ART

Julie Fumat x La Cave du Port Franc: An Island in Watercolour

In Gustavia, La Cave du Port Franc 1952 is transformed for the season to welcome the watercolours of Julie Fumat. Between the island's colours, the light of the Caribbean and a gaze turned towards Saint Barth, the artist invites us to slow down and discover the island in a new way.

12.10.2026 by Jenny Mannerheim

A TASTE OF SAINT BARTH

Until November 3, 2026, Julie Fumat presents a selection of her watercolours at La Cave du Port Franc 1952, between the sea, colours and light of Saint Barthélemy.

The artist and illustrator behind *Moon St Barth*, a collection of illustrations inspired by the island and its art de vivre, unfolds a universe of landscapes, architecture, vegetation and everyday scenes, assembled with the precision and fluidity of watercolour.

Presented by Space Gallery St. Barth in partnership with the Art Saint-Barth association, the exhibition offers a sensitive reading of the island, poised between fidelity to reality and freedom of interpretation.

The opening also featured an "Art Pairing" conceived with Maison Chavin, pairing the works with the nuances of a non-alcoholic rosé. An invitation to look, taste and share the Saint-Barth art de vivre in a new way.

A WORD FROM THE ARTIST

Between watercolor and collage, my view of Saint-Barthélemy

Since moving to Saint-Barthélemy, the island has become a true source of inspiration in my work. Its landscapes, its architecture, its colors, and all the small details that make up its identity feed my artistic universe every day. Through my illustrations, I like to offer a personal interpretation of the island, sometimes faithful, sometimes freer, always with the desire to share my view of the places around me.

My path, however, began far from the Caribbean. After studying at the Beaux-Arts de Paris and spending several years in the art world as a gallery owner, I gradually developed an activity combining art direction, graphic design, and illustration. For me, these disciplines complement and enrich one another.

Although watercolor plays a central role in my work, I don't really consider myself a watercolorist in the traditional sense. My work is closer to mixed media, with an approach strongly inspired by collage, a medium I have loved since my years at the Beaux-Arts. I have always been drawn to the Dada movement and to the freedom of deconstructing images in order to recompose them.

In practice, I rarely work on an illustration using a single sheet. For a given subject, I create several independent watercolors at different scales. Some elements are painted as a whole, while others are worked up close, which allows me to bring a precision and richness of detail that would be hard to achieve directly at the final size.

I then scan all these watercolors and assemble them to build my final composition. To this painted base I sometimes add photographic elements from my own shots, such as palm trees or textures, as well as layered watercolors, color adjustments, and play with transparency. It is a way of working quite close to traditional collage, in which digital technology simply becomes an additional creative tool.

My illustrated maps of Saint-Barthélemy are a good example. They are made up of dozens of small watercolors painted separately, then assembled to form a single image. In this particular case, there are no photographic additions: each building and each element of the landscape is painted individually before being integrated into the whole.

This way of working allows me to preserve the spontaneity and texture of watercolor while keeping great freedom in the composition. It is also a way of extending my interest in collage, linking my artistic training with my current work as an illustrator.

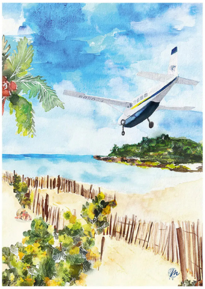
Since 2021, I have been developing Moon St Barth, my shop of illustrations inspired by Saint-Barthélemy and its art of living. Alongside it, I continue my work as a graphic designer and illustrator within my studio, July On The Moon, with collaborations for houses and institutions such as Eden Rock St Barths, Sisley Paris, and the Collectivité de Saint-Barthélemy. These projects allow me to explore different applications of my work, from artistic illustration to publishing, graphic design, and objects.

Practical information

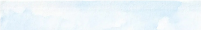
Exhibition until November 3, 2026

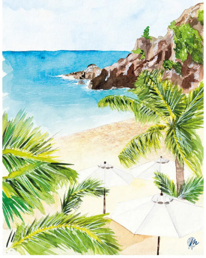
La Cave 1952, 5 rue du Bord de mer, Gustavia, 97133 Saint-Barthélemy lacaveduportfranc.com

Discover Julie Fumat's collection on the Space Gallery St. Barth website

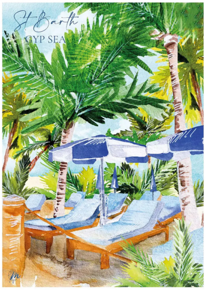


Julie Fumat, Landing Plage Pelican, 2024

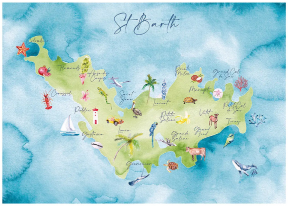




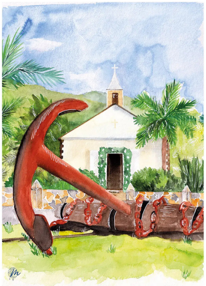
Julie Fumat, Shell Beach, 2024



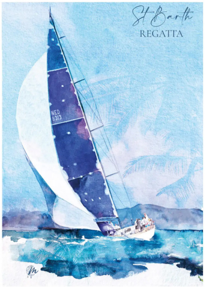
Julie Fumat, Gyp Sea Beach Club, 2026



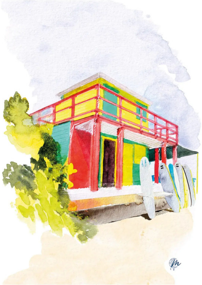
Julie Fumat, Carte de l'Île, 2024



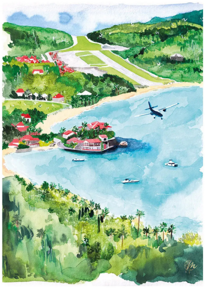
Julie Fumat, L'Eglise, 2024



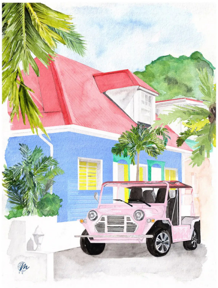
Julie Fumat, The Regatta, 2024



Julie Fumat, The Surf Hut, 2024



Julie Fumat, St Jean Bay, 2024



Julie Fumat, Mini Moke, 2024

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12.10.2026 by Jenny Mannerheim

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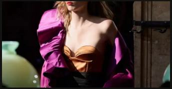

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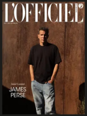

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