

DRAWING ON TINTED PAPER

Drawing on tinted paper, why would you? It takes a while before you can work with it properly but you can use the paper to give a great atmosphere to your sketch. You draw with dark lines, add white highlights later, and the color of the paper does the rest.

If you want to make your drawing richer, add some areas of color in shades of the color of the paper. Very handy, because when you draw on white paper, you have to apply each color yourself; on colored paper, the paper does most of the work.

In this edition of *That's another way of doing it* you can see how ten sketchers achieve the optimal result on tinted paper.

That's another way of doing it.

ANNE
ROSE

*'I actually mainly travel
at home'*

Lolo Wagner

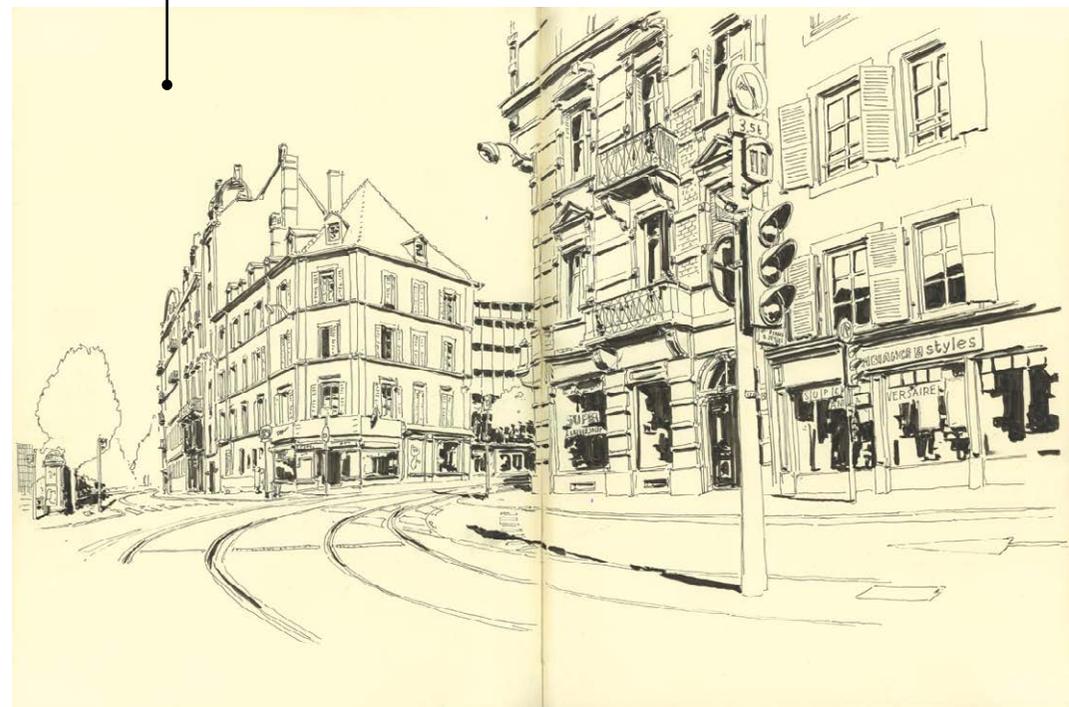
Lolo Wagner, an illustrator from Strasbourg (France) always carries a sketchbook with light yellow paper, in which he draws with black ink. Lolo has a good reason for choosing this paper: he has rather sensitive eyes and when he draws in full sun on white paper, the transition from the view to his dazzling white paper is quite tiring. This light colored paper is easier on the eyes. When I see such a drawing, like this one he made on the *Quai Desaix*, I immediately know it's made by Lolo. The consistent choice for this slightly tinted paper makes you recognize the maker of the drawing.

Lolo draws a lot and he does it very well. And for a long time. He started wandering the city with his sketchbook when he was 17 and has never stopped. 'I don't need to take the train or plane, I make a lot of drawings close to home. I actually mainly travel at home.' He now knows his city through and through. In 2015 he organized a national sketching event in Strasbourg; not long after, he was director of Urban Sketchers France and founder/director of Urban Sketchers Strasbourg.

The winters in Alsace are not really inviting to sketch outdoors, so he (with or without his partner Nathyi Regner) uses this season to visit craftsmen in their workshop and draw there.

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Raro de Oliveira, a designer and an urban sketcher from Curitiba (Brazil) is a clever sketcher: he makes the most of the gray paper in his sketchbook. He uses a black pencil for the lines; a white pencil for the highlights. He leaves the rest to the paper. The paper sets the mood.

