



Artist: Marian Fricano

Welcome! Thank you for visiting Aegis Gallery and our Painting Perspectives show. If you want to learn more about my paintings, please contact me in person here at the Gallery, or by phone or email. My cards are available in the Gallery.

Several years ago, I decided to try and capture my love of nature in paintings, specifically acrylic paint, which works well for me, though at times it can be a very trying medium. All of my experience, passion for, and knowledge of nature goes into my painting. My hope is to create paintings that, like my gardens, are meant to be beautiful but will also inspire others to love and protect our beautiful planet.

A lifelong love of nature inspires my painting. Many of my paintings include species of butterflies and birds I know well. I love California, from the towering Sierra Nevada mountains to its rolling hills and rocky shores. How lucky we are to live in this beautiful state filled with natural wonders. As a child growing up in the Morgan Hill area in the 1950s, I was a bit of a tomboy. Whenever I had the opportunity, I would wander the nearby hills, *learning to appreciate their beauty in each season.* I fell in love with my ever-changing hills and the native flora and fauna that have called these hills their home for thousands of years.

I am a lifelong gardener. As a young child, I helped in my family's vegetable garden, and over the years I have had many gardens. My gardens are meant to be beautiful, of course, but just as importantly, they are *designed to be safe and nurturing habitats containing mainly native plants and trees.* As a result, my gardens are filled with native birds and insects, including our gorgeous but endangered California monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). I am very proud of the fact that several years ago, the Wildlife Federation designated my current garden as a certified wildlife habitat and pollinator garden.