



FLUTIST-  
COMET  
CONNECTIONS  
in the Ancient  
Southwest  
(where a crack means  
the local horizon)



Ancestral Puebloan **flutist motifs** are often placed adjacent to COMET motifs in petroglyphs and painted materials in the ancient Southwest. This shows an infatuation with and rather fearless posture towards comets in the ancient American Southwest which was not common in Europe, where the celestial visitors were oftentimes seen as fearful portents of doom and change, especially as pertained to changes in leadership in the sometimes fractious hierarchies and Church affairs.

These panels are from the Largo Canyon area (enhanced from a Hadlock Collection photo, Salmon Ruins complex, San Juan County Archaeological Research Center and Library, Bloomfield, NM); the upper Rio Grande area, Rio Arriba County, NM; and at Waterflow Bluffs, NM. The left and center comets above might represent the bright and upright Halley's icon of AD989 and the one on the right is suggestive of the AD941 comet (X/941 R1): "The **horned star rose in the western horizon** [which is visible at this site just to the left of this boulder's edge] .... [reaching] the upper celestial sphere... [and] its rising [in October] continued to be lofty, large in the sky." (Kronk 1999:154)

Ancestral Puebloan *comet-with-flutist motifs* copied above on greenware by this artist/author. Additional Southwest research papers by S. Bradford are available at: [www.comets-petroglyphs-and-supernovae.com](http://www.comets-petroglyphs-and-supernovae.com)