

## *L. Bruce Hodgins: Flagstaff, Arizona*

*Navajo*

*Jewelry*



Navajo artist L. Bruce Hodgins was born in Flagstaff, Arizona in 1959. Bruce's mother was Mary Hunt Dodge Hodgins from the Toadlena/Crystal area of New Mexico and is related to the great Chee Dodge. Bruce's father is of Irish, English, and Scottish decent and worked as an educator and school principal all his life on southwestern reservations.

Bruce studied at Hopi K-12 and while there studied with well known Sidney Secakuku Jr. and learned to make overlay jewelry in true Hopi tradition. As his studies continued in jewelry making and biology at Northern Arizona University, Bruce added traditional Navajo styles into his contemporary pieces to incorporate both Hopi and Navajo characteristics.

Today, Bruce has evolved into a master silversmith. He is said to build, "a Cadillac" in Indian jewelry using heavy gauge silver and unusual stones. Diverse in his abilities, with an attention to quality and detail, Bruce does all work from design to completion. Bruce has shown and won awards at the Eiteljorg Museum, Sharlot Hall Museum Indian Market and the Santa Fe Indian Market.

