

» **TELL ME MORE ABOUT "SHEEP".** ANN RANLETT  
Scratchboard with India ink wash and colored ink / 4" x 12" (10cm x 30cm)

I normally work from my own photo references, but occasionally, someone else's "gotta draw" photo crosses my path. The photo of a friend's handsome border collie pup screamed scratchboard drawing. The narrow landscape dimensions that define this drawing required cutting a scratchboard to fit; I filled the space with the dog and just a hint of ground. I used a diluted India ink wash to tone back the scratching on the pup's black fur and nose, on the ground and in a few places on the white fur. Colored ink on the eyes draws the viewer in to wonder what the pup is thinking.



*"Try an odd size; the interesting dimensions will attract the viewer's attention."*

• ANN RANLETT



» **WOOD DUCK.** KARIE O'DONNELL  
Graphite on 300-lb. (640gsm) Fabriano Artistic paper / 5" x 12" (13cm x 30cm)

Nestled high in the barn rafters above noisy chickens, ducks and pigeons, this cozy wood duck captivated me with her quiet solitude. Drawn from several reference images, the delicacy of the wood duck contrasts with the rough textures and geometric angles of the beams. I created the perception of depth by softly graying down the distant rafters with a 4H pencil and adding darker details to the foreground beams with a 2B pencil. The darkest and lightest tones were reserved for the wood duck that finds warm safety on her perch.



» **THE HUNT – RED-TAILED HAWK COUPLE.** LAURENE SPINO  
Graphite pencil and powder on Mellotex paper / 6" x 15" (15cm x 38cm)



*"Art has brought an unexpected benefit to my life. I now see beauty that I had never noticed before in my immediate surroundings."*

• LAURENE SPINO

I am fortunate to live near a wildlife haven for animals that cannot be released by rehabilitation centers. There I have spent many hours observing and photographing red-tailed hawks while developing a profound respect for these birds. They form lifelong pair bonds and have been seen hunting in pairs. That's the story I wanted to tell, set on a cold winter's day clouded in winter fog. I did the background mostly with graphite powder, progressively fading out details. The hawks were drawn in pencils ranging from 2H to 2B for sharper detail and focus.