploring the history, nature, and mystique of northern New Mexico.

PEGGY POND CHURCH AND THE PAJARITO PLATEAU

House at Otowi Bridge: the Story of Edith Warner and Los Alamos

by Peggy Pond Church (1960) **B**

Church recalls the relationships among herself, her neighbor on the Pajarito Plateau, scientists from the secret Los Alamos atomic lab, and the land itself

Bones Incandescent: The Pajarito Journals of Peggy Pond Church

by Shelley Armitage (2001) **M**

Comprehensive view of the writer/poet's profound relationship with the natural world, especially the plateau now best known for the Manhattan Project

At Home on the Slopes of the Mountains: The Story of Peggy Pond Church

by Sharon Snyder (2011) **B**

Emotional portrait of one of New Mexico's best loved writers, based on poems, journals, correspondence, and interviews

Y MAS LOS ALAMOS

A Spy Within by Lynnette Baughman (1999) **F**

Two women discover espionage secrets while researching the Trinity Project

Lost Almost by Lynette Baughman (2002) **F**

Reporter plays deadly game involving contagion and international politics in aftermath of the Cerro Grande fire

Dissonance by Lisa Lenard-Cook (2003) **F**

Family secrets, music, concentration camps, and Los Alamos scientists come together in this well-written story that challenges the reader's conscience

109 East Palace: Robert Oppenheimer and the Secret City of Los Alamos

by Jennet Conant (2006) **H**

Strange but true experiences of those recruited to work at Los Alamos top-secret military facility during WWII

The Green Glass Sea by Ellen Klages (2006) **F**

Though written for preteens, adult readers also enjoy this well-written novel about an 11-year-old girl who comes in 1943 with her father to the officially nonexistent place that became Los Alamos National Laboratories

Publications by the Los Alamos Historical Society about the beginnings of Los Alamos:

Inside Box 1663 by Eleanor Jette **M**

The Secret Notebook by Carolyn Reeder **M**

Tales of Los Alamos by Beatrice Brode **M**

Standing By and Making Do: The Women of Wartime Los Alamos

by Jane Wilson with Charlotte Serber **M**

Dorothy Scarritt McKibbin: Gatekeeper to Los Alamos by Nancy Cook Steeper **B**

Living Legends of the Santa Fe Country by Alice Bullock (1970) **N**

*As feature writer for the Santa Fe New Mexican, Bullock spent years gathering and recording the legends and folklore in this charming little book, illustrated with lots of photos; **Mountain Villages**, published a decade later, is a nostalgic reflection and “perfect companion” to the earlier book*

Women of New Mexico: Depression Era Images by Marta Weigle (1993) **N**

Archival images from late 1930's and '40's depicting women's lives throughout NM, produced by noted photographers for WPA project, complemented by excerpts from manuscripts in WPA NM Federal Writer's Project files

Built of Earth and Song: Churches of Northern New Mexico

by Maria Romero Cash with Jack Parsons (1993) **H**

Historical information on over 75 religious sites and the religious art within them

Banana Rose by Natalie Goldberg (1995) **F**

Novel about young artist in 1960's Taos hippie culture by writer with strong ties to area

La Vereda: A Trail through Time by Ruth Marie Colville (1996) **H**

Published by the San Luis Valley Historical Society, this comprehensive history includes original and English translated excerpts from journals of Don Diego de Vargas

Canyon of Remembering by Lesley Poling-Kempes (1996) **F**

Well described characters, northern New Mexico landscape and culture enrich this imaginative tale of miracles and love

Valley of Shining Stone: The Story of Abiquiu by Lesley Poling-Kempes (1997) **H**

Fascinating history (and prehistory) of this wildly beautiful northern NM area; Pueblo and Plains Indians; Hispanics and Anglos; cowboys, scientists, writers, and preservationists

Scrapbook of a Taos Hippie by Iris Keltz (2000) **H**

First hand, well-documented account of 1960's Taos hippie culture

Ghost Ranch by Lesley Poling-Kempes (2005) **H**

History of place made famous by Georgia O'Keeffe, from outlaw hideout to dude ranch to cultural mecca, focusing on evolution of the unique community on which the Ghost Ranch institution is based today

