

Wearable Art with a Local Flavor

When it comes to showing the world your flair for the artsy and unique, there's nothing like sporting handmade, one-of-a-kind clothing creations by soon-to-be-famous local artisans. —by Julie Clay

Comfortable >

Sanibel resident Susan Sadler chooses natural fiber garments (perfect for the beach) on which to showcase her charming designs. We found a nice selection at the **Seaweed Gallery** on Captiva. A blue spaghetti-strap tank top features two rows of four dragonflies with purple wings and green bodies. Sadler decorates a pink short-sleeved linen shirt with orange and pink dragonflies as well. Also in the collection is a sleeveless blue shirt with flowers adorning the front and white “hoodies” featuring colorful fish sketches. *Seaweed Gallery, Celebration Center, 11513 Andy Rosse Lane, Captiva Island, 239-472-258, www.seaweedgallery.com*



< Locally Crafted

Locally crafted jewelry was the find at **Sanderillas Girlee Girlz**, where colorful bracelets by artist Janet Gibson are on display. Her Czechoslovakian lamp bead bracelets were especially striking.

Lamp beads are long thin rods of different-colored layered glass, cut into cylindrical shapes and polished. Gibson strings them together with sterling silver hooks and clasps. Abalone seashell is another medium Gibson uses to create a bracelet of flat, round, lilac beads dotted with green beads in double rows. Versatile to say the least, abalone was also the base for a bracelet made of gold-colored, flat, stick-like beads lined up side by side. *Sanderillas Girlee Girlz, 11513 Andy Rosse Lane, Captiva Island, 239-472-1224*



Artistic >

Now you have the chance to make your artistic mark using the shoes on your feet! Under the brand name Tigerlily, Fort Myers-based Tyla Lusk has designed flip-flops called “Endless Possibilities” that have interchangeable straps and decorations. Available at **Her Sports Closet**, the clear plastic package contains a pair of black flip flops with clear plastic sleeves for the top straps, and individual compartments containing five different sets of strap designs that quickly slip into the sleeves. A choice of pink flower or black bow toppers are included to finish off your creation. The package has a carrying handle as well, for instant design changes anywhere you go. *Her Sports Closet, 2075 Periwinkle Way, Periwinkle Place #22, Sanibel, 239-472-4206*



< Stylin'

Much to no one's surprise, we found a couple of local artists represented at **Island Style**. Connie (last name unknown) puts her touch on a line of straw cowboy hats with tropical pictures painted on the front above the brim. A green hat featured a beachside motif with sun and palm tree, a pink hat displayed a house by the water, and a blue hat simply had a large pink flower. Upstairs, a belt/evening purse set by Julietta Miro was on display. Both pieces were created entirely out of copper mesh interwoven with tiny shells. *Island Style, 2075 Periwinkle Way #16, Sanibel, 239-472-6657, www.islandstylegallery.com*