

# The Press and Journal

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## Brazilian artist chooses Banchory to exhibit

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AN ARTIST with international influences has chosen Deeside for her first solo exhibition.

Born and raised in Brazil, Stephanie Vandem has lived in the Cayman Islands, France and London, before settling at Aboyne nearly two years ago.

The 36-year-old full-time artist has exhibited her work in group shows, including Art Aboyne, but is excited to be branching out into her first solo show. A selection of 25 pieces was last night unveiled at the Woodend Barn, near Banchory, in a show that will run until September 26.

It includes a number of drawings as well as paintings and mixed medium pieces.

Mrs Vandem was formerly a costume designer and many of her pictures are figure or portrait paintings.

“Every piece has its own little story,” she said.

“I like people because I like the psychology of it.

“A person has something they can communicate through. If I’ve got something to say it’s going to be said through my work.”

Mrs Vandem, of Edgewood Place, draws on her colourful background to create an international repertoire, including vibrant South American scenes.

Despite growing up in a land of street parties and carnivals, art was not an option on the Brazilian curriculum and she was only fully able to explore her creative side later in life.

Her time in the north-east has also been influential and the show includes a lively depiction of the local Aboyne Games.

Visitors can see the artwork daily between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

For information go to [www.woodendbarn.co.uk](http://www.woodendbarn.co.uk)