

A LADY, WHO WORKED WITH HOTELS, DISCOVERED ME."

—SISSI JANKU

Sissi was commissioned as a painter to make works that would hang in hotels and restaurants in Japan. "These were just gorgeous hotels and I would work in watercolors, but the sizes became too big, so I eventually changed to oils," Sissi says.

The sisters would exchange ideas through emails and Skype, as Roswitha and Gitti remained influenced by the arts. "I use art therapy as a psychologist; it helps open [people] up," Roswitha says.

On her end, Gitti uses art to help develop preschoolers, which has been a wonderful benefit. "It opens up their creativity and gives them confidence and teaches them there's more to education than just learning the alphabet," she says.

So one can be sure when the five sisters were together, the others took one of Sissi's famous painting classes on Captiva. "For me, it's so great having all five of us together, I can't describe it," Sissi says. "I knew they were good artists, and I had a great time showing them what was in my heart and show them a few tricks."

Even 40 years can't put a damper on sisters' love for one another, as proven on the sands of Sanibel this past November. ❖

Brian Wierima is a Cape Coral writer and a regular contributor to TOTI Media.

ARTWORK COURTESY OF SISSI JANKU



"Gone Fishing" is another depiction of Sissi Janku's deep talents and passion for color.



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