

THE ART DEPARTMENT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO  
ALBUQUERQUE

2 April 1975

Miss Laura Gilpin  
Camino del Monte Sol  
Santa Fe  
NM 87501

Dear Miss Gilpin,

At the end of last summer I visited you with Menso Boissevain after a full day of mushroom hunting. It was a delightful afternoon. In the meantime, I have been working with my professors at UNM, doing graduate work in art history. As one major project this semester I am preparing an exhibition for the Maxwell Museum, "Made in New Mexico," scheduled for June 21-Oct. 6, 1975. We intend to show contemporary arts and crafts which are uniquely New Mexican in spirit. The exhibit will provide a survey of what is made, where it comes from within the state, and how it is done. To show the visitors the processes involved with both Indian and Spanish crafts, we want to set up simple sequences of photo-essays. Anglo arts will not be part of this show.

Not long ago I was perusing THE ENDURING NAVAJO and I thought how extraordinary your images there are of the Navajo weavers. Might it be possible to use any of those within the exhibition? I am afraid they would not be featured as "art" but rather as documentary and educational aspects. I don't know how you feel about this; however, I always prefer to have the best photographs which show the artist/craftsman working.

It seems a good idea to write this note, but I will phone you next week when you return so we can discuss this. It would be marvelous if you would consent to help us with this. If, by any chance, you also have photographs of Pueblo potters, belt-makers, embroiderers, of Spanish weavers of Northern New Mexico, or tin-workers or carvers, perhaps I should consider that too. In any event, I will phone you next week and perhaps on the 10th or 12th we could arrange a short visit. I just left Beaumont's office and he says to send his best, so a hello from him is enclosed.

Sincerely,  
Lora Shepard

*Lori Shepard*