

Cayman Watercolours Charitable Trust

Emma Swinyard - Grapefruit Tree Cafe

Emma Swinyard was born and raised in the UK before relocating to the Cayman Islands in 2018, where the vibrant landscapes, turquoise waters and natural beauty of the Caribbean have become a major source of inspiration for her work. After studying art at school, Emma continued her artistic journey as a self-taught artist, working across watercolour, acrylic, pencil and chalk pastel. During the pandemic, she rediscovered her passion for drawing and painting, which quickly developed into an ongoing creative journey. Her work combines detailed realism with vibrant colour, capturing tropical landscapes, marine life, wildlife and animals, while exploring the connection between people and the natural world.

For this year's Watercolour Calendar, Emma chose to paint Grape Tree Café, a favourite spot for enjoying great seafood with a beautiful view. She wanted to capture more than the café itself, instead portraying the relaxed atmosphere and character of Caribbean beachside living. The palms, colourful building, glimpses of the sea, people enjoying the surroundings and even the little rooster wandering through the scene all contribute to the sense of warmth and life she associates with the Cayman Islands. Through this painting, Emma hopes to capture a feeling of sunshine, escape and slowing down to appreciate the beauty of where we are.

