

Tip #10



Drawing for Fun and Practice

There's a lot to be said for keeping the hand/eye coordination in practice. The more I draw, and the more often, the better I am at capturing my subject in a sure, fresh, lively manner. When I lay off for a while, I get rusty - just like a ball player or musician! Like the old joke about the tourist asking the street musician how to get to Carnegie Hall ... the answer was "Practice, man, practice!"

The greatest benefit, though, is that drawing is just plain *fun*. It's one of the most satisfying things I can do, as an artist and as a human being. It helps me to see and appreciate the world around me and the passing moments of my life. It makes me slow down and pay attention. If I have a pencil and sketch pad,

I'm never bored! I've drawn in airports, while waiting for my plane, and at concerts to capture the grace of the performers. I've drawn to learn more about the world around me, sketching birds or wildflowers in the forest. I've drawn car parts while mine was being worked on. I've drawn my cats a thousand times, or the way the shadows of a branch sketch their own pattern on a sunlit wall.

Check out a good book on drawing, and practice your skills - you'll find it a lovely way to spend a life!

Art 10-1, Practice!

This is a bit of practice of various drawing techniques from my North Light "First Steps" series book, *Sketching and Drawing* - blocking in, contour drawing, and modified contour drawing.



Art 10-1



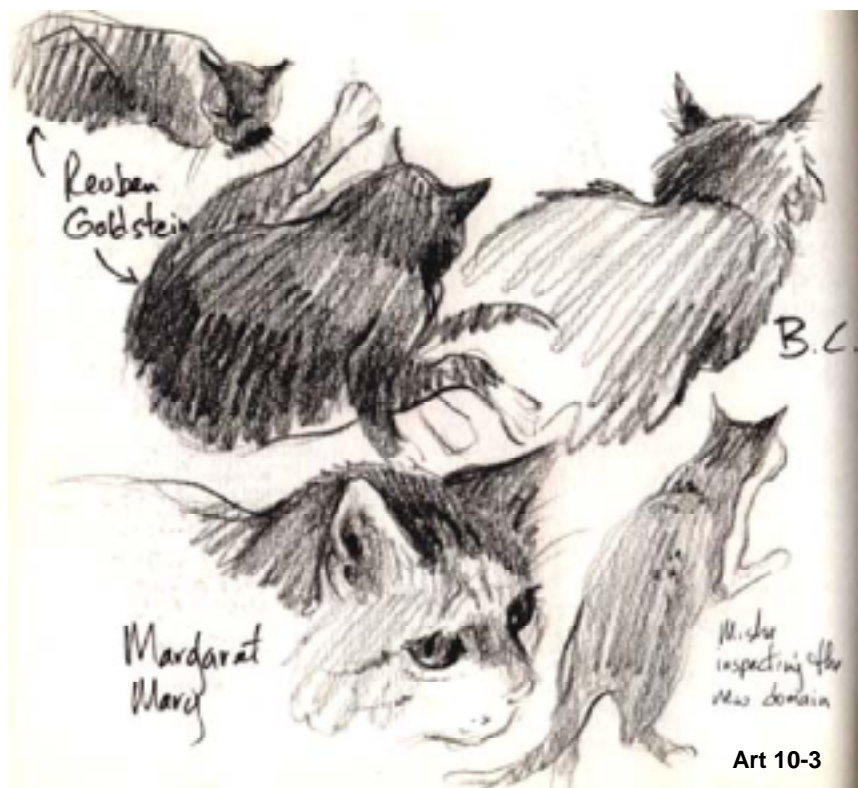
Art 10-2, 2 Days in September

I love to sketch in nature...and it's fun to add a bit of color, later, too. This is in my hardcover sketch journal that has gone almost everywhere with me. Actually, it represents two days - the first day I just drew my cat, Scout, when I was short of time ... your practice needn't be anything elaborate.

Art 10-3, Kitty Memories

Your pets make marvelous sketching subjects ... catch them waking or sleeping, still or in movement. Here, I filled a page with sketches of my various animals, doing what they do best.

* Check your local book or art store for my *Sketching and Drawing* or find it online at [Amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)!



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