

Reefscapes® by Annette



Annette Emery began a lifelong passion for collecting seashells growing up near the beach in Venice, Florida. Learning to snorkel at a young age fueled her fascination for the study of the small creatures dotting the coral reefs.

Shortly after moving to Tucson, Arizona in 1979, Annette embarked on a career as an international travel agent, traveling to 33 countries during her tenure. She usually tried to include snorkeling near the area seashores and shallow reefs that she visited. Concurrent with her travels she discovered the long, often deserted beach adjacent to Kino Bay, Sonora, Mexico.

It was during a sun bathing session in Kino Bay that Annette's allure for the smallest varieties of seashells surfaced. A closer examination of the sands around her revealed seed shells smaller than a grain of rice, some as small as the grains of sand. Her curiosity led her to return to Tucson with a pail full of Kino Bay sand.

Sorting through this sand with a magnifying glass Annette gleaned the miniature seashells and small seed coral. The inspiration to form micro-miniature seashells into reproductions of small coral reefs through hundreds of hours of beachcombing, and thousands of hours of skillful patience is the genesis of Annette's fine artwork: miniature *Reefscapes*.

You see here Annette's *Reefscapes*; each lends itself to complex scale, natural design and intricate structure. The magnificent beauty of the beaches and islands of the Sea of Cortez inspire awe, and the pure untouched wilderness found there lends itself to each *Reefscape* as a one-of-a-kind creation.