



PROFILE

Skills Worth Sharing

Artist Sissi Janku colors her world

BY RANDY KAMBIC

Artist Sissi Janku returned to Sanibel a year ago after spending most of the previous two years with her husband in Shanghai, China. And she found herself inspired to paint on canvases and furniture in a more abstract way than the tropical style for which she's best known.

Janku also began teaching at the Sanibel Community House, where she starts her second season of conducting weekly adult classes in October. She first shared her artistic expertise at an international high school while overseas. "I hadn't really thought about teaching before," she says. "It was eye-opening. I'm an intuitive painter, but it was easier than I thought to impart." Her time as an instructor has deepened her admiration for those she had during college in her native Germany and then in Hawaii.

The rich memories of her travels and the sun-dappled coconut palms in her backyard serve as major catalysts for her works, which are shown at the Island Style Galleries on Sanibel and in Key West as well as Sanibel's Traditions on the Beach restaurant. The constant objective of her pieces? "To calm and soothe the viewer," she says.

Sissi Janku, sissijanku.com



This page clockwise from top: *Always Changing*, 40x60, acrylic on canvas; *The Piano Player*, 60x60, acrylic on canvas; *Embracing Possibilities*, acrylic on canvas, 40x40.



This page clockwise from top left: Artist Sissi Janku; *Life Flow*, abstract mixed media on canvas, 30X40; *Glow in the Dark*, 35X35, acrylic on canvas; *Tropical Splendor*, acrylic on canvas, 40X60.