

# Butterfly Silk

## Electric Orange & Indigo Shawl

Origin: San Juan La Laguna, Guatemala

Made By: Serecha Gonzales

*The silk is collected from individual butterfly cocoons and spun by hand into thread. The thread is then dyed using natural, organic methods developed and perfected by Serecha over four decades. The vivid colours are derived from skillfully blended concoctions of wild and domestic flowers, fruits and vegetables that steam away, like witches' potions, all day long inside the loose lamina-roofed women's co-operative. The purple is induced through beets, the orange involves sprightly carrots and choyote, a native Guatemalan ruby red plant, while the gorgeous silver grey comes about through the indigo flower. Once dyed and dried, the silk is lovingly weaved, by a hand loom, into this beautiful shawly creation.*

Time to make silk:: 1 week + generations of trial, error and experimentation

Time taken to weave: 30 days at 8 hours per day weaving + 40 years of experience

Profit Distribution: Serecha has trained and employed ten women to work in the cooperative all of whom receive equal share of gains.

Environment Effects: No negative ones

**PRICE \$: YOU DECIDE**