***Gilberto Nova*, 2023**

Gilberto Nova’s dress and bearing are always striking. He is resilient, intelligent and warm, with an open-hearted connection to spirit. Born in Trieste, of Czechoslovakian Romani, Austrian royal bloodline, and Slovenian peasant heritage, he speaks Italian, Spanish, Dutch and English.

Twenty years ago, Gilberto adopted the Lakota way of life, whose principles include: fortitude, generosity, kinship, respect, wisdom, and compassion. The Lakota, *welcome and embrace any who walk in* [their] *sacred manner...* (<https://lakotadakotanakotanation.org/about/>). He attended numerous ceremonies at Wounded Knee, South Dakota, to fulfill his spiritual obligations.

Gilberto is a musician, poet, leatherworker and quilter, and made a guitar.