

Jenny Regan
Botswana Wildlife Artist
By Christopher J. Gervais



“Siesta”

Jenny was born on "the Copperbelt" in what was formerly known as Northern Rhodesia, now the country of Zambia. She spent her youth on the banks of the Kafue River; it was here during this time of her life that her passion for wild places, the study of wildlife and their habitats began.

She began taking art lessons in Namibia when her husband was transferred to Swakopmund and this where her life long journey with painting began. “Namibia has such special diversity of habitats, and such beautiful clean colors, it was an artists paradise.” Eventually Jenny and her husband then moved on to Botswana, where they have lived for the last twenty years. “Here I fell in love with wilderness of the Delta, and the incredible colourful landscapes of the Kalahari, and began painting again in earnest.”



“Family day”

“I am a self-taught artist, which is just another way of saying that I have had no formal art training or accreditations. But this also gives no credit to the many different people who have helped me along my art journey, who have all provided me with a wealth of valuable information and knowledge to develop my own personal style and technique.”



“Mweno a Kwena”

Mweno a Kwenais is a camp on the Boteti River in Makgadikgadi National Park.

Jenny has always had a deep passion for the conservation of wild places, the study of wildlife and their habitats. This led her to train as a Professional Wildlife Guide for Eco-Tourism outfits in Botswana.

“Unfortunately we do not have many opportunities for art workshops here in Botswana, so during one of my tours a gem of an idea started. Could I entice an artist over to Botswana by offering them a tour at a very affordable price, and get them to host a workshop here in Gaborone before we leave on tour. So I contacted a couple of artists, and we have already taken our first artist to the Delta, and had our first workshop here in Gaborone, which went down very well, and was really enjoyed by everyone who attended it. It would be my hope that more artists would like to come and visit Botswana, and host a workshop.”

Jenny has participated in a few solo exhibitions in Botswana, and her paintings have sold extremely well. Many of her paintings have been purchased by private collectors over seas and found throughout Europe and North America. Her work is currently being exhibited in three galleries in southern Africa; *Hobby Horse Gallery* in Swakopmund, Namibia, *African Easel Gallery* in Kasane, Botswana and *Biz Africa Art Gallery* in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The (National Museum of Botswana, in the capital of Gaborone) hosts an Annual show titled "Artists in Botswana". In 2005 Jenny received the prestigious honour of best watercolour in show and the museum/art gallery purchased one of her paintings for their permanent exhibition. Recently the Government of Botswana purchased one of her paintings for their Aviation Department, to be hung in one of the airports in the country.

Jenny's future plans are simple. "I just want to paint my best painting ever." Her approach is to make every painting she works on to be the best one. Once she is finished with that painting it is then time to move to next one. "I love the build up to a painting, the initial sketching as the idea takes form, then the planning and finally putting the image on canvas and starting the painting. When I am in this stage I cannot think or concentrate on anything else, it is as if the painting takes over everything."

To make an inquiry of Jenny Regan's work contact *Western & Wildlife Art Magazine* at 610-896-4776 or email: info@WildLifeArtShows.com



“At the waterhole”