

Sketchbooks

Why keep a sketchbook?

This is a place to think visually!

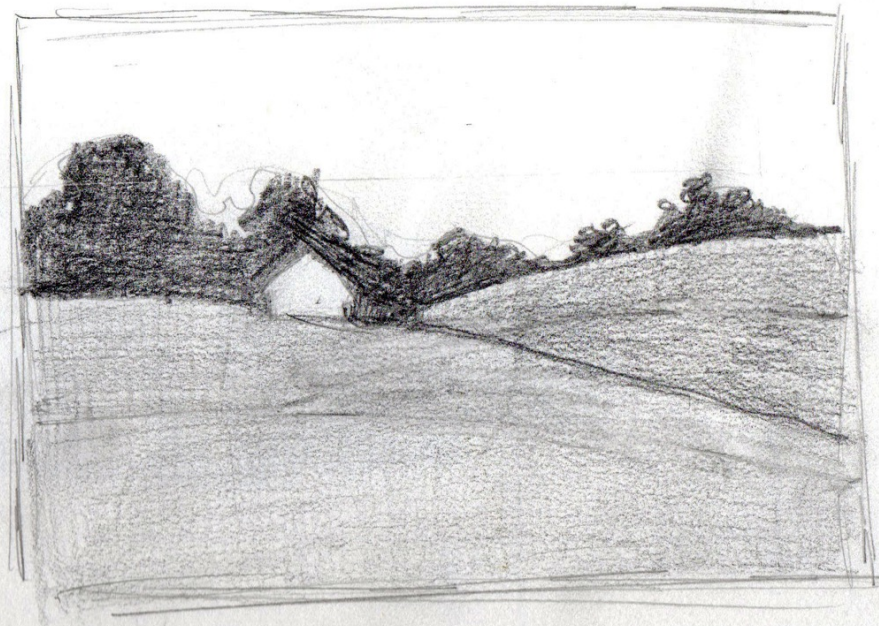
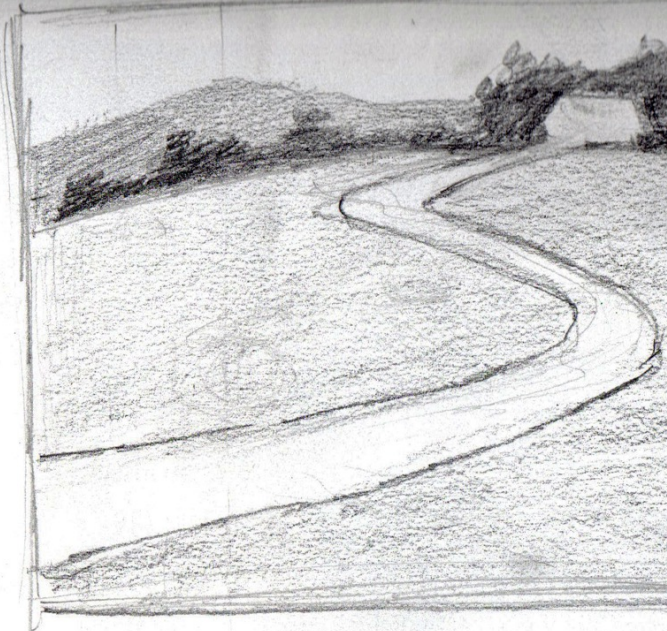
- **Make It Yours** A sketchbook doesn't need to be expensive, and it doesn't have to be purchased in an art store.
- **Keep It Portable**
- **Relax and Accept Imperfection**
- **Draw Every Day** Use your sketchbook every day, even if it's only for a few minutes
- **Experiment** Your sketchbook is a place to experiment and play around. Try new and unexpected materials and various styles. Make marks and messes. Add color, paper or other ephemera to your pages.
- **Divide the Page** If having an entire blank page to work on feels too expansive, try breaking down the page into smaller shapes you can draw within. Post-it Notes & ID cards are handy to use as templates.
- **Jumpstart Your Pages** Sometimes we just don't know what we want to draw or how we should go about tackling that dreaded white page. If this causes you to avoid your sketchbook, try marking up the pages in advance to take the pressure off.
- **Use It for Everything** Turn your sketchbook into a constant companion and use it for everything. You can doodle or sketch from observation. You can create patterns or practice hand lettering.
- **Write in Your Sketchbook** Not everything in your sketchbook has to be an image.
- **10. Date Every Page**

