SALLY WARD

CATALOGUE OF WORKS



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If you would like to find out more about commissioning a portrait, including prices, please contact:

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Biography

Sally Ward is a professional artist specialising in portraits and the figure. She is a member of The Contemporary British Portrait Painters. Her work has been exhibited by the Royal Society of Portrait Painters and the Royal Institute of Oil Painters at the Mall Galleries in London numerous times over recent years. In 2026 her portrait of The Rt. Hon. Rachel Reeves, the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, was acquired by the historically significant Parliamentary Art Collection. Sally was a finalist on Sky Portrait Artist of the Year, Series 7 2020, in which she painted model and presenter Melanie Sykes; Booker Prize winner, Bernardine Evaristo, and: actor, comedian, and political activist, Eddie Izzard. Her work was shortlisted for the National Portrait Gallery HSF Portrait Award exhibition in 2025 and 2026, and shortlisted for the Ruth Borchard Self-Portrait Prize in 2023. Sally has exhibited regularly with the Society of Women Artists at the Mall Galleries, winning the Cass Art Award at the Society's annual exhibition in 2023, which was presented to her by patron HRH Princess Michael of Kent. She has since been elected as a Member of the Society. Sally also writes for national arts magazine, Leisure Painter and The Artist.

Sally studied Music at Cambridge University, staying on to undertake an M.Phil. in Musicology after her degree. As an artist, she is self-taught. While in demand for private commissions, she has also developed a body of her own work focusing on portraits of close family, friends and herself. She enjoys the emotional intimacy of these works; her aim being to create a sensitive and honest portrayal of her subject, focusing on natural expression and her sitter's interior world. Sally often uses a limited palette and strong light sources to convey the solidity, form and presence of her sitter. Sally works mainly in oils and charcoal.

"Sally is a fabulous figurative artist. There is an absolute containment of the person in her work…a quiet loneliness in all her paintings."

Tai-Shan Schierenberg, award-winning British portrait painter



The Rt. Hon. Rachel Reeves, the First Female Chancellor of the Exchequer, Preparing to Deliver her First Budget
Oil on canvas
60cm x 60cm
Acquired by the Parliamentary Art Collection, on permanent display in Portcullis House
Exhibited at the Society of Women Artists' Annual Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London, 2026



Richard Biggs, Retiring Headmaster of King's College, Taunton
Oil on canvas
65cm x 80cm
Commissioned by King's College, Taunton, for their permanent collection