Alluring New Mexico: Engineered Enchantment 1821-2001 by Marta Weigle (2010) **H**

Enjoyable history of the NM's many nicknames and tourist attractions, from Land without Law to the Atomic State to Land of Enchantment and from the Santa Fe Trail to Route 66

Si Si the Circus Cat by Kat Pruitt (2011) **C**

“A New Mexico cat's ‘tail’ of adventure with the Enchanted Circle Circus, for children and adults of all ages... .” (SEE MORE ABOUT KAT & HER BOOKS ON THE NEXT PAGE!)

Signs & Shrines: Spiritual Journeys Across New Mexico by Sharon Niederman (2012) **H**

More than an informative guidebook, explains mysteries and histories of sacred sites, natural wonders, feast days, and festivals throughout NM



KAT PRUITT & THE CIRCUS

Kat Pruitt, a remarkable woman, spent thirty-one career years teaching high school English in Fort Worth, Texas. She and her husband, Pat (also a career teacher), retired to Taos, New Mexico, where Kat began her second career of writing. Kat has two sons, and she also has two granddaughters. So with a lifetime of working with children and caring for her own family, she is secure in stepping into the arena of writing children's books.

*Her lively imagination, coupled with her artist's heart and soul, drive her in her storytelling. Her first book is **Sí Sí the Circus Cat**, published in 2011, illustrated by Rebecca Griftner. It is the story of the three cat sisters Hattie, Mattie, and Addie. They find their way to the Enchanted Circle Circus after being separated from their mother in a New Mexico high desert sandstorm. They find adventure and fun as they are accepted into the family of the animal characters who operate and perform in the circus. They travel with the circus in the Southwest, looking for their mother as they go from town to town. **Sí Sí the Circus Cat** is the first in the series of their adventures. It's a colorful and touching story...a good book to be read to any child or to be read by anyone! The illustrations are bright and expressive and enhance the story beautifully.*

*Kat's second book in the Sí Sí series, **Sí Sí and the Circus Tour**, is due out in the late fall 2012. The adventures continue with a villain who hates cats! Rebecca Griftner's illustrations ignite the excitement of Kat's story.*

CONTRIBUTED BY LUCINDA JOHNSON, CPA, AND AUTHOR OF *REAL IN THE DARK*, *REAL IN THE DAWN*, *REAL IN THE DEAD*, AND THE REST OF THE SERIES OF CHARLIE BLACK, JACKSON AVERY NOVELS

MOSTLY MYSTERIES

Last, but certainly not least, the guilty pleasures. From retro camp to psychological suspense to magical realism, these mysteries and novels all feature the region's landscapes and cultures as a living presence.

The Blue Santo Murder Mystery by Margaret Armstrong (1941)

New York detective investigates disappearance of America's richest woman from Taos resort hotel, with "plenty of red herrings and skeletons rattling in closets."

The Turquoise Shop by Frances Crane (1941)

Entertaining mystery set in 1930's Taos with Mabel Dodge Luhan-like character in villainous role

The Amethyst Spectacles (1944) and **The Polka Dot Murder** (1951) by Frances Crane

Crane's popular mid-century Pat and Jean Abbott mysteries, set in fictional "Santa Maria"

Dead Kachina Man by Teresa Pijoan (1986)

Mysterious death of renowned doll carver leads to more questions than answers; by native of San Juan Pueblo well-known as expert on northern NM Indian and Spanish cultures

The Other Side of Death by Judith Van Gieson (1991)

Third in a series featuring tough lawyer Neil Hamel as she investigates the alleged suicide of a friend after a reunion of former members of Taos area hippie commune

Rainbow's End by Martha Grimes (1995)

Grimes' archetypal Scotland Yard Inspector Jury travels to Santa Fe and Chimayo to sort out murders occurring in England; tea cozy with turquoise twist

Pumpkin Seed Massacre by Susan Slater (1999)

