

Ever think about taking a shower with a manatee? Meet Minnie. The artwork is so incredibly realistic, alive, that it feels like she is right there in the shower with you.

Minnie started out to be a little niche, adding a little interest and color to a very ordinary shower in a very ordinary bathroom. We were replacing the seldom used bathtub with a more practical shower and we did not have a lot of room to work with. We talked with the folks at FFI about adding a niche. They told us about this fantastic new machine they had recently acquired and the even more fantastic artist who operated it. We heard a bit about what the machine and Val could do together and saw some small samples of some possible designs.

Next step was to meet with Val and give her our ideas which included a manatee because the one of our adult kids who spent the most time at the house has always been absolutely crazy about manatees, and what is more appropriate near the beach down here in SW Florida than a manatee? And a few weeks later we met with Val to see what she had for us.

The rest is, as they say, history. Val did the design on her computer in three sizes. First we saw the niche. It was really cute. Then we went on to the second sample, which would cover half of the back wall of the shower. Wow! That really popped! And finally the third, which would cover the whole back wall of the shower. That was it. No question. Our niche became a whole wall. Val had worked her magic, the wall version was so eye catching and absorbing there was no choice in our minds. Interesting factoid: Val had never seen a manatee before this experience, and it looks so very real in that shower that you feel like you could be swimming with it out in the gulf.!

Thank you Val and FFI, for making our ordinary little bathroom extraordinary!