

## Erin Houghton, California Impressionist



California artist Erin Houghton identifies herself as a decorative modern day impressionist whose paintings are an expression of her love for the beauty and simplicity of God's creation. Her clients tell her that her paintings make them smile and that they never tire of her whimsical and romantic French impressionist style, which is characterized by shimmering light and pure bright color with soft edges.

Erin is inspired by and paints about the beauty of everyday life—visits to the Saturday farmers' market, a flower vendor on the street corner, clusters of pink cottage roses growing on a fence, geraniums spilling over a window box, a lavender field in Provence, or a Parisian flower market.

She began her creative journey at an early age as she loved decorating the cottage style dollhouse her father built for her and her sister and she could not resist arranging flowers for her doll's tea table. She later began her painting career long before she picked up a paintbrush, when her artistic passion was kindled by an interest in photography and gardening. She developed an eye for capturing the beauty of her garden on film by deliberately shooting out of focus in order to create the feel of a Monet or Renoir.

Erin's interest in Monet led her to explore and photograph his garden in Giverny, France. Monet's work, along with the softness of the southern flowers Erin grew up with in North Carolina, and the brilliant Southern California sun, have influenced her unique palette and style. She has also learned painting techniques at workshops taught by California impressionist, Allayn Stevens.

As a breast cancer survivor Erin is committed to using her gift of painting to help raise money to find a cure by donating to the Susan G. Komen Foundation and Breast Cancer Survivors Foundation. She loves volunteering to teach art and crafts for children's fundraisers and is especially proud of her work with children.

Erin is a member of the Orange County, CA Fine Arts Association, and has exhibited her work at The Showcase Gallery, Bonjour les Artistes, Rogers Gardens, The Balboa Island Art Walk, and recently at a one woman art show, “April in Paris” at Britta’s Café. She was one of three artists chosen to participate in Aaron Brother’s Artist Gallery Weekend to celebrate the opening of their new location in Lake Forest, California.

For more information contact Erin Houghton at:

The Painted Garden  
1597 Riverside Place #C  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
949 548-1163  
[www.thepaintedgarden.net](http://www.thepaintedgarden.net)

Her work can be seen at Debra’s Cottage, 2777 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
PH: 714-662-5828, where she paints and meets customers on the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 AM –2:00 PM.