

Elise Acosta is best known for her unique compositions in portraiture and surrealism. Oil painting most of her life, she prefers the techniques of glazing or alla prima, oil on canvas. Influenced by surrealism and romanticism she creates artwork that provoke thought and emotion. She finished her Associates Degree at Fullerton College, and is currently at Cal State Fullerton studying, Fine Arts in oil painting, Studio Art.

The oil painting, *Animal Crackers*, was created for the viewer to experience a child's imagination, full of unending possibilities. As you view the painting you enter a child's world, where your imagination is innocent, free and full of adventure. The background is Raggedy Ann as a mountain scape and a plate of Animal Crackers in the foreground, helps tell the story of how the artist would teach her children to use their imaginations. The Raggedy Ann was handmade by the artist's grandmother and one of her favorite childhood toys. She passed it on to her three daughters along with her ability to imagine the impossible.