

# Faces & Figures Joanne Sibley



**David Neuschaffer**  
Managing Director  
Coutts (Cayman) Limited



## Welcome from our Sponsor

Coutts is extremely proud to be the sponsor of the 'Faces & Figures' exhibition by Joanne Sibley. We have a long tradition of being associated with the arts and with the National Gallery. Joanne's works are well known to us at Coutts however, her portraits are very rarely seen these days so to be a part of showcasing them for the community to see has been a very rewarding experience.

I would like to thank the staff at the National Gallery especially Nancy Barnard and David Bridgeman whose hard work has made this exhibit nothing short of fantastic.

I trust you will enjoy the exhibition as much as we have.



**David Bridgeman**  
Curator  
Cayman Islands  
National Gallery



## The Portraits of Joanne Sibley - David Bridgeman, Curator

Many people equate Joanne Sibley with beautiful watercolour renderings of Caymanian land and seascapes. She brilliantly captures the breeze, the colours and the moment of island life. But it is her lesser known oeuvre, her portraiture, which receives focus in this exhibition. Through these series of portraits we gain an intimate and insightful view of her life and work as an artist.

Joanne Sibley was born in Canada where there was a strong artistic influence from an early age. Her father was a commercial artist who painted fine art on the weekends doing portrait and landscape commissions. "So art was always in my life," reflects Joanne. "Art books, paintings, artistic friends were close by. I started painting with my father when I was very young and he patiently taught me the basics which I developed as the years went by."

She graduated from the University of Manitoba with an Interior Design degree where she met her future husband before moving to Jamaica in 1954. It was there that Joanne worked as an artist with an internationally recognised advertising agency. When her children started school, she joined her husband's architectural firm and created renderings and artistic interpretations of his buildings for client presentations.

On Jamaica's independence in 1962, she was appointed to design the interiors for Jamaica house, the Prime Minister's residence. This subsequently led to a number of portrait commissions including that of Jamaica's National Hero, George William Gordon for Headquarters' House.

Joanne went on to obtain further commissions of portraits from directors and founding members of some of Jamaica's leading companies and this led to a number of art exhibitions.

In 1980 Joanne and Jeremy Sibley left Jamaica for the Cayman Islands.

Joanne comments that, "Cayman was a fresh breeze of influence and I soon became involved in the Visual Arts Society exhibitions and workshops." As well as being inspired to capture scenes of Cayman life, Joanne accepted commissions to produce portraits for a number of Cayman's prominent organisations and families.

She has received awards from the festival of Art in Jamaica along with an honourable mention from **Artist Magazine** where she was runner-up in a competition of 10,000 entries. Joanne was also one of five artists representing the Cayman Islands in the regional travelling art show **Carib Art**.

Her work is widely collected and forms part of many private and corporate art collections. Today, Joanne divides her time between Cayman and Canada where she continues to paint full time.



Joanne Sibley

### Acknowledgements:

**Cover Image:** Newton Brett (detail)  
**Image Photography:** David Bridgeman  
**Brochure Design:** QuickImages

### The National Gallery would like to thank the following:

Coutts, for their continued sponsorship of the arts.  
The collectors, for kindly lending the work for this exhibition.  
Lynda Parsons, for her time, energy and advice throughout the preparation and installation of this exhibition.



**Andrea**  
From the collection of the artist



**Gail and Katherine**  
From the collection of the artist



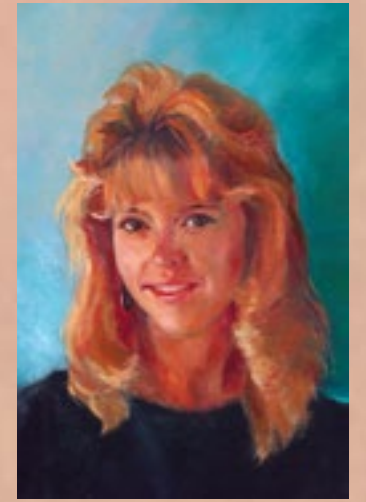
**Andrea and Baby**  
From the collection of the artist



**Brian Hunter**  
From the collection of Karen & Arthur Hunter



**Carnival**  
From the collection of Jeff & Michele Boucher



**Desiree Hunter**  
From the collection of Karen & Arthur Hunter



**Jamaican Woman and Child**  
From the collection of the artist



**Jennifer Woodford**  
From the collection of Janet & Bill Walker



**Pastel Sketch**  
From the collection of the artist



**Jeremy**  
From the collection of the artist



**Kelly and Kai**  
From the collection of Kelly & David Walker



**Newton Brett**  
From the collection of the artist



**Newton Brett - Painting**  
From the collection of the artist



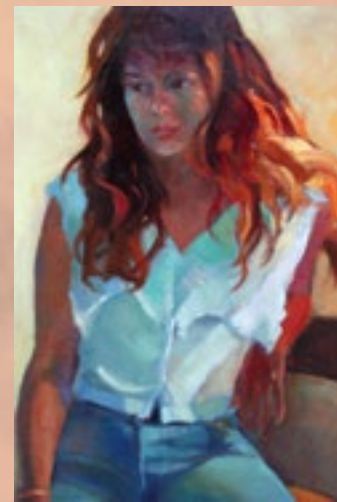
**Old Chinese Woman**  
From the collection of Jeanette Dugan



**Precious**  
From the collection of the Janet & Bill Walker



**Ramon Alberga QC**  
From the collection of Patsy & Ramon Alberga



**Tanya**  
From the collection of the artist



**Tilly Woodford**  
From the collection of the Jennifer & Ralph Woodford



**Two Jamaican Children (detail)**  
From the collection of the artist



**Untitled**  
From the collection of the artist



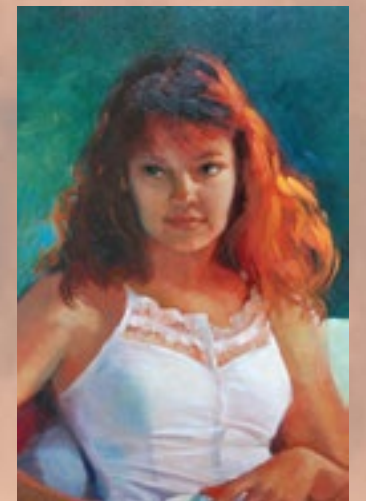
**Untitled - Pastel Painting**  
From the collection of the artist



**Untitled - Oil Sketch**  
From the collection of the artist



**Ramon and Patsy's Dogs**  
From the collection of Patsy & Ramon Alberga



**Yellow Tea Cup**  
From the collection of the artist