



American Serena Williams at 2015 French Open. Image: Roland Garros, Fred Romero, CC Licesnse Flickr/Wikimedia

## “30 Love”

CR Rousseau  
Oil on Canvas  
30 in x 42.75 in  
\$2200

### Visual Inspiration for Artist, CR Rousseau

Serena Williams, one of the greatest tennis players of all times. The 2015 French Open was a particularly special tournament for Ms. Williams. She had been struggling with injuries in the lead-up to the tournament, but she put all of that behind her to produce a dominant performance and won all 10 of her matches in straight sets, including a straight-sets victory over Maria Sharapova in the semifinals. Ms. Williams' victory at the 2015 French Open was a major turning point in her career. It showed that she was still capable of winning Grand Slam titles at the highest level, even after years of injuries and setbacks.

Ms. Williams' power, greatness, and determination to succeed inspired this painting. I used the intense colors of heat, energy, adrenaline, blood, sweat and tears. Filling the composition with “swing lines” showing decades of practice sessions where she develops her long, fluid, power swing - the kind that generates so much topspin, it makes her opponents' shots seem like they're moving in slow motion.

Ms. Williams is beauty in motion. In this painting, I represent how she begins with her racket low and behind her and then swings it up and over her head, hitting the ball with a powerful downward motion. Her high toss gives her time to take a full swing and her follow-through is flawless with her racket head high in the air. I am inspired by her dilligence, power, precision, and grace.