

# Victoria Hughes

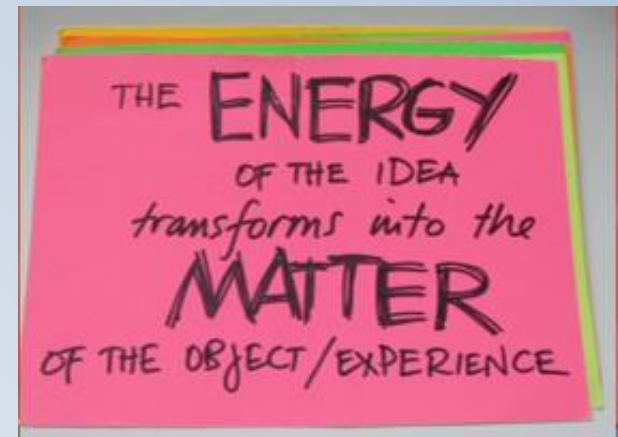
June 29, 1958 –  
February 18, 2018





The visionary and poet *Rumi* was a favorite of Tory's, but she also wrote her own sentiments on sticky papers around the studio

Let the beauty of what you love be what you do.  
- *Rumi*



- *Tory*

# Atelier Hughes



Paseo de Peralta



Upper Canyon Road



Last Trebizond Studio Class  
January 2018



## Cynde's Story

It was on a break during the first day of class that I pulled Tory aside to speak to her - as a decades long nurse, I recognized swelling in her hands and face that were not there when I had seen her the previous month. She was taking frequent breaks to lie down and catch her breath. We talked about postponing the class and getting her to a physician, but she would not hear of it.

So...frequent breaks, naps whenever warranted, and she finished the four days of class.

By the following Tuesday Tory was on hospice. She and her attorney asked me to be the executor of her estate.

We laughed and cried and made memories during this last month of her life. She wanted to visit her favorite restaurants and tea houses in Santa Fe. We recalled fond memories as we went through her things and had sentimental discussions deciding where Tory wanted her ashes spread and when/where she wanted her Celebration of Life.

Tory was conscious and talking right up until 24 hours or so before she died of ovarian cancer. She asked to move her bed under a skylight in her home, to make the transition easier as she was ushered to the next realm. Her ashes were scattered in the Sangre De Christo Mountains above Santa Fe, after her memorial, which took place on June 29<sup>th</sup>, on what would have been her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**One of the last things Tory said was "*Can you still see me?*"**

This was so poignant as Tory never felt truly accepted in the art world, especially in Santa Fe, where her heart and soul lived but the vision for her art was never recognized or realized. *Her biggest fear was that she would be forgotten.* So please...read on to celebrate her artwork and her life.

Love calls - everywhere and always. We're sky bound. Are you coming? ~ RUMI



Tory with her Mother, Father and sister Merritt



Teaching in France



Tory made music with polymer...but also with her cello, clarinet, flute and piano!



*Creativity*  
Is the dominant  
emergent property of  
*human beings.*

You helplessly create.  
You cannot avoid it.

Victoria Hughes  
1958 - 2018



In the studio...so many bits and pieces...so much inspiration. And this is how she worked...colored polymer plugs were always in front of her!



- One of Tory's earliest postage stamp brooches
- Her pull toy with the prototype drawing behind it
- One of her many mobiles, full of joyous color and movement



Be as voluptuous and indulgent as possible with color - Victoria Hughes



Tory had beautiful handwriting, and as a teenager she had side jobs hand-lettering menus for restaurants. She translated that skill to her polymer designs, such as this Trebizond travel book.

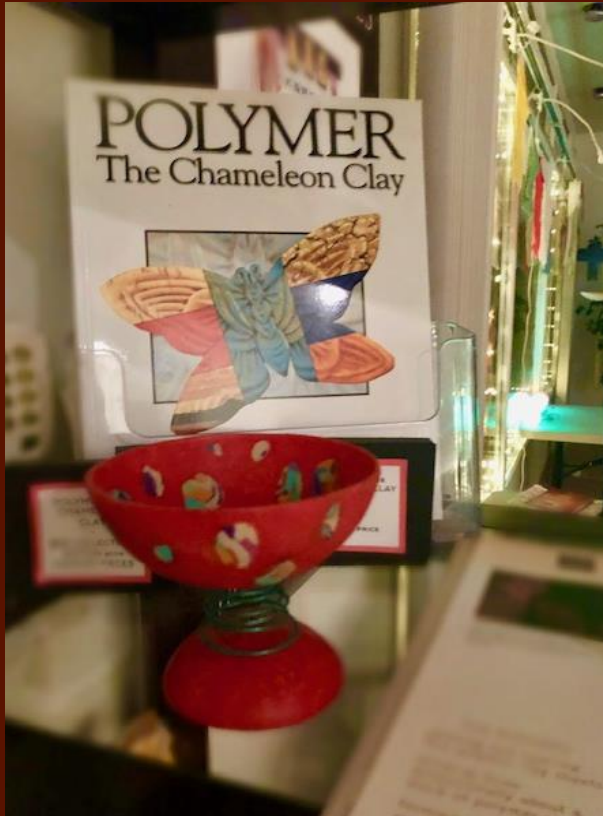


Tory became well known for her imitative techniques and the sense of movement she incorporated in her work, whether in a playful pull toy or in intricately hinged jewelry





Tory influenced a generation of artists through her book on imitative techniques



Here it is displayed in the studio with one of her “bouncy bowls” in the front



During Tory’s memorial service, four friends each wore one of her faux butterfly necklaces in her honor

Glass memorial stones with Tory’s ashes were created and given to those who wished during her memorial service



The beauty Tory brought into the world will live forever in our hearts

*For inquiries regarding jewelry or other Tory Hughes pieces – please contact:*

Cynde Tagg  
ctaggnp@gmail.com

# Tory's Memorial Video

<https://vimeo.com/275747865>

Produced by  
Lauren Seabourne of  
Soul Story

*At the end of my life, with just one breath  
left, if you come, I'll sit up and sing.*

*~ Rumi*



*Ctaggdn@gmail.com*