



ASA MARIA CHIPMAN



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• CRAFT/PROFESSION

Asa Maria CHIPMAN paints in watercolours and acrylics on paper, and has recently begun painting in oils as well. Whenever she has a free moment, Asa Maria picks up her brushes to, as she says, *transform her ideas into pictures*. Some of her works - watercolours on paper, acrylics or oils on canvas - have been reproduced as postcards or prints which are available from several shops in Noumea. Asa Maria makes some of her own frames in rosewood. Her largest works can be as big as two metres long!

• BACKGROUND

Asa Maria arrived in New Caledonia in 1989, and has been working with her hands since she was 20, along with her Navy carpenter husband. As a child, she used to watch her mother painting; she was fascinated and longed to learn how to create paintings herself. She is entirely self-taught. When she was 45, she bought a box of watercolours, brushes, special paper and a few books to help her learn the skills and techniques she

needed. She has never followed any courses in painting but she sometimes watches videos on internet to explore and learn new techniques.

• INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS

Asa Maria has been living on her boat for 40 years and her inspiration flourishes in the serene setting of the bays where she moors her boat. Her paintings portray the essence of what she loves the most about New Caledonia: the coastline, the vibrant hues of the lagoon, the islets, fish, birds, flowers and, of course, boats. For Asa Maria, painting is a way of sharing the beauty around her.