Thumbnail Sketch:

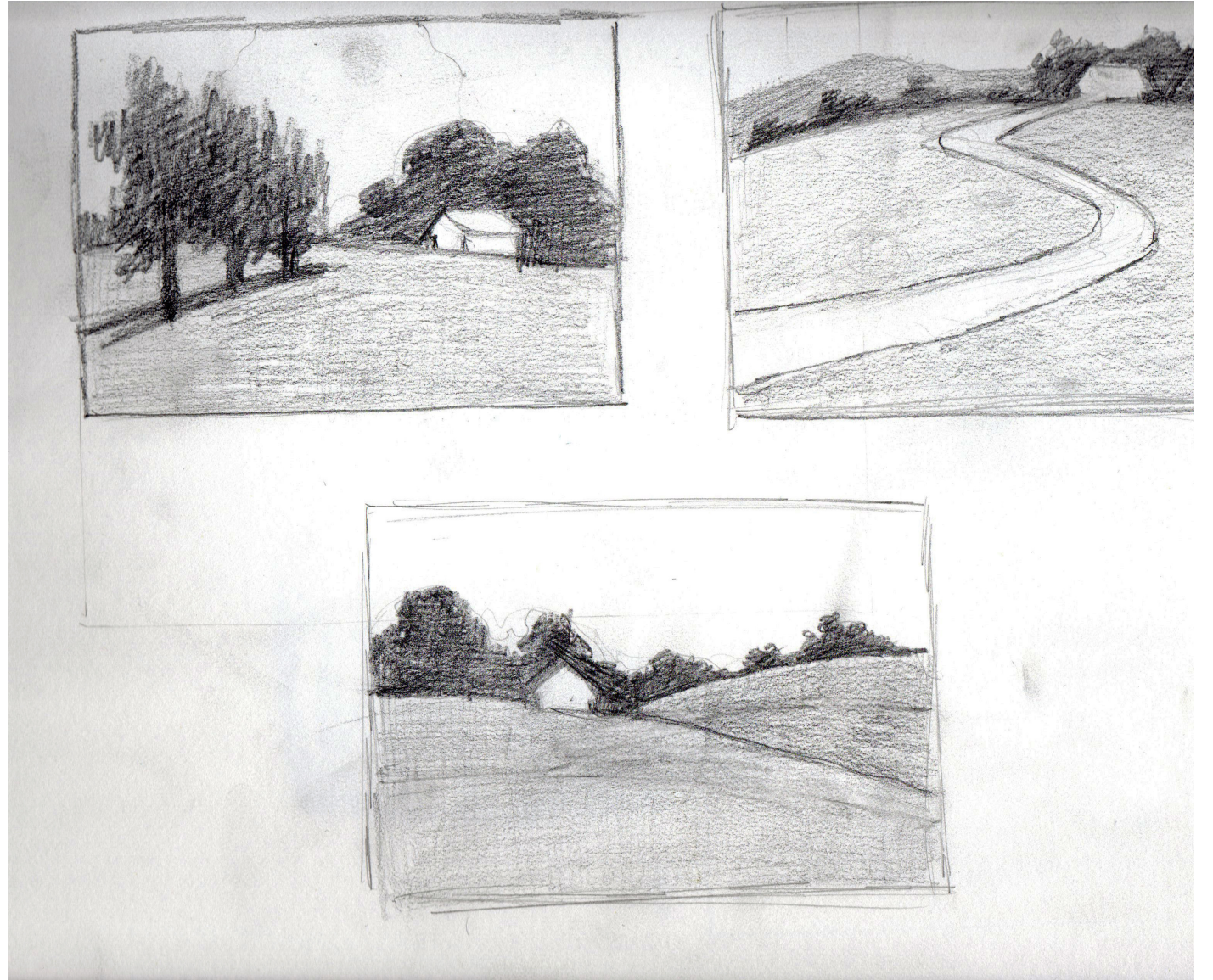
“Thumbnail sketches are quick, abbreviated drawings, usually done very rapidly and with no corrections. You can use any medium, though pen or pencil is the most common. Thumbnail sketches usually are very small, often only an inch or two high.”

