

PHOTO: KELLIE BLIZARD



● Rachel Jones, who discovered her talent at night classes, prepares for her first major exhibition under the watchful eye of son Jacob

Best night of her life

When young mum Rachell Jones enrolled in a night course, 18 months ago, she never imagined that it would lead to a solo painting exhibition.

In fact she didn't even think she was artistically inclined.

Her career, before she had Sophia, 3, and Jacob, 18 months, was in marketing.

"It was really just to have a night away from the house and to do something for myself," she says.

Under the guidance of a night course tutor she flourished.

The 32-year-old is currently "furiously painting pieces" for the month-long exhibition at an Onehunga cafe this August.

The One Tree Hill mum has already sold four major pieces and given many of her art works away as gifts to family and friends.

Rachell says although she has always been interested in painting, her only previous tutoring was at school.

THE TRADITIONAL NIGHT COURSE HAS EVOLVED

Some of the quirkier courses on offer include:

- Confessions of a funeral director: everything you want to know about funerals and were afraid to ask
- Flirting with flair
- Dare to Transcend – Yes There is Life After Divorce
- Hair Make Overs for Trendy Children
- Pet First Aid
- New World News: a class on watching the news on TV and reading the newspaper
- Release the Actor Within
- Zen and the Art of Knitting
- The Spiritually of Monthly Cycle: helping to deal with menstrual issues
- G'Day Mate! English for New Migrants