



Lori Faye Bock with her genteel Jacob ram, Teddyroo.



Lori Faye Bock participates in the Canyon Road Paint Out in Santa Fe, N.M.

Lori Faye Bock

Artist, Shepherd & Small Businesswoman

Origins of Creativity

As a child growing up in the Midwest, Lori Faye Bock wanted to create things. As a student in elementary and high school, her imagination knew no boundaries as teachers and instructors urged her to follow her dreams. The leaders in Brownies and Girl Scouts were also very instrumental in furthering her desire to create. But most significantly, she believes the support and encouragement she received at home from her parents and from her grandparents on her frequent visits have made the difference in her life.

It was on those visits to her maternal grandparent's farm in the late 1950s and 1960s that Lori Faye Bock was introduced to a lifestyle that would leave a positive and permanent imprint on her life. She says, "My grandparents had an assortment of farm animals, a productive garden and orchards which provided healthy nourishment, and the summer visits were a lot of fun!" As a young girl, she really didn't know the importance of all of that back then, but adds, "I definitely do today and appreciate living on my own farm," she says.

After studying at The Center for Creative Studies College of Art and Design in

Detroit, Lori received her teaching credential from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. She then migrated to Southern California where she taught first grade for a number of years and where she also met her future husband. After a year-long courtship they married and subsequently moved to Santa Fe in 1989. There, Lori Faye Bock opened a ceramic studio/gallery on Canyon Road.

Later that year, the couple purchased an early 18th century abandoned adobe farmhouse along the Chama River just above the village of Abiquiú. They spent the next 10 years renovating and expanding the original dwelling as well as bringing the heirloom apple orchards back into productivity and establishing a garden.

The Pastoral Life

The desire to begin building a flock of sheep for sustenance, wool and soil amendments became a reality. Churro, Polypay and a four-horned Jacob ewe became the foundation for the flock of sheep. In later years, Merino, Perendale and Suffolk sheep were added to diversify the bloodlines. In the particular area of northern New Mexico where the Bocks reside, red clay is the norm, and the sheep manure helps in

fertilizing the soil and lowering the pH for a wider variety of vegetables and forest of evergreen trees.

"As every shepherd or shepherdess knows, words can never adequately describe the euphoria one experiences when a ewe drops her water bag from which a lamb springs forth. It is quite exhilarating!" Lori exclaims.

Great Pyrenees and Border Collies have had a constant presence over the years at Von Bock Farm, providing protection for the flock of sheep as well as being an integral part of the couple's family.

Lori Faye Bock is not shy about letting anyone know she is first and foremost a "cat person." Her indoor-only cats as well as all of the family's dogs are rescue animals. While all of her cats were adopted locally, the last four canines were adopted from the Texas Great Pyrenees Rescue in Houston, Peewee Pet Adoption World and Sanctuary in Corpus Christi and Lone Star Pyrs and Paws Rescue in Houston.

Her studio initially was a 16' x 11' stacked mud room built in the jacal style where the walls were 26 inches thick. Constructed between 1734 and 1735 as the



"First Date," by Lori Faye Bock.

original dwelling, the room later functioned as a pantry and curing room for farm animals. Today, the room is still used as a pantry and storage facility for the winesap apple crop each year, while her new adobe farm studio is more than twice the size with a higher ceiling to accommodate larger paintings.

In 1994, the Bocks founded the Abiquiú Studio Tour which showcases the work of local artisans and craftspeople. A ceramicist at the time, Lori Faye Bock started experimenting with a brush and acrylic paints. A few years later, a tour visitor insisted on purchasing one of her paintings which became the catalyst for her pursuing a different career venue.



"She Should Be Home Any Minute," by Lori Faye Bock.

In the spring of 1997, the owner of a prominent Santa Fe gallery came across Lori's paintings by coincidence and asked to represent her work. Now, 17 years later, she still exhibits at the same gallery. A mainstay on historic Canyon Road, Lori's whimsical paintings of domestic pets and farm animals along with a series on women's issues continue to delight young and old alike. You'll usually find her there each year in October during the Canyon Road Paint Out, where over 150 artists display their talents.

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The name Lori Faye Bock may not be a familiar to most Americans. On the other hand her images are quite recognizable. Over the years she has donated her artistic talents to several national humane groups as well as scores of local humane societies, animal shelters and rescue groups across America in campaigns to promote the humane and kind treatment of animals and to raise the consciousness of pet owners to tattoo, microchip or use traditional tagging to identify companion pets to raise the odds of a lost dog or cat being returned home.

The Small Businesswoman

Not a prolific painter, Lori began publishing her original paintings in a series of museum quality limited prints about a decade ago to accommodate the inquiries she had been receiving from humane groups and animal shelters, as well as from individuals seeking



