

Spring Turquoise



Mana

KIM OBRZUT

Kim Seyesnem Obrzut, preserves the rich heritage of the sacred feminine of her Hopi culture in the stories her bronze maidens bring to life. As if being lured into the hands of the artist, her magnificent sculptures entice me to touch them. To feel their ancient resonance moving spirit through them. The flow of her work is soft, strong, and free.

She was the first Native American woman to work in bronze. Her maidens evoke a sense of power, celebration, and connection. And her patinas are among the most exquisite I've seen in sculpture, with every symbolic detail beautifully enhanced.

The Hopi tribe live in the oldest continually inhabited civilization in the New World, right here in northeastern Arizona. Their sacred and harmonious life is a society that is matriarchal and egalitarian… a way of life that is strong in community, and based on a connection to nature. Kim's female images represents a people, not an individual. The Hopi thought is: One Mind, one Body, one Spirit. No face on her sculptures represents the egalitarian society of the Hopi people.

Her subject matter is female in all phases of life and situations… communicating the strength and wisdom of being matriarchal. "We work together to



Large Seed Corn Carrier



Spirit Of Creation

"It is a great honor to have been gifted with desire, the will and the need to create. Art allows our culture to participate in ceremony."

- Kim Orbzut

celebrate our blessings, and we share our world." Kim's creative journey begins with formless clay, representing the symbolic beginning of chaos and nothingness. Releasing the rhythmic flow of harmony and visual balance, she intuitively allows spirit to work with her hands and heart to unveil her inspiration. As she said, "We are a people who listen carefully and respectfully to the world we live in."

In her sculptures, she has chosen the smooth shape of a gourd, the oldest utilitarian vessel know to mankind, to represent the female body. Corn provided the Hopi with life for nearly a millennium and marks the four stages of life. Hair styles depict different phases of a woman's life. Butterflies may represent rebirth, beauty, fertility, happiness, balance, and freedom. Baskets represent offerings and gratitude. Kneeling symbolizes the preparation for womanhood and marriage. And "Soho" or grandmother, leads in wisdom. Through this rich symbolism each of her maidens tell us stories of Hopi's ancient civilization.

Kim Obrzut, sees her role as an artist, "To allow the flow of spirit to reveal itself, while still maintaining a private respect for my culture." Her sculptures reveal a history that was never written. A good life based on hard work, faith, prayer, deep humility, and a sacred connection to Mother Earth. ES