

## "BUTTERFLY FANTASY"

Ball-point pen ink over graphite on two sheets of gray/tan cardboard faced with cream-colored paper (one with cut window opening)

28 × 22 inches  
(71.1 × 55.9 cm)

Signed lower left:  
*original of / Chelo Gonzalez Amezcua*

The Jill and Sheldon Bonovitz Collection



### LET'S LOOK

What do you notice first in this picture?

Take a closer look. What do you notice now that you didn't see at first?

Describe the lines, shapes, and patterns within the image.

Find examples of symmetry within the drawing. How do they create a sense of balance?

This artist loved the natural world. What do you think she's celebrating about nature in this image?

### ABOUT THE DRAWING

This elaborate drawing, carefully filled with the thin lines of a ballpoint pen, encourages us to discover all of its details. The butterfly in the center faces downward, its antennae extending into a flower below. Above, a bird with extended wings seems suspended in the air. Several rectangular frames, filled with vines, flowers, and delicate patterns, surround the central image and echo the lines, shapes, and patterns in the butterfly's wings.

González Amezcua called her drawings "Texas **filigree**" art because they reminded her of the intricate metalwork of the Mexican jewelry she wore. She was also influenced by Mexican **embroidery**, as well as by Islamic and Egyptian art. To make her drawings, she first outlined the images and then filled them in with highly detailed patterns. A poet and artist, she expressed her thoughts in both visual and written forms and often included a poem on the back of her drawings.

González Amezcua loved the natural world and often celebrated the beauty of plants and living creatures in her art. She felt so connected to nature that she described one of her drawings as "born in the garden of my imagination."