

My Heritage

I've never really thought about my heritage, except in recent ancestry. My grandparents and their families came from Hanover and Buckingham. They were farmers. Before that someone came from Great Britain.

Since I have only been to St. Ives, Cornwall, I used the images I painted while there to represent my cultural heritage. I have an affinity for the sea. While in Cornwall for a week I did 12 paintings—I did not even leave the hotel until the 4th day, because it had such great views. All of the sea.

On my flight to England I met a lovely British couple returning home. They told me they came to the United States about every other year. I was really surprised at that, and could not help but ask “Why?”

“Well, there is the language thing.”

“The language thing?”

“Yes, we already speak English.”

I was gobsmacked. In all my travels I had never considered the language spoken as being a factor. What a concept.

And you know, they were right. It WAS a lot easier traveling in a country that speaks your native tongue.