

# Chase Ritchie Creative Partners



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GENIE THE WEAVER, OREGON WEAVER IN HER 24<sup>TH</sup> YEAR AT  
THE SILVER DOLLAR CITY'S FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN MUSIC AND CRAFT  
NOW THRU OCTOBER 29, 2005**

**Portland, OR – October 21, 2005** – Genie Stewart, widely known by her *nom de loom*, “Genie the Weaver,” has been weaving in the Oregon countryside for the past thirty-five years. Since 1982, she has been a featured artist at [Silver Dollar City’s Annual Festival of American Music and Craft](#). This year Genie, her artwork and her loom can be found near the gazebo in the main square.

She looks forward to the weeks she spends each fall in the Ozarks, in her home away from home. The autumn show at Silver Dollar City serves as a central location for her customers from all over the Midwest to come and see her work. “I enjoy the sense of community, the hustle and bustle of Silver Dollar City and the chance to get caught up with friends and customers I only see once a year,” Genie said.

Over the years her distinctive colors, webbing and hand-detailing have become instantly recognizable to her customers and colleagues and have established a loyal following. Recent showings have been in galleries, shows and festivals in Oregon, Washington, Iowa, Missouri, Arizona, Texas, Colorado, Utah, Florida, and as far away as Korea.

“Art is my job: it's what I do. I can't not be an artist. But accept that you cannot make it on art alone — you must choose to be a business person as well. It is simply what you have to do for the privilege of doing art for a living,” advises Genie to other aspiring artists.

Genie began weaving in 1969 as a hobby. As a housewife with a new baby daughter she had looked for something artistic to do in her limited downtime. A friend suggested she try weaving and loaned Genie a spare loom. Genie taught herself to set up and operate the loom and began dabbling in various weaving techniques.

By 1971, she was selling her hand-woven garments at the fledgling Portland (Oregon) Saturday Market. The next year she gave birth to her son. As she raised her children she found her weaving let her spend plenty of time with the kids while still sustaining her artistic nature. In 1979, did Genie begin supporting herself exclusively as a weaver, still with only her original small loom.

These days, more than twenty-five years into her professional weaving career, when Genie isn't traveling internationally or on the road with her artwork, she is found in her Hopewell, Oregon studio, taking in the beauty of the surrounding Willamette Valley vineyards and continuing to develop new, inventive and intriguing designs. She is somewhat infamous signing her letters and emails with “Sunshine and Cartwheels.” The latter referring to her annual birthday tradition of doing as many cartwheels as she is years old.

###

**About Genie the Weaver** Genie Stewart is an artisan weaver with a studio in the wine country of Oregon's Willamette Valley. She not only weaves the fabric herself she designs and sews the clothing, drawing on various inspirations to create wearable art. Her fashions and home décor items can be seen in numerous galleries and finer craft shows across the United States. For a list of places to find her work, see pictures or to learn more about the artist please visit <http://genietheweaver.blogspot.com/>.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

**Margot Stewart, Media Contact**

**310-459-9580**

**[margot@margotstewart.com](mailto:margot@margotstewart.com)**