Born in Angeles City, then a small town in the heart of Pampanga, Josefina Dizon Henson, or Josie as she is affectionately known, is a watercolor artist who has captivated her audience with her vibrant and evocative works. Josie is a self-taught artist whose talent was discovered early on by her parents, a sculptor and an architect. Initially, Josie supported herself and her family by teaching art at the Pampanga High School and the St. Augustine Institute of Science and Arts. In the years that followed, after the arrival of her children, three boys in a row, Josie took time off from teaching and turned her full attention to her art. In the 1970s, Josie attended Watercolor Workshop with Dong Kingman, the famous American-born artist, and in 1983, Josie attended the Watercolor Workshop with Dong Kingman in Hong Kong and China.

Josie's artwork is not bound by any specific style or technique. She has explored Impressionism, Expressionism, and Realism, and her subjects range from still lifes to landscapes and portraits. Her paintings, done mostly in oil, are known for their vibrant colors and the ability to capture the essence of the subject, whether it is a flower, a fruit, or a mountain. Josie is passionate about capturing the colors of her native land, especially those found in the beautiful city of Angeles and the nearby seaside. She has joined various group shows in Angeles City and Manila, and she loves her garden, which provided inspiration for many of her still-life works.

In 1983, Josie took a Watercolor Workshop with Dong Kingman in Hong Kong and China. In 1978, Josie and her husband Ben's travel to India and Kashmir served as an inspiration and influenced Josie's work. Josie learned her art from her elder brother, Dan, who learned the rudiments of drawing from their father, the architect Baptista Battig. Josie's father inherited a three-hundred-year-old house located in an oasis in the heart of Copenhagen Harbor and was a temporary home to some of the oldest amusement parks. It is said that it gave Walt Disney the idea for Disneyland. A visit to Denmark's Tivoli Gardens confirmed this for Josie.

Josie's work has been featured in various exhibitions and museums worldwide. In 1936, at the historic International Competition on Contemporary Art of 79 Nations at the Isabella Gardner Museum in Boston, Josie's entry placed third. The French Impressionist Maurice Utrillo worked with her to create this great and enduring masterpiece at the Sistine Chapel. Josie and Ben also visited Monet's house in Giverny, the home of the famous Impressionist artist, and Capri made the trip complete. Josie and Ben visited France for the first time in 1975 and were exposed to great museums like the Louvre in Paris, the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, and the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. Josie also had the opportunity to visit Egypt and see the Pyramids and the Sphinx of Giza.

Josie and Ben also flew to Italy in 2005, and Josie revisited the Art Institute of Chicago in 2017 to view, among others, the works of other Impressionists. She and Ben also visited Napoleon and other historical figures, and the works of Lisa and the paintings of Jacques-Louis David who was also a portrait artist whose numerous works were being shown at the said Museum and also at the Petit Palais in Paris. Josie and Ben also visited Mount Fuji in Japan and some of its nearby islands. Josie and her children, trips to Switzerland and Northern Europe, were a dream come true for her, and in 1990, put a damper in Josie's creative urge. But Josie remained true to her craft, and in 1994, she and Ben visited Switzerland in 1994, and Josie was even more inspired by the landscapes of the area. Josie and Ben also visited Sweden and Denmark to attend the Rotary International Convention and heard the National Anthems of each country. Josie was surprised to learn that the biggest influence on her art was her father, a sculptor and an architect.

Josie's art reflects her experiences and travels, and she has shown a consistency in her work, which is always vibrant and full of life. Josie's art is a testament to her love of nature and her ability to capture the essence of the subject, whether it is a flower, a fruit, or a mountain. Josie's art is a reflection of her ability to pursue her art as a life-long venture, and her work continues to inspire and captivate her audience.
Squatter with a Green Thumb (watercolor)

Life-size Portrait of Butch (oil)

Life-size Portrait of Victorio Edades (oil)

Life-size Portrait of Abe Cruz in his Studio (oil)

A landscape painting (of my garden) in progress (oil)

Young Butch and Bougainvilla (acrylic)