

Born in Manhattan, New York, to artist parents **Lamberto Gardelli** and **Magdolna Ban's** Lena grew up in a world surrounded by creativity, music and art.

Her family moved to Switzerland before her first birthday. She studied Graphic Arts and Photography, before returning to New York City at the age of nineteen where she attended the Fashion Institute of Technology and majored in Textile Design.

Her interest in Fashion led to the creation of a company named 'What's Going On!' showcasing Lena's art on clothing from 1986-96 and selling worldwide.

In 1996 Lena began a healing journey of her own, having been diagnosed with chronic kidney failure and needing dialysis to stay alive. On her search for self-healing, she has used her training in the healing arts of Reiki, Cranial Sacral therapy, Reflexology, Aroma therapy and the practice of Yoga, to help others remove suffering from their lives and find inner peace.

On December 22nd, 2006 Lena had a successful kidney transplant and received the gift of life from a living donor, and fellow artist friend. In the years on dialysis, Lena found happiness in art and creativity. She started writing and illustrating her autobiographical fairytale and illustrate books for other writers. "I believe in Miracles. Facing my worst fears has led me to the realization of my dreams. Living life to the fullest as if there is no tomorrow. Practicing what gives me joy and happiness; I am a full-time artist today. My goal is to give back to others what art has given to me."

Currently, Lena is immersed in photography and the continuing creation of her books. Forever a student, she is taking advanced classes in digital photography and in the digital arts where she is accumulating credit toward her B.A. degree. Her life is a dream come true, one filled with gratitude and appreciation for the time she spends

pursuing her art and connecting with others.