Helen South

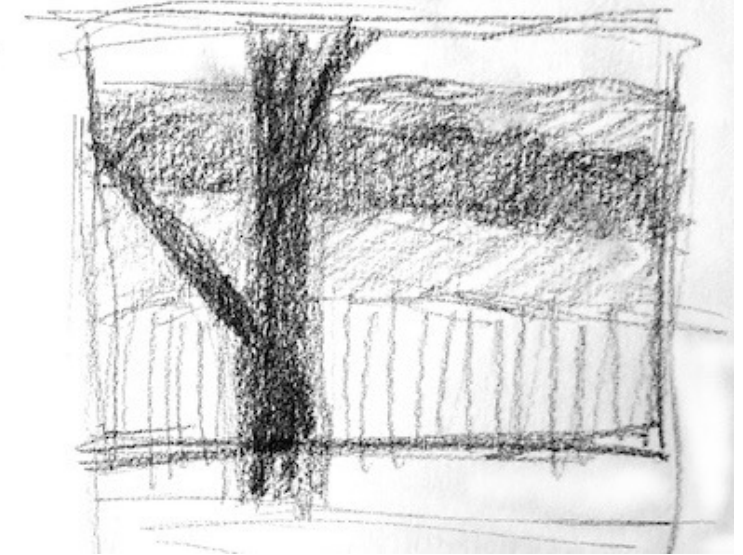
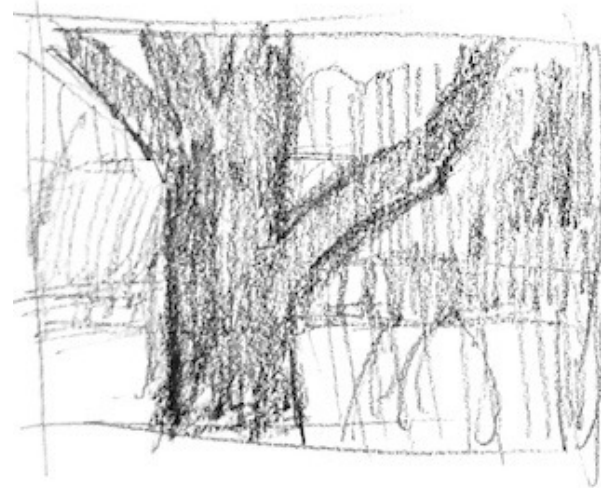
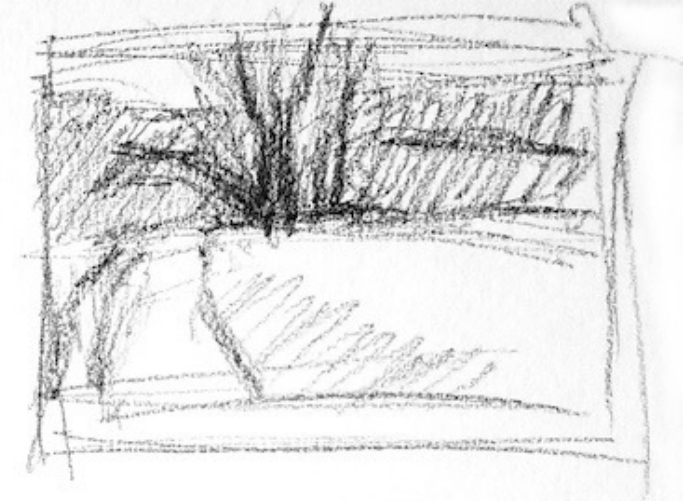
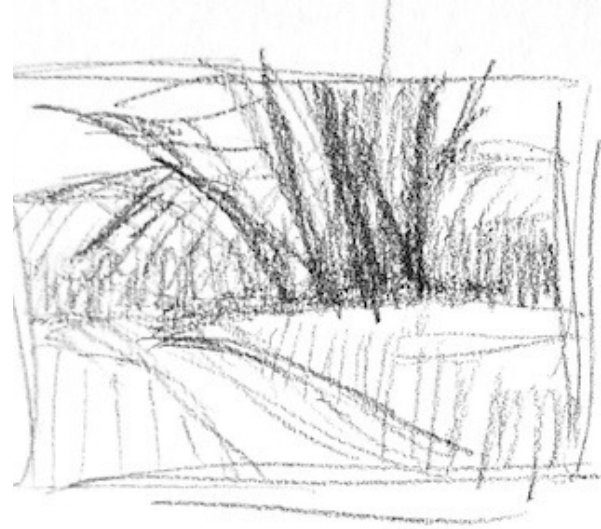
What are the advantages of using thumbnail sketches?



