

## Tip #39



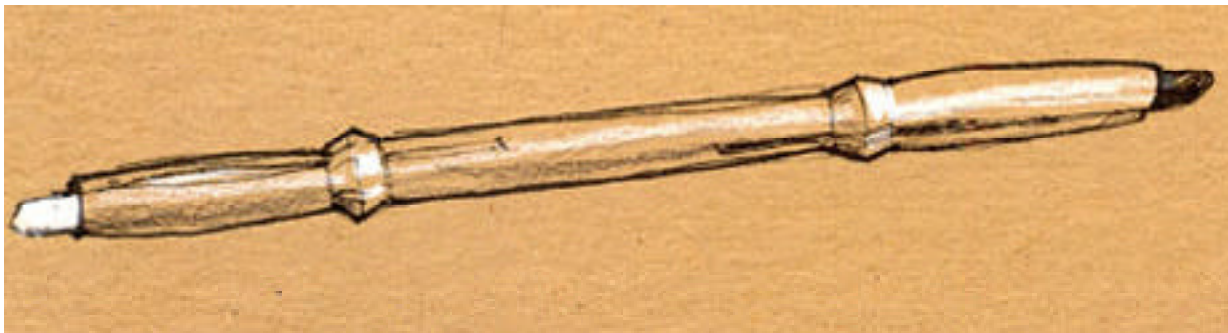
### *Working on Toned Paper*

Have you ever wished your work had more presence...that it could almost come alive on the page? There's a simple and ancient way of getting that 3-D effect-working on toned paper! If you choose a midtone value-a gray or tan paper (or tint your own, that works too!) - then draw or paint the shadows in ink, colored pencil or watercolor and add highlights with white colored pencil, gouache, or even Liquid Paper, you suddenly DO have an almost three-dimensional effect. It's magic!

This can work really well with portraits-it was a favorite technique of the Old Masters - or with anything else you want to have an extra bit of energy. Landscapes, still life, figure drawing, botanicals, you name it.

#### **Art 38-1**

A crayon holder can give you both tools in one!



Art 39-1

#### **Art 38-2**

Even such a simple subject as this squash can pop off the page...



Art 39-2

### Art 39-3

Or go for something more complex, like this Equinox still life, done on recycled paper. The whites were kept to a minimum, but they helped the drawing have a sense of presence.



Art 39-3

### Art 39-4

Botanical subjects look good on black paper, when painted with gouache or opaque watercolor. This wild geranium was painted with gouache...details really seem to stand out against black!

There's more on this technique in my online drawing classes - bookmark [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/drawing\\_sketching\\_online/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/drawing_sketching_online/) to see when the next semester will be, or watch these announcements.

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Art 39-4