



Frances Fitzgerald has been drawing since childhood. Fascinated by Norman Rockwell illustrations in her favorite books (Adventures of Tom Sawyer and Little Women) she taught herself to draw by copying Rockwell's drawings and paintings.

She received a B.S. degree from Cal Poly Pomona and worked as a Food Scientist for years. In 2005 Frances was offered a severance package and decided to immerse herself in the most intense art study she could find, wanting to make up for lost time in art instruction. Drawn toward Russian Impressionism (Nicolai Fechin, Sergay Bongart) she studied at Jeffrey Watts' Atelier for classical drawing and painting in Encinitas, California. She also attended workshops of artists including Sunny Apinchipong-Yang, Daniel Pinkham, Kim English, Carolyn Anderson, Quong Ho, Qiang Wong and Romel de la Torre.

Frances works in oil, paints wet into wet and believes the best references are live models. She enjoys most subjects though portrait and figurative are her favorites.

She has won awards for her work, most recently for 2nd place oil in The Coppini Academy members show, People's Choice in Humboldt County and Best in Show, Humboldt County Fair, 2010. Another figurative painting was juried into Oil Painters of America Western Region, Calistoga, California, 2011.

Frances keeps her skills up by attending open sessions at The Coppini Academy of Fine Art, San Antonio, TX.