



Hi Everyone,
I'm hoping that those nearby will come to my reception for
"Tribal Heart" this coming Saturday.
I'd love to see you.

~ TRIBAL HEART ~

An Exhibition of Native American Life and Culture
Photographs by Gail Russell



July 1st ~ August 27th 2023 ~
Opening Reception ~ July 15th, 5-7 pm
All are Welcome!
Lyle's Creations ~ 100 S. Plaza Unit B Taos NM 87571
575-770-1507 gailrussellphotoartist.com

If you are nearby,
I invite you to come to my Artists Reception
Of "Tribal Heart" A Photo Exhibition of Native American Life and Culture
Saturday July 15th 5-7PM
Lyle's Creations ~ 100 S. Plaza Unit B Taos , NM 87571

This is a collection of works spanning many years with Native American life and culture.

In the early 1970s I began getting to know and be a good neighbor where I could, with spiritual elders and native spokespeople visiting my area. It was a "chop wood carry water" experience that has guided my life ever since.

"Our elders have much to say, often not in words...sometimes only with a quiet smile or in the way they hold an ear of corn. Today, as for all time, there are two worlds: the world of the prevailing culture and the world of Tradition and Spirit,"

If you are far away, perhaps you can check out
LINK: <https://gailrussellphotoartist.com/product-category/tribal-heart/>

VISUAL ARTS

Gail Russell's Tribal Heart



"Goodmorning"

COURTESY GAIL RUSSELL

STAFF REPORT

GAIL RUSSELL, TAOS-BASED photographer, artist and designer, will present her latest photo exhibition, "Tribal Heart" at Lyle's Creations located on the Taos Plaza. The show will be available for viewing from July 1 through Aug. 27, with an opening reception on Saturday July 15 from 5-7 p.m.

The exhibition will present a collection of her works spanning many years with Native American life and culture. In the words of the photographer: "In the early 1970s, I began getting to know and be a good neighbor where I could, with spiritual elders and native spokespeople visiting my area. It was a 'chop wood carry water' experience that has guided my life ever since."

She is one of a scant handful of photographers who have been invited to the Hopi reservation to make pictures. In the early 1970s, Russell was asked



COURTESY GAIL RUSSELL

"And they became friends"

by the Traditional Elders of the Hopi tribe to come to their reservation in Arizona to document the devastation Peabody Coal operations had on their land. From that time on, she has been involved with Native American causes and issues.

In Russell's own words, "There has always been an interest in spirituality based in nature and I often wondered how life was in this place before the influence of the outside world. I realized that some of the elders that I knew in the 1970s and 80s were raised by their grandparents. These elders' parents were sent off to boarding schools to be forcefully acculturated. The grandparents were the closest to that knowledge of the old ways and traditions that were passed along to the next generation."

In 1987, Lakota grandmother Nellie Red Owl and Gail Russell founded The Adopt a Grandparent Program, designed by the tribal elders. The Adopt a Grandparent Program was a sustaining support to elders and their families on Pine Ridge Reservation for more than 15 years.

"Our elders have much to say, often not in words...sometimes only with a quiet smile or in the way they hold an

ear of corn. Today, as for all time, there are two worlds: the world of the prevailing culture and the world of Tradition and Spirit," says Russell.

Russell studied at Albright Knox School of Fine Art, Pratt Institute, and The School of Visual Arts. In 1968, she received her first camera and has never put it down. She studied independently with photo surrealist Jerry Uedemann and was the first artist-in-residence at Aperture Photographic Workshops, Millerton, N.Y. In 1978, Russell moved to the Taos area and has exhibited her work widely and continuously since then, also branching into apparel design. Gail Russell has been named a Taos Living Master for her photography and is honored as one of the Remarkable Women of Taos.



COURTESY GAIL RUSSELL

"Ladder to Light"

JULY 6 - 12, 2023 | TEMPO 31

Many Thanks to the Taos News for the lovely article about "Tribal Heart"

"Wishing everyone a safe, Lovely Summer!

If you can't live without a photograph of mine,
give me a call/text and let's make it happen!"



Night Song, Arroyo Hondo, New Mexico - The Drum was the heart beat and you could hear the singers all through the night, Prayers traveling up along the smoke from the center fire...

Thank You All

who have been there for me over the years, and have sent messages of encouragement, congratulations, advice, and Love.

You are in my Heart!

Gail Russell

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