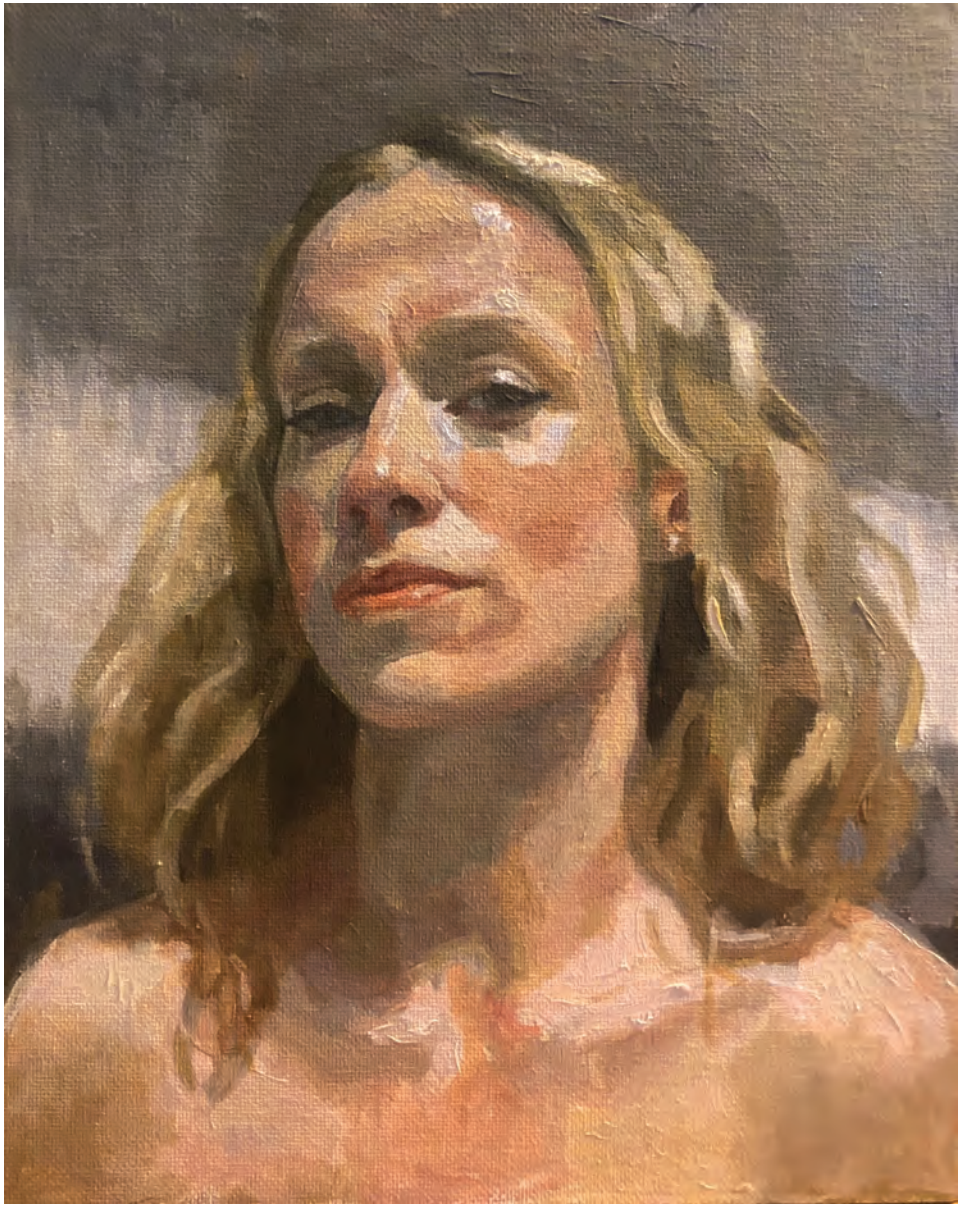
Boy with Dressing Gown
Oil on canvas
60cm x 80cm
Winner of the Cass Art Award at The Society of Women Artists' Annual Exhibition,
Mall Galleries, London, 2023



Boy with Guitar
Oil on canvas
30cm x 40cm
Exhibited at The Society of Women Artists' Annual Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London, 2026



How I See You
Oil on canvas
30cm x 40cm
Exhibited at The Royal Society of Portrait Painters' Annual Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London 2026.
Shortlisted for the National Portrait Gallery's Herbert Smith Freehills Portrait Award exhibition, 2026



Self-Portrait: Oil Study
Oil on canvas
20cm x 25cm
Exhibited at The Royal Society of Portrait Painters' Annual Exhibition,
Mall Galleries, London, 2026



Hospital Days
Oil on canvas
30cm x 40cm
Exhibited at the Royal Society of Portrait Painters' Annual Exhibition,
Mall Galleries, London, 2024



Hospital Days II
Oil on canvas
30cm x 30cm
Exhibited at The Society of Women Artists' Annual Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London, 2025



Hospital Days III
Oil on canvas
20cm x 20cm
Exhibited at The Royal Institute of Oil Painters' Annual Exhibition,
Mall Galleries, London, 2024.