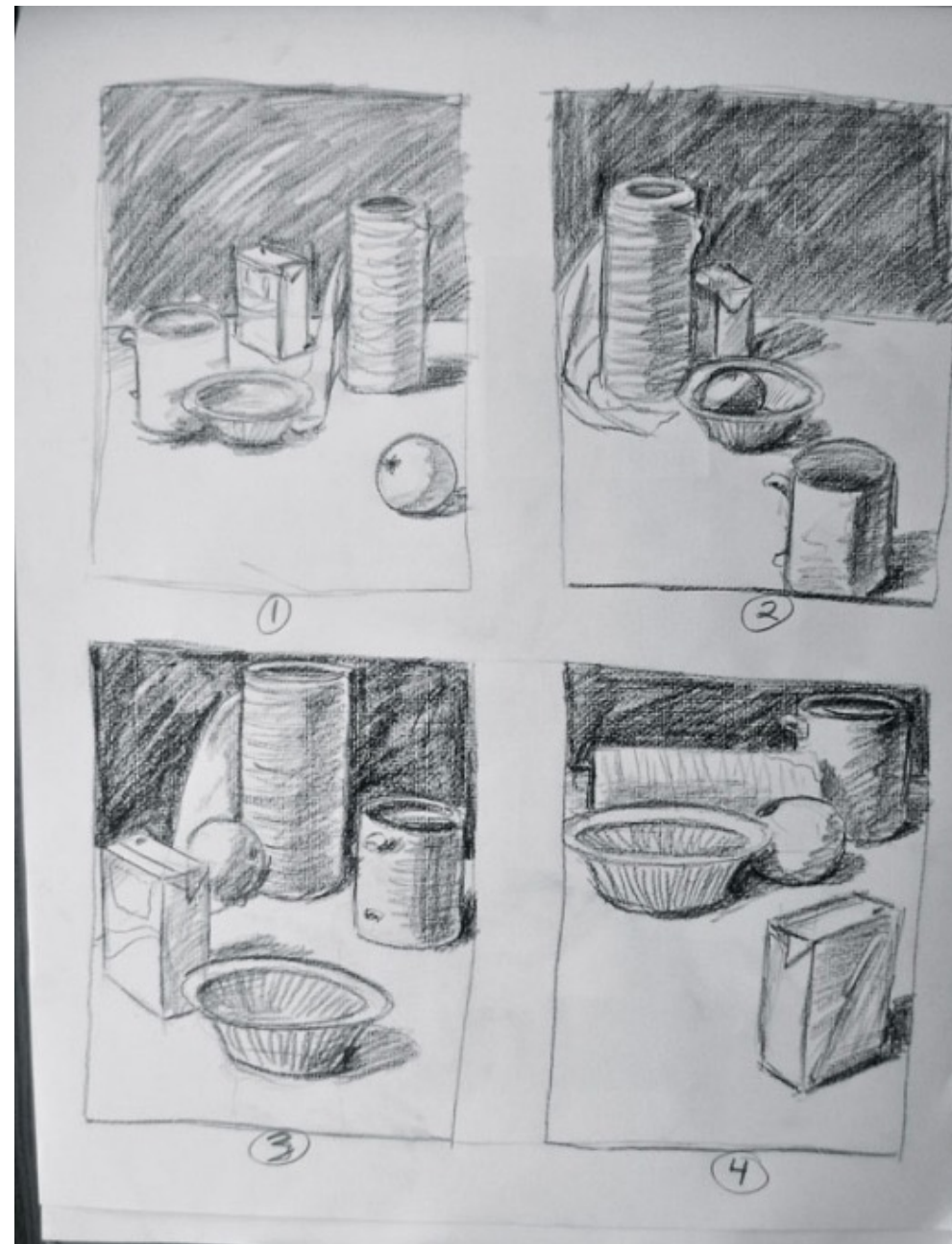
- To quickly sketch different views of the subject matter
- To crop a view to make it more visually interesting
- To crop a view to make it more visually interesting