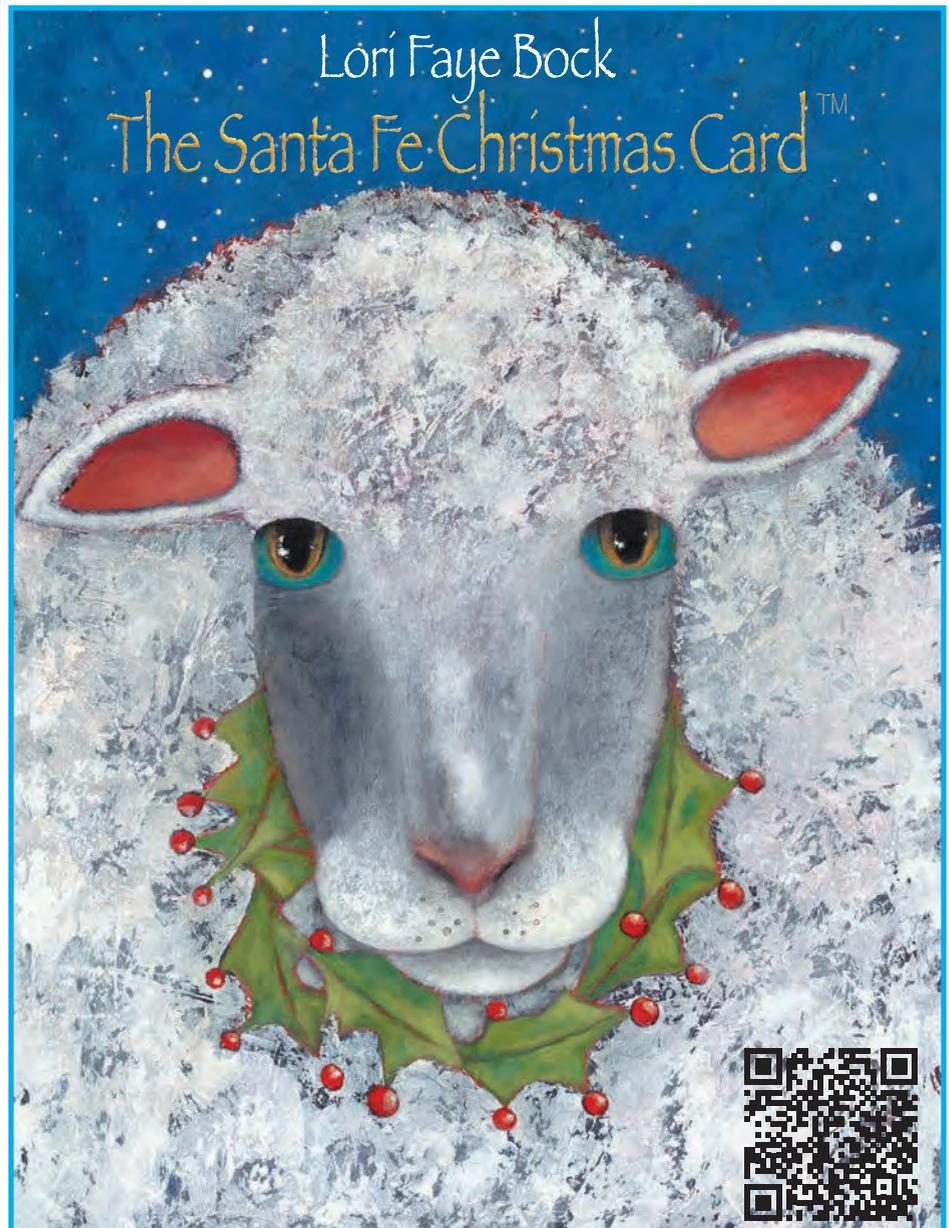
"Too Close 4 Comfort . . . Not!," by Lori Faye Bock.

to collect replicas of her original paintings which had sold. She identified a well respected printer in Santa Fe who utilizes the most advanced photographic technology available today to produce her limited edition prints.

Next, there came requests from gift shops, book stores and greeting card stores asking Lori to create animal art note cards—reproductions of her original paintings. After carefully reviewing options, Lori made the decision to keep the card business in America with an Albuquerque printer as the first company certified with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). Printed on environmentally sensible recycled card stock using soy-based inks, the line of art note cards has grown to 53 images, primarily of domestic and farm animals. As individuals began purchasing the paintings focused on women’s issues, those images too were added to both the limited edition prints as well as the blank art note cards.

'Tis... The First Christmas Card

Every year since she has been publishing art note cards, a growing number of



'Tis and Lori Faye Bock invite Texas shepherds/shepherdesses as well as everyone who celebrates the spirit of Christmas as a spiritual as well as a festive time of the year to take **50% OFF** Christmas & all art note cards and **30% OFF** all prints by entering **SHEEP** in coupon code at **LoriFayeBockShop.com**. Thank you!

retail stores and individual buyers on Lori's online store have asked the question, "When are you going to create a Christmas card?"

This past summer in her seasonal studio along Highway 84 in Abiquiú she completed her first Christmas painting ...'Tis. The Christmas greeting is available as a 5" x 7" card with the message inside, "May your Christmas be merry!" It is also available as a 6" x 4" post card. In both instances, the people who receive this Christmas greeting from you, whether they be family members, friends, co-workers or customers will remember and cherish the Christmas message long after the holiday season is over.

Lori Faye Bock invites shepherds, shepherdesses and everyone who celebrates Christmas as a spiritual and festive time of the year to participate in her first Christmas endeavor through her online store.



"Rest Stop,"
by Lori Faye
Bock.

By entering SHEEP in the coupon code at LoriFayeBockShop.com check out, online shoppers will be able to access 50% off 'Tis the Christmas art note card as well as any of her other 52 art note cards. In addition, there is also 30% off all museum quality limited edition prints by entering SHEEP in the coupon code at check out.

To see more art by Lori Faye Bock, visit websites LoriFayeBock.com and LoriFayeBockShop.com. ◇

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