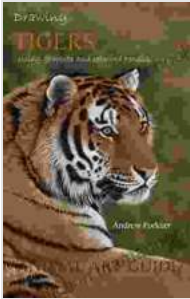


Using Graphite And Coloured Pencils Animal Art Guides



Drawing Tigers: Using graphite and coloured pencils. (Animal Art Guides Book 1) by Andrew Forkner

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

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to Animal Art

Animal art holds a special place in the hearts of many artists and art enthusiasts. Capturing the beauty and spirit of animals requires a unique combination of observation, technical skill, and passion. Whether you're a seasoned artist or a beginner eager to explore this genre, this comprehensive guide will provide you with the knowledge and techniques to create stunning animal portraits using graphite and coloured pencils.

The Tools of the Trade

Graphite Pencils

- **Graphite Grade:** The grade of graphite refers to its softness or hardness. Higher grades (e.g., 6B) are softer and produce darker shades, while lower grades (e.g., 2H) are harder and produce lighter shades.

- **Graphite Core Type:** Graphite cores come in two main types: synthetic and natural. Synthetic cores are more durable and easier to erase, while natural cores provide a smoother texture.
- **Shape:** Graphite pencils are available in various shapes, including round, hexagonal, and triangular. Choose a shape that feels comfortable to hold.

Coloured Pencils

- **Lightfastness:** Lightfastness refers to how well a coloured pencil's pigment resists fading over time. Look for pencils with high lightfastness ratings for long-lasting artworks.
- **Opacity:** Opacity describes the ability of a coloured pencil to cover the underlying layer. Opaque pencils produce solid, vibrant colours, while transparent pencils allow underlying layers to show through.
- **Colour Range:** The colour range of available coloured pencils is vast. Choose a set that aligns with your artistic style and the animals you plan to draw.

Fundamental Drawing Techniques

Graphite Layering

Graphite layering involves applying multiple layers of graphite to create depth and shading. Start with a light base layer and gradually add darker layers, blending them smoothly to avoid harsh transitions.



Cross-Hatching

Cross-hatching is a technique where lines are drawn in different directions to create areas of varying darkness. This technique adds texture and depth to your drawings.



Blending

Blending is crucial for creating smooth transitions and soft effects. Use blending stumps or tortillons to gently rub and blend the graphite, removing any visible pencil marks.



Applying Coloured Pencils

Colour Choice

Select coloured pencils that complement the natural colours of your animal subject. Consider the overall colour scheme you want to achieve and the contrast between different areas.

Layering and Blending

Layer coloured pencils similar to graphite, starting with lighter shades and gradually adding darker tones. Blend colours carefully to create smooth transitions and avoid sharp lines.

Glazing

Glazing is a technique where thin layers of transparent or semi-transparent coloured pencils are applied over one another. This allows underlying layers to show through, creating a sense of depth and luminosity.

Portraits of Specific Animals

Dogs

- Capture the playful expressions and energetic nature of dogs using graphite and coloured pencils.
- Pay attention to the fur texture and the details of their eyes, nose, and mouth.



Cats

- Convey the elegance and enigmatic nature of cats through your artwork.
- Focus on the soft fur, piercing eyes, and subtle expressions.



Horses

- Capture the grace and powerful presence of horses with graphite and coloured pencils.
- Pay attention to the muscular structure, flowing mane and tail, and expressive eyes.



Inspiration and Resources

Animal Reference Photos

Study high-quality photos of animals to observe their anatomy, fur patterns, and expressions. This will provide valuable reference material for your drawings.

Art Exhibitions and Workshops

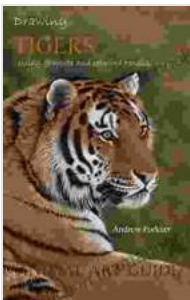
Attend art exhibitions featuring animal art and workshops led by experienced artists. These events offer opportunities to learn new techniques and gain inspiration from others.

Online Tutorials and Classes

Take advantage of online tutorials and classes dedicated to animal art. These resources can provide step-by-step guidance and access to expert advice.

Using graphite and coloured pencils to create animal art is a rewarding and challenging endeavour. By understanding the techniques and tools, mastering the fundamentals of drawing, and drawing inspiration from your surroundings, you can capture the beauty and spirit of animals in your artwork. As you progress, experiment with different techniques and colour combinations to develop your unique artistic style. With dedication and practice, you'll create stunning animal portraits that will bring joy to you and those around you.

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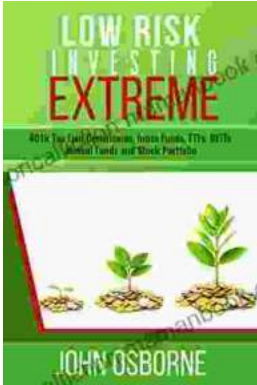
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