Self-Portrait 2018
Oil on canvas board
30cm x 30cm
Exhibited at the Royal Society of Portrait Painters' Annual Exhibition,
Mall Galleries, London, 2019



Anna
Oil on canvas
50cm x 60cm
Private Commission



Kayoon with a Yellow Cushion
Oil on canvas
50cm x 60cm
Exhibited at The Society of Women Artists' Annual Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London, 2024
Shortlisted for the National Portrait Gallery's Herbert Smith Freehills Portrait Award exhibition 2025



The Artist's Mother
Oil on canvas board
30cm x 30cm
Exhibited at the Royal Society of Portrait Painters' Annual Exhibition,
Mall Galleries, London, 2020



Mary Beard
Oil on canvas board
30cm x 30cm
Based on an online sitting for Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Week, 2020



Emergence: Self-Portrait 2019
Oil on canvas
50cm x 60cm
Selected for Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year 2019
Shortlisted for the Ruth Borchard Self-Portrait Prize 2023



Self-Portrait 2022
Oil on canvas
30cm x 40cm
Commissioned by *The Artist Magazine*
Exhibited at the Royal institute of Oil Painters' Annual Exhibition,
Mall Galleries, London, 2023



Megan
Oil on canvas
30cm x 40cm
Private Commission



Wolfe
Oil on canvas
30cm x 40cm
Private Commission



Maurice
Oil on linen canvas
30cm x 30cm
Private Commission



Nancy
Oil on linen canvas
30cm x 30cm
Private Commission

CV

Group Exhibitions and Competitions

2026
Portrait of The Rt. Hon. Rachel Reeves, the first female Chancellor of the Exchequer, portrait acquired by the Parliamentary Art Collection
The Royal Society of Portrait Painters' annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
The Royal Institute of Oil Painters' annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
The Society of Women Artists' annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
Discerning Eye annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
Elected as a member of The Contemporary British Portrait Painters' collective
Elected as a full Member of the Society of Women Artists
Shortlisted for the National Portrait Gallery's Herbert Smith Freehills Portrait Award exhibition

2025
Elected as an Associate Member of the Society of Women Artists
The Society of Women Artists' annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
Shortlisted for the National Portrait Gallery's Herbert Smith Freehills Portrait Award exhibition
Pre-selected for the Royal Society of Portrait Painters' annual exhibition

2024
The Royal Society of Portrait Painters' annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
The Royal Institute of Oil Painters' annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
The Society of Women Artists' annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
The Almenara Art Prize online exhibition

2023
Winner of the Cass Art Award at The Society of Women Artist's annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
Shortlisted for the biennial Ruth Borchard Self-Portrait Prize, online exhibition
The Royal Institute of Oil Painters' annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
Kingston Artists Open Studios, Rose Theatre, Kingston-upon-Thames
Pre-selected for The Royal Society of Portrait Painters annual exhibition

2022
The Society of Women Artists annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
The Transience of Beauty, The Gallery, Holt, Norfolk.
Portrait Artist of the Year – The Exhibition, Compton Verney Art Gallery, Warwickshire.
Kingston Artists Open Studios, Rose Theatre, Kingston-upon-Thames
Pre-selected for The Royal Society of Portrait Painters annual exhibition
Pre-selected for The Royal Institute for Oil Painters' annual exhibition

2021
Highly commended, Ruth Borchard Self-Portrait Prize 2021, online exhibition.
Longlisted, Jackson's Open Painting Prize, online exhibition.

2020
Finalist, Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year, Series 7.
Royal Society of Portrait Painters annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London.

2019
Selected for Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year (unable to attend).
Royal Society of Portrait Painters annual exhibition, Mall Galleries, London.

Notable commissions, sitters and portraits
The Rt. Hon. Rachel Reeves, the first female Chancellor of the Exchequer, acquired by the Parliamentary Art Collection, 2026.
Richard Biggs, Rhodes Scholar, MA BSc, retiring Headmaster of King's College, Taunton – commissioned by Kings College School for their collection, 2022.
Self-portrait, commissioned by The Artist Magazine for their July 2022 edition.
Eddie Izzard. Writer, comedian, actor. Sitter for the final of Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year, 2020.
Bernardine Evaristo. Booker Prize Winner. Sitter for the semi-final of Portrait Artist of the Year, 2020.
Melanie Sykes. Model, presenter, editor. Sitter for heats of Portrait Artist of the Year, 2020.

Publications
The Artist Magazine, various articles between 2022 and 2025

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