

# **Barbara Mansson**

## **Swedish - Australian Watercolourist**

*Painting watercolours has become a means for me to express my feelings about the world around me and I've developed a style of my own which has evolved and changed considerably since 2006 when I began this exciting experiment with water, pigment and paper.*

*I'm fascinated and passionate about the creative process which may be planned from the start but then pigment and water decide what the outcome will be. Sometimes I don't draw at all before I grasp my brush filled with pigment and water and set about creating a painting – and then time stands still. My fascination for this medium is ongoing and the chance of an unexpected result is exciting to look forward to. This wonderful passion is an important part of my world. I call my paintings "Watercolour Impressions".*

*Since 2006 I've taken part in many exhibitions in Sweden and I am represented in Sweden, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark and Australia. Here I feel I must mention my mentors Bengt Ågren from Kalmar, Sweden and Nadia Tognazzo a highly successful watercolourist living in Milan, Italy.*

*Some recent exhibitions -*

<i>Slottsvillan Kalmar</i>	<i>2012</i>
<i>Gallery Quirinus Köping</i>	<i>2013</i>
<i>Maecenas Italy Art</i>	<i>2013</i>
<i>Konstkällaren Kalmar</i>	<i>2013 - 14</i>
<i>Växjö Konst and Gallery</i>	<i>2013-14</i>

## My Australian background

My sister, Barbara & I shared our carefree childhood days under the bluer than blue sun-washed skies of Brisbane, Queensland in faraway Australia. Bright tropical colours surrounded us.

Scarlet & yellow Hibiscus flowers sprawled over every fence. Our world was filled with crimson Poinsettias, blazing Coral trees & perfumed Frangipani, exotic Passion flowers & avenues of purple Jacaranda. Heavy, golden mangoes hung invitingly outside our kitchen window & our back yard was edged thickly with banana clumps, drifts of sunny nasturtiums & climbable, mulberry trees. Holidays were silky white beaches, starfish, seaweed & coloured shells.

With this early background, Barbara's recent passion for watercolour painting, expressed with glorious explosions of colour on paper, comes as no surprise to me. She has always been creative, a talent in waiting.

Her figurative works are a delight, full of movement & joie de vivre.

Our two sojourns together in the City of Light resulted in her recent series of 'ladies' paintings. I see Paris represented in a fresh & gently playful light. Adorable!

In short, my sister's paintings smile.

***Sandra Laroche***

***Artist & designer. Her designs for silk scarves, Hermès, Paris, have been in seven collections to date.***