



*Gretchen Lopez*

Gretchen majored in advertising and design when she attended Ventura College in California, then went on to study fashion design and illustration at the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles. She completed her studies at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California.

As a tenth generation native of California, Gretchen has a rich family heritage. She is a descendant of the first Spanish settlers of what was to become the Mexican Rancheros. Her colorful family background includes Chumash and Apache bloodlines.

Gretchen's works are greatly inspired by her ethnic heritage. Being experienced in many mediums and techniques allows her to express a feeling of freedom, vibrancy and spontaneity through color and design to depict the varied faces, fabrics, and gentle beauty of Native American and Hispanic women in her paintings. She combines traditional as well as contemporary elements in her works.

Gretchen resides with her husband in Northern Arizona where she pursues her painting career and teaches life drawing, painting and portraiture, at the Sedona Arts Center.

Her works are included in numerous private collections both nationally and internationally, and can be seen in select galleries throughout the Southwest.