- They reduce visual elements to values and shapes thereby making the drawing process easier



- Aid in compositional decisions
- To crop a view to make it more visually interesting



How to get started?

- Use a 2b or 4b pencil drawing pencil
- Quickly sketch a small box (approximately 2"x3" or 3"x3") that's proportional to the larger paper that theoretically you will be drawing on.
- Sketch loosely and reduce the subject matter to simple, large shapes and tonal values
- Limit sketching time to 5-10 minutes to avoid getting bogged down with any detail.



Luis Colan



Sandstone cliffs Ken Canyon Park



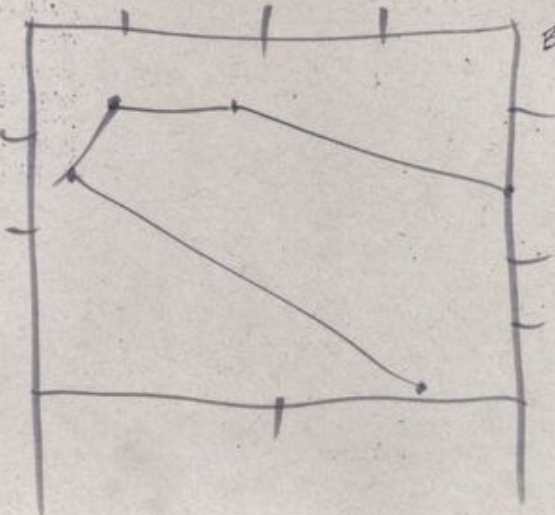
million plant



slender pods



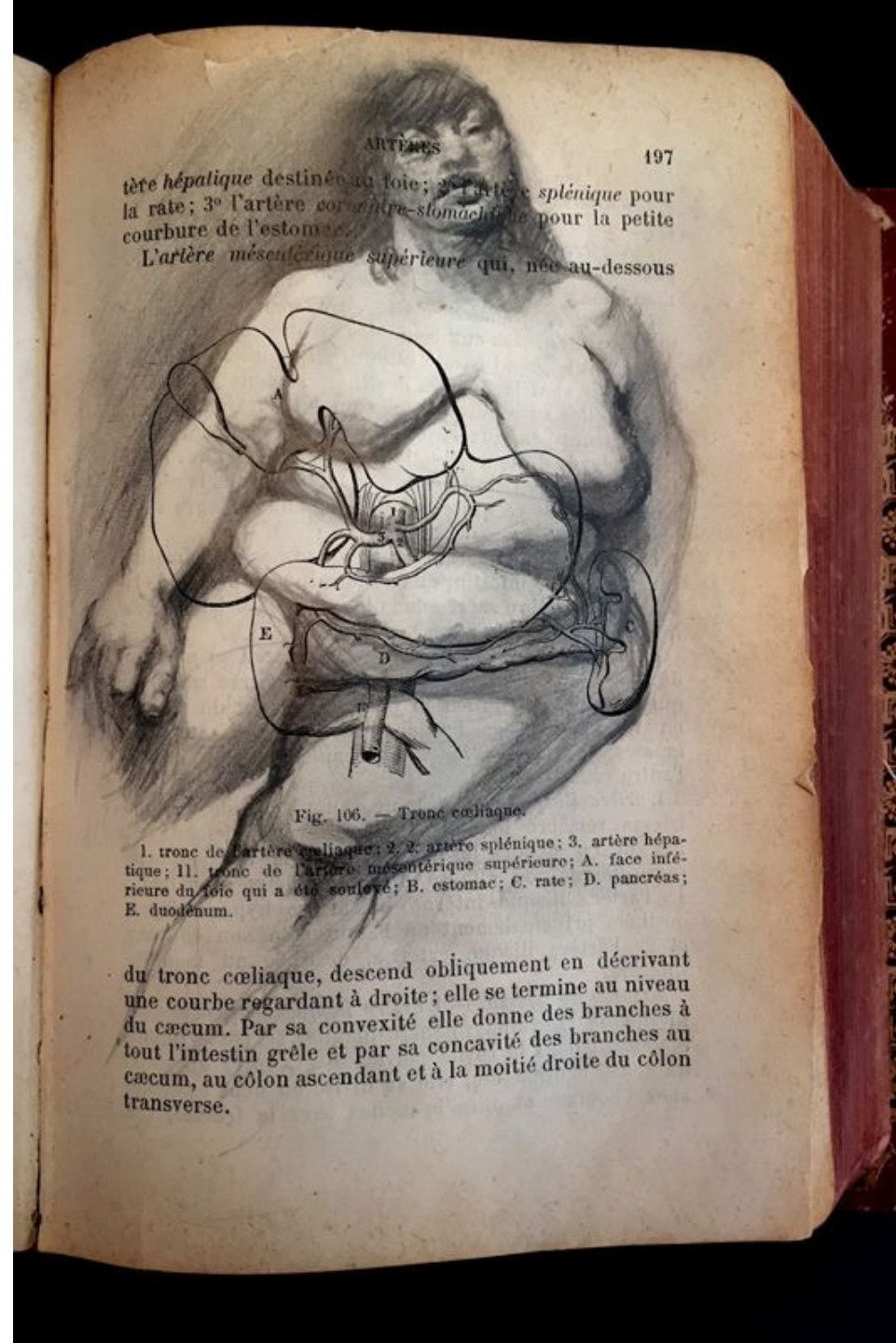
South Platte River Park



Basic Shapes

- Sherry Cami

And many inspirational sketchbooks!







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EVERY LITTLE BIT OF CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION HELPS - NATIVE PLANTS AND WILDLIFE SURVIVE AROUND US.

MALUS DOMESTICA
THE APPLE TREE



MAR 13 2014

ABANDONED APPLE TREE NOW GROWING WILD ALONG WITH MANY OTHERS ON WHAT ONCE MUST HAVE BEEN A FARM BUT IS NOW SALT ISLAND OVERLOOK - 7 ACRES PERMANENTLY PROTECTED AS OPEN SPACE AND WATERSHED LAND A COASTAL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT, WESTBROOK, CT

MORNING SKY



LOVE THE PURPLE SKIES OF SPRING AGAINST THE NEW GREEN OF THE TREES

7:45AM 48° PARTLY CLOUDY



TREE SWALLOWS



BREWERS BLACKBIRD



MYRTLE WARBLER

SUBSPECIES OF YELLOW RUMPED WARBLER



CATBIRD IN A BUSH



RED WING BLACKBIRD NEST

COMPETITION FOR NESTING SITES HAS BEGUN AMONG MANY OF THE BIRDS - TODAY I SAW SQUABLES BETWEEN TREE SWALLOWS - BLACKBIRDS / RED WINGS - YING FOR SPOTS

