

Ilse Kleyn

Prophetic Artist

FACT FILE:

What is your full name:

Ilse Maria Jordaan, but I use my maiden name, Kleyn, to sign my art.

Are you married:

Yes, this year will be our 25th anniversary.

Do you have children?

Yes, 2 adult daughters and one son of 6 (we adopted him). All 3 of them are very talented: artist, musician, and actor.

Where are you based?

We live in Brackenfell, but my gallery is in Stellenbosch.

When did you start painting?

I started to paint full-time in 2006. The first few years I painted what 'sales' required, until the Lord asked me to become His artist in 2012. Since then, I focus only on prophetic art.

What medium do you prefer to work with:

Oil Paint on canvas.

Which church do you attend?

Logos Christian Church in Bellville

—interview with Gillian Fraser

Q When did you give your life to the Lord?

I remember growing up in the traditional church and always believing in the existence of God, but never knowing Him as a personal God. I was afraid of God. When I was a teenager I thought I was too small or inadequate for Him to take note of me. The supernatural always intrigued me and so did horror stories and ghosts, tarot cards, playing 'book-book', and so forth. Soon those demons literally came to visit me at night. It was a very scary time in my life. I gave my life to the Lord in 1996, at the age of 24. It was in the hospital when I gave birth to my first-born, Danielle. I just could not believe that God was so gracious and loving to give me this amazing gift that I did not deserve. For the first time, I felt loved by Him and that He saw me. But it was a very difficult 10 years ahead – a soulish unsundered life. Only when I felt I lost all, did I gain life in abundance in 2006.

Q Have you always been passionate about art?

I really can't remember – I won my first art competition when I was 6 and grew up in a house where my mother was (and still is) very creative. Painting, pottery, making clothes, cooking – it was our normal. But in my eyes, I was never really as good as my mother. I wanted to do something in art when I grew up, but was persuaded by my father to rather join the SA Police Force (like him), to earn a monthly salary, rather than

pursue a career in the arts where you do not have financial security.

Q What was the catalyst to start painting for Christ?

I was in the Police Force for 16 years and hated every minute. I was dying inside. I was not living my destiny and purpose. One morning I came to a point where I felt so frustrated and hopeless that I literally cried out to the Lord and asked Him if there would ever be hope to one day leave the Police and paint full-time. He answered me through His Word,

"Blessed be the Lord, the God of our fathers, who put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to adorn and glorify the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, and has extended His mercy and loving kindness to me before the king, his advisers, and all the king's mighty officials. I was strengthened and encouraged, for the hand of the Lord my God was upon me, and I gathered together outstanding men of Israel to go up with me to Jerusalem." – Ezr 7:27,28

In verse 27 He told me that I will adorn His house and in verse 28 He gave me a prophecy that it will start in Jerusalem. Exactly 8 years after that Word, it came to fulfilment. Lindie Gouws phoned me and said that God gave her the mandate to take the tribes of Africa to go and bless and pray for the tribes of Israel. Part of the assignment was that Africa had to give Israel a gift. A pomegranate. They could not understand this gift because the pomegranates in Israel



were much better than those in Africa. But the Father showed them that it is a painting. One that I had just painted, unaware of what was happening in Pretoria. It was also by the hand of God that they came across an image of my painting. She asked if I was willing to donate this work to the delegates in Israel. And there I was, 8 years later, standing in Jerusalem with *"outstanding men of Israel, adorning the house of the Lord in Jerusalem."* It was also there on the sea of Galilee that I dedicated my art career to the Lord.

Q You call yourself a 'Prophetic Artist', what does this mean?

Let's start with what I am not. I am not painting the future, or prophesying the future to people through my art. To get an accurate definition of prophecy or the prophetic, we have to look at what God says it is. *"For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy"* – Rev 19:10. Thus, I am painting the testimonies of Jesus. His goodness, His love, His nature. Furthermore, 1 Cor 14:3 provides a beautiful and accurate definition. I paint pictures to edify, encourage, and console people with the love of Christ. Prophetic art is also an art that is born in heavenly places. We are made to sit in and rule from Heavenly places with Christ. It is when you partner with the Holy Spirit to create creative artwork. It is born out of intimacy with the lover of your soul – Jesus Christ. Thus it holds life and speaks life. Because He is the artist and you are the brush. The Father can use these pictures to speak deep into the audience's heart without



miscommunication – without words.

Q What is your artistic process?

Every painting has a different process. Some were born through night dreams, others in my quiet time with the Lord, some by mistake, some visions, but most of them are born through time spent in the Word. Ideas are born, written down, and built on. You hear a sermon, read an email, read an article in the JOY, you hear prayer and see the Father speak through nature. These all give direction.

Q How can readers view your art?

My work can be viewed at my gallery in Stellenbosch, Boomhuis. It is situated at the Woodmill in Vredenburg Street, Devon



Valley. You can find more information on our gallery's website: boomhuisartgallery.co.za. My work can also be viewed on my website – artofkleyn.com or on Facebook: *Art of Kleyn*, and on Instagram *ilsekleyn*.

Photographer: Annique Bester, #yesandphotos