Raro was born in Rio de Janeiro, studied graphic design there, and then worked for several advertising agencies. He is currently an art teacher and one of the organizers of the Urban Sketchers Curitiba.

Raro loves to draw in his city. He listens to the city, watches the people moving around. He tells in almost every sketch what he sees, he involves us into his story.

In the sketch on the left we see a fishing cart.

Raro sits there and sees everything that happens around that cart. In the drawing on the right, he is sitting with two girlfriends in a café and has a spectacular view of *Ouro Preto* through the open windows.

All of this is captured with a simple black and white pencil on gray paper.

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Alex Kasyan is a breathtakingly talented professional portrait painter from Montreal (Canada). He was born in Tbilisi (Georgia). Alex did this drawing of *Café Olimpico* in *Mile End Montreal* using pen and markers. He has taken drawing on gray paper to a higher level with these simple means. He makes optimal use of the color of the paper.

A series of portrait commissions awaited him in his studio; Alex wanted to do something different for a moment, went to a cafe and drew what he saw. He liked it so much that he went looking for places that are close to his heart, where he has good memories. It is now becoming a series. This outdoor drawing directly responds to the reason why Alex became an artist: he can absorb the world around him and capture it on the paper. Simple and straightforward.

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'I never stop learning and always look for new challenges, which is exactly what gave birth to this drawing project'

Alex Kasyan



Robert Cabeza Comas from Terrassa (Spain) also loves to draw on light colored paper. He uses a pencil in a darker shade of the paper for the lines and slightly colors a single detail: look at the green shades on the walls of the building. And he also uses his white pencil, subtly.

He leaves the rest to the paper, which determines the sunny atmosphere of the drawing. Relatively little work with a great result.

Robert is self-taught, has learned to draw, paint and do calligraphy himself. In addition, he is an authority on Catalan pottery and is passionate about music, which he has been writing about in newspapers and magazines for many years.

For this drawing of the stairs in *Carrer Nou* in *Viladecavallis* he has used lightly tinted Canson paper.

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Daniel Castro from Esplugues de Llobregat in Barcelona (Spain) is a great sketcher and knows how to get the best result from colored paper. Daniel is an illustrator and graphic designer. 'I have a huge passion and interest in design in general and drawing in particular.'

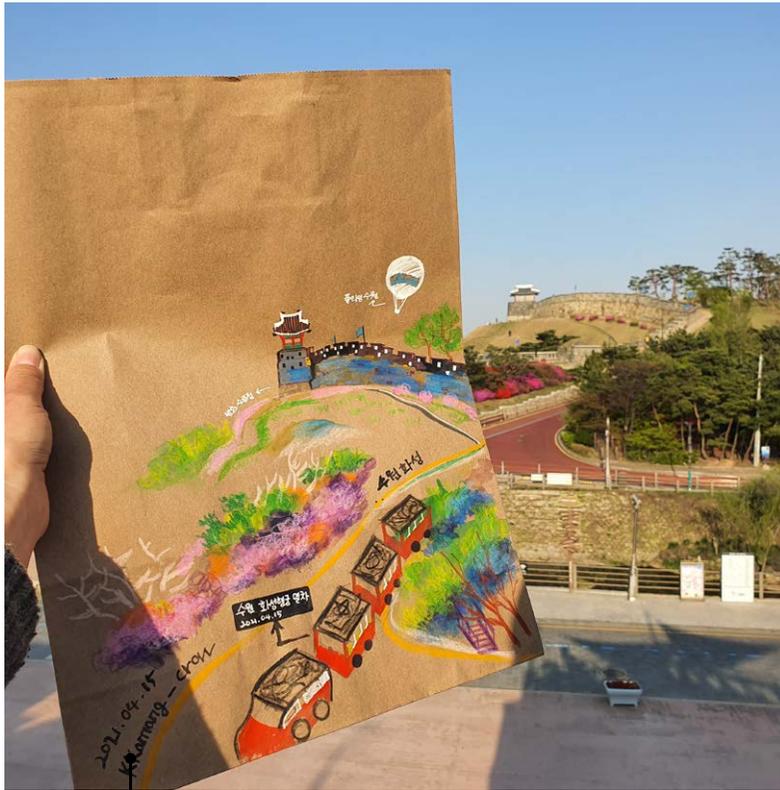
Daniel drew this sketch of the market in *Sant Just Desvern* (just outside the center of Barcelona) in pencil; he starