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"THUNDER HEAD"

Meet Artist Lise Thompson Painting by Heart

YOU CAN TAKE THE ARTIST OUT OF THE TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, BUT YOU CAN'T TAKE THE TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS OUT OF THE ARTIST!

While these days, artist Lise Thompson spends the majority of her time over 3000 miles away in Santa Barbara, California, Providenciales is never far away, and is virtually almost always at the tip of her paintbrush. In fact, Lise recently revealed to me that she knows the colours of Provo so well, "I can see them in my mind!"

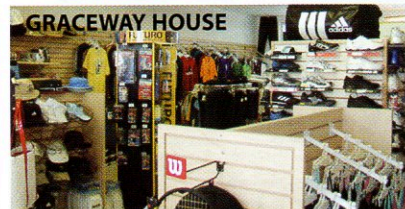
"Painting is the love of my life," she confesses, an affair that began when she was just a young girl. Her preferred medium is oils, as she advocates that oil paints give you total control with the colours and the ability to do exactly what you want. Her preferred subject is The Turks & Caicos Islands, with Blue Hills being her favoured location on Providenciales, where she maintains the colour of the water is very different from that of Grace Bay, shallower with more reefs, enhanced by the beauty of all the conch shells and augmented by the undeniable flavour and appeal of the local surroundings. Beyond Provo's shores, Middle Caicos is "the most special place in the TCI," as Lise reflects on the beauty of Mudjin Harbour and the caves of Middle Caicos, that she says are "a magical place." Her canvases portray a seemingly endless history of the Islands, with some taking on the role of being a permanent and lasting memory as she acknowledges, "What I paint is not there anymore, so I have to paint as fast as I can!" Cont. >>>>>>

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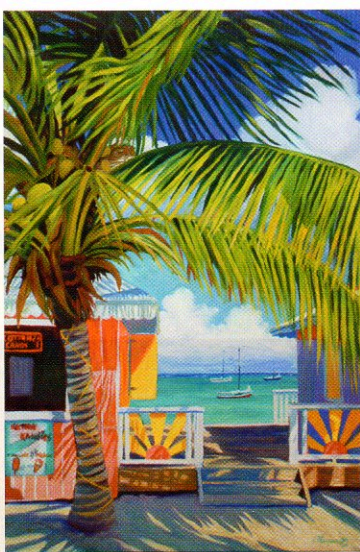
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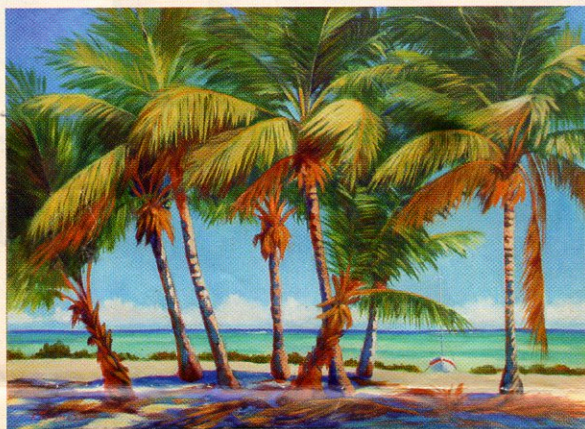
PAINTING BY HEART

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Breathtakingly stunning beaches, stately and majestic palms, classic Caicos sloops, and countless easily recognisable and familiar locales are all original, vibrant and rich in colour and emotion. Fabulous depth and brilliance of colour are prevalent in 'Dead Calm' a sailboat amidst stormy skies; 'Provo Garden' is a popular 'souvenir' print and portrays all of what makes Provo memorable - beaches, palm trees and flowers resplendent with colour; 'The Beach at Ocean Club' is another preferred 'souvenir of Provo,' epitomizing the pristine and natural beauty of Grace Bay Beach - and one of Lise's personal favourites, 'Santa's Kitchen,' is an absolutely charming and picturesque perspective of Blue Hills just before Christmas. While living



"MAIN STREET"

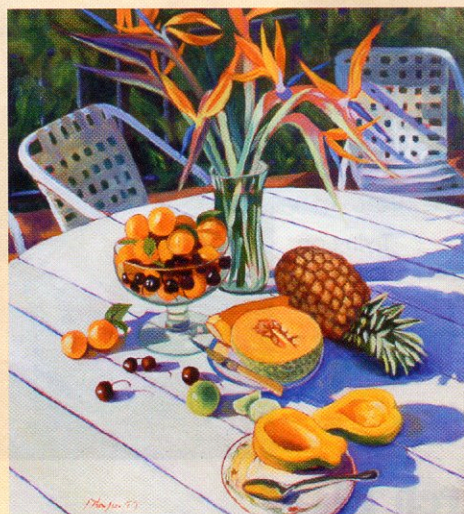


"BLUE HILLS PALMS"

ing within the residential community of The Provo Golf Club, she was inspired to paint a series of golf course paintings that prompted me to ask if she was also an avid golfer herself. She jokingly adds, "I golf... badly... but I golf!"
About sixty per-cent of her oil on canvas originals are made into Giclée prints, a process that creates quality art prints using ink-jet printer technology, effecting a high-definition colour print of the original painting so rich in tones, hues, complexity and clarity that some purchasers mistake them for true originals. When compared to the cost of an original oil painting, a Giclée print is not only a more inexpensive alternative, but also a wonderful way for artists to make their work more accessible to everyone.

When Lise returns to Provo, she spends her time circumnavigating the island, driving everywhere while snapping an infinite number of photographs, "Until I see something that looks like a painting." In Santa Barbara, she spends her mornings taking art classes and her afternoons in her studio at home, painting what I like to call, 'Provo by heart'. Lise admits, "It's hard to let go of the colours here," which is indeed our good fortune. With a great sense of humour she muses, "my best painting is always my next painting" - and, "hopefully, by the time I die I will be good!"

Original oil on canvas paintings and Giclée prints can be found at Anna's Art Gallery in the Saltmills; and Giclée prints can be found at Greensleeves in Central Square. Prints and canvasses can be safely and conveniently rolled and placed in a tube for travel. ■ By Mandy Rostance Wolf



"PROVO BREAKFAST"