

My travelling experience in the Southwest area begun in 1997, when I conducted anthropological and photographic researches on the prehistoric and contemporary settlements of the local native communities. Thanks to these travels I obtained my academic titles in Philosophy (Trieste, 2001), and Cultural Anthropology (Venezia, 2004). The contact with native communities and with their landscapes has then gone further each year, supported by my desire of dwelling into the meanings that the spatiality of this land is able to convey. Drawing from the results of this very intense research work ,many cultural and photographic presentation have been organized, both in Italy and in New Mexico. A great amount of knowledge and information that I would like to share with those who consider travelling as a way of cultural respect and knowledge.

The travel route stretches throughout the northern New Mexico and Arizona and the southern Utah and Colorado areas. A very variegated, multicolored land that never stops surprising you as you travel through it. Canyon and deserts alternate with forests, lakes and waterfalls, in a space whose vastity is not easy to figure out. The cultures that inhabit it and mingle with one another deserve to be approached for the richness of their still untouched lifestyle. Through time and the contact with the Spanish influence, the Southwestern Land has found new expressions that nowadays mix with aspects of the contemporary North American urbanization. It is thus impossible not to take into account this variegated cultural fusion and the prehistoric rock dwellings of ancient Anazasi in Mesa Verde and the “Great Houses” of Chaco: the travel goes through the villages of the first sedentary communities up to the dwellings on the mesas or in the canyons, still inhabited in the traditional way by Pueblo, Hopi and Navajo communities. Rythm still flows slowly among these ancient architectures and in their alternation with the musics of its caves/taverns, generating a knowledge of this land that won't help calling it by its own name: *land of enchantment*.