First of series of mysteries set in Pueblos, with appealing Tewa crime solver

Remember Me by Laura Hendrie (1999) **F**

Young woman's stubborn struggle as misfit in village with strong traditions

Midnight at the Camposanto by Mari Privette Ulmer (2000)

First of the Taos Festival series featuring former attorney and B&B owner Christina Garcia, an engaging murder mystery that highlights Hispanic culture of northern NM

Deadly Sin by P. J. Grady (2001)

One of series featuring tough northern Matty Madrid, who's asked by parish priest to investigate a stolen santo and anonymous letters – just before priest is jailed for murder

Storm on the Rio Grande by Jan Atencio (2003)

Suspenseful murder mystery with local northern NM color woven in

Always Time to Die by Elizabeth Lowell (2005)

Murder mystery by prolific, pseudonymynous author involves politics, dark family secrets, an eccentric aunt, and endangered genealogist in Taos

Child of a Rainless Year by Jane Lindskold (2005) **F**

Thought-provoking fantasy novel in which art teacher uses color and kaleidoscopes to search for meaning in dreams, diaries, and her mother's long-ago disappearance

Cory's Feast by Sallie Bingham (2005)

Part murder mystery, part adventure story of unconventional middle-aged Taosena; won 2007 New Mexico Book Award

The Night Journal by Elizabeth Crook (2006)

Childhood trauma continues to drive the characters in this engaging historical mystery set in late 1800's around Las Vegas and Pecos

Black Widow White Lies by Margaret Tessler (2006)

Mystery set in Chama featuring Sharon and Ryan Salazar, by award-winning Texas transplant

Wild Indigo by Sandi Ault (2007)

First of Ault's award-winning mysteries, set in Taos area and featuring Jamaica Wild - BLM agent, student of native mysticism, wolf lover, action hero

Honeymoons Can Be Murder by Connie Shelton (2010)

Sixth of popular Charlie Parker mysteries, in which Charlie and her new husband take a delayed honeymoon to Taos Ski Valley only to become involved in theft and murder

The Astral Plane by Teresa Dovalpage (2011) **F**

Collection of darkly intriguing short stories that combine elements of magical realism and naturalism in settings from Havana, Cuba, to Taos, NM (in "Goodbye, Santero")

APPENDIX 1

SUGGESTED SURVEY

- Acequia: Water Sharing, Sanctity, and Place** by Sylvia Rodriguez
Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko
Death Comes for the Archbishop by Willa Cather
Edge of the Taos Desert: An Escape to Reality by Mabel Dodge Luhan
Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life by Roxana Robinson
House at Otowi Bridge: Story of Edith Warner and Los Alamos by Peggy Pond Church
Maria: The Potter of San Ildefonso by Alice Marriott
A Taos Mosaic by Claire Morrill
The Turquoise Shop by Frances Crane
Three Weavers by Joan Potter Loveless

APPENDIX 2

FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Kiki's Journey | Kristy Orona-Ramirez |
| Little Boy with Three Names: Stories of Taos Pueblo | Ann Clark |
| Los Ojos del Tejedor: The Eyes of the Weaver | Christina Ortega |
| Milagro of the Spanish Beanpot | Emerita Romero-Anderson |
| My Name is Georgia: A Portrait | Jeanette Winter |
| Shoes for the Santo Nino | Peggy Pond Church |
| Si Si the Circus Cat | Kat Pruitt |
| Sweet Nata | Gloria Zamora |
| The Green Glass Sea (preteen/teen) | Ellen Klages |
| The Secret Notebook (preteen/teen) | Carolyn Reeder |

APPENDIX 3

WHERE TO LOOK FOR THE BOOKS

Most books in this bibliography can be found on-line through the usual suspects (Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Abe Books, etc.). HOWEVER, in-person visits to book sources in the region are much more rewarding and give context to the printed word. Each bookshop listed below has its own history, character, and ambience.

In addition, town and college libraries and museum stores are wonderful places to look. For instance, the Taos Public Library has a whole room dedicated to Southwestern books of all types as well as a small used book store. The Abiquiu Inn offers a respectable selection in its gift shop.

