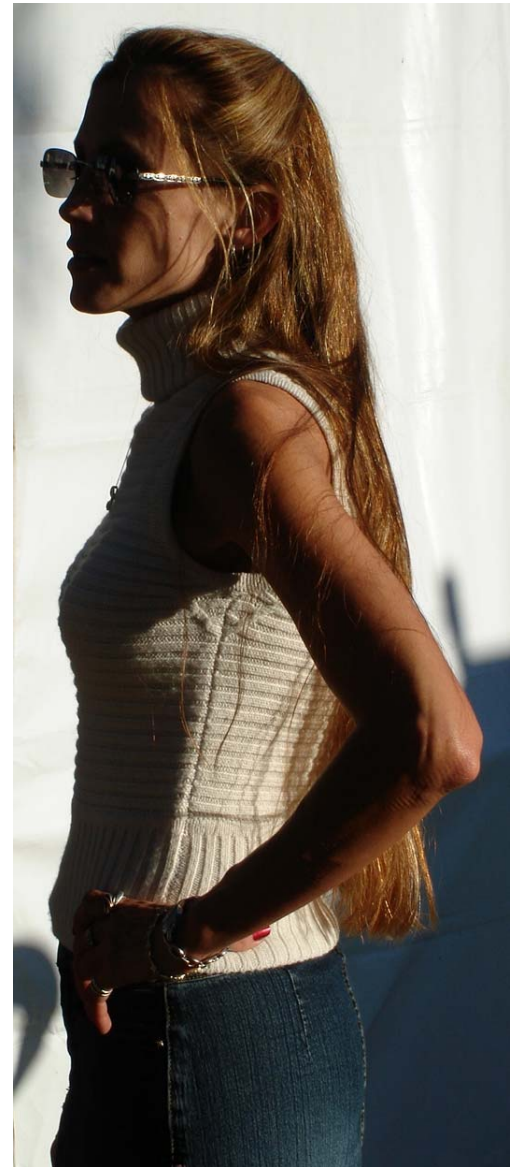




Denise Colter is no longer standing in the shadows She's gone from performing arts to visual arts

The artists have watched Denise, daughter of Judi Combs (President of Thunderbird Artists,) grow up in the art world for 18 years.

When Denise was young, she loved school (even homework), was an honor student, plus had extreme discipline. Judi put Denise in ballet at the age of seven because she had flat feet. The Royal Academy of Ballet, was founded in England by Dame Margot Fonteyn. The Royal Academy never produces recitals, but entertain yearly prestigious exams. This is done by sending examiners from throughout the world to test all the students under their academy. After the first exam, ballet instructor, Mary Adams, called Judi with her excitement that "Denise received a Highly Commended". Judi said, "What does this mean?" "It's like an A in school," Mary exclaimed. So began Denise's life in the world of ballet. After a couple of years, Denise was dancing 13 hours a week and continued to receive top honors. When Denise began talking about quitting ballet (in her first year of high school,) her mother said "You have studied all year and are only 3 weeks away from the exams. At least take the exam." Denise agreed. After putting ballet on hold, the Royal Academy of Dance newspaper listed the top dancers in the world. Denise was one of only 3 dancers in the United States, on her level, that received an honours. After a few years, Denise began thinking about returning to ballet. It wasn't until she started Scottsdale Community College did she begin to dance again.



While in college, Denise decided to help her parents with a festival in Tlaquepaque, Sedona. Denise went up with her parents and worked everyday until the show's end.

Tuesday morning, Denise called her mother and said "Mom, I had no idea just how hard you and Dad work; so from now on, I will help with all your festivals". This began her career in the art world.

Denise once in the shadows of Thunderbird Artists has now blossomed as both Vice President of the business and is performing in the contemporary ballet troupe, Terpsicore Dance Company.

For more information, photos or an interview, please contact our office at 480-837-5637 or visit www.ThunderbirdArtists.com.