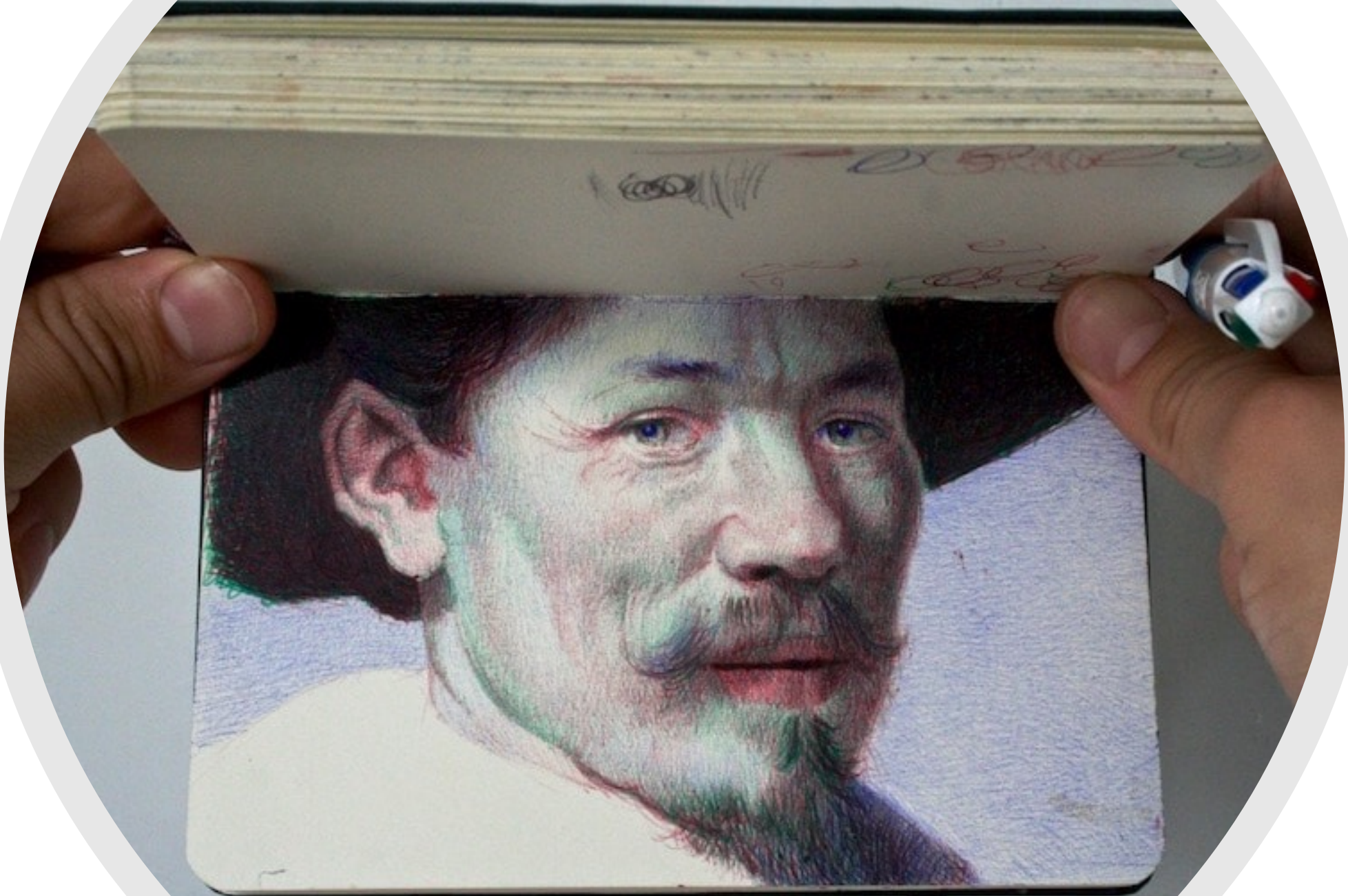
NOT NESTING

MAR 14 2014



PLUMPOUND SAPSUCKER











AGS
Y



- Other sources of sketchbook inspirations

The NY Public Library Sketchbook Project

<https://www.nypl.org/audiovideo/sketchbook-project-world-tour-guno-park-steven-peterman-sara-elands-peterman-francesco>

The Sketchbook Project

<https://www.sketchbookproject.com>