

I met Jenny Williams years ago when she was running a restaurant in Lauderdale not far from Hobart airport. She became a friend over the years. She is an excellent cook. She is also a very talented artist and I am very proud to introduce her to you today. Marie-Paule Leroux.

For more informations about Jenny Williams and his pictures wbj@bigpond.net.au



Jenny Williams Bio

Jenny was born in 1936 in Kosice, a city now in the Slovak Republic. She is married with two adult children and two grandchildren. In 1968 after the occupation of Czechoslovakia Jenny and her family illegally escaped and lived in emigration in Vienna. In 1969 they arrived to Tasmania.

In her native country Jenny worked at The Social Department as a Secretary of the Invalid Committee and during the Dubcek era also as a Secretary of the Rehabilitation Committee (rehabilitation of politically undesirable citizens in the previous regime, with a view to allocate them a pension). During the thirty-seven years in Australia, Jenny worked in various jobs; as a washer upper, a factory worker, a laboratory analyst, a business proprietor of three successful businesses and as a public servant-at the Hydro-Electric Commission.

Jenny lost her husband to cancer in 1983 and in 1986 she re-married. By 1990 out of four adults arriving to Tasmania as assisted migrants only Jenny was left to tell the future generation about her native country, the culture, the tradition and about their ancestors. Her autobiographical novel *YENNI - A Life Between Worlds* was published in 2002 by Pluto Press Australia. Because of many letters from her readers, also because there was a lot to tell Jenny finished writing her second book with a working title: *After the Plane landed*. Her latest work is a fictional novel centred around an old man of Gypsy origin.

Jenny is also a visual artist. Being of a Hungarian descent in her paintings she is often using the motifs of that culture. She paints in bright colours with acrylic and is inspired by movements, moods and forms as well as a deeper meaning of objects. Her work can be seen on various exhibitions and in Quoll Gallery in Salamanca Art Centre.