SOMOS Bookshop

108 Civic Plaza Dr B, Taos

575-758-0081

www.somostaos.org

The Brodsky Bookshop

226 A Paseo del Pueblo Norte, Taos

505-758-9468

<http://www.taosbooks.com>

op. cit. books Taos

124 A Bent St., Taos

575- 751-1999

<https://johndunshops.com/taos-shops/op-cit-books/>

Tome on the Range

158 Bridge St., Las Vegas

505-454-9944

www.tomeontherange.com

Los Alamos Historical Society/Museum

1050 Bathtub Row, Los Alamos

505-662-6272

www.historicalsociety@losalamoshistory.org

APPENDIX 4

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF AUTHORS

Allen, Paula Gunn	Fergusson, Erna	Niederman, Sharon
Armitage, Shelley	Garner, Madlyn	Orona-Ramirez, Kristy
Armstrong, Margaret	Goldberg, Natalie	Ortega, Christina
Atencio, Jan	Goodman, Audrey	Ortego, Shiela
Ault, Sandi	Grady, P.J.	Peterson, Susan
Austin, Mary	Grant, Blanche C	Pijoan, Teresa
Baca, Ana	Greenwood, Phaedra	Poling-Kempes, Lesley
Baughman, Lynnette	Gregorio, Renee	Pruitt, Kat
Becker, Robin	Grimes, Martha	Reed, Maureen
Beimer, Dorothy Simpson	Guild, Thelma	Reeder, Carolyn
Benrimo, Dorothy	Hemp, Christine	Reily, Nancy Hopkins
Benson, Nancy	Henderson, Alice C.	Robinson, Roxana
Bingham, Salle	Hendrie, Laura	Rodriguez, Sylvia
Boaz, Amy	Henry, Sue	Romero-Anderson, Emerita
Brett, Dorothy	Herz, Cary	Rudnick, Lois Palken
Brock, Lucile	Holland, Michele	Ryan, Nancy
Brode, Beatrice	Hotch, Phyllis	Sagan, Miriam
Brown, Rachel	Horsley, Kate	Sandweiss, Martha
Bullock, Alice	Hyde, Hazel	Santistevan, Corina
Bunzel, Ruth	Jacobs, Margaret	Shelton, Connie
Burke, Flannery	Jamison, Elizabeth	Silko, Leslie Marmon
Burns, Cherie	Jaramillo, Cleofas	Slater, Susan
Buss, Fran Leeper	Jette, Eleanor	Smith, Pamela
Byrne, Janet	Judy, J. Marie	Snyder, Sharon
Cash, Maria Romero	Keegan, Marcia	Steeper, Nancy Cook
Cather, Willa	Keltz, Iris	Taggett, Sherry Clayton
Cesa, Margaret	Klages, Ellen	Tessler, Margaret
Church, Peggy Pond	Kreischer, Elsie Karr	Trenton, Patricia
Clark, Ann	Lawrence, Frieda	Udall, Sharyn
Cleaveland, Agnes Morley	Lenard-Cook, Lisa	Ullman, Leslie
Cline, Lynn	Lindsold, Jane	Ulmer, Mari Privette
Colville, Ruth Marie	Lisle, Laurie	Van Gieson, Judith
Conant, Jennet	Logghe, Joan	Vasquez, Dora Ortiz
Crane, Frances	Loveless, Joan Potter	Warren, Nancy Hunter
Crews, Carole	Lowell, Elizabeth	Waters, Barbara
Crook, Elizabeth	Luhan, Mabel Dodge	Watson, Andrea
Dawkins, Cecil	McAfee, Ila	Weigle, Marta
D'Emilio, Sandra	Mendoza, Mary Jane Gagnier	Whaley, Charlotte
DeWitt, Miriam Hapgood	Miller, Darlis	Wilson, Jane
Dovalpage, Teresa	Montaña, Mary	Winter, Jeanette
Enson, Beth	Morrill, Claire	Wood, Nancy
Fechin, Eya	Morris, Sawnie	Zamora, Gloria
Ferguson, Catherine	Moss, Karen	Zopf, Dorothy

NOTES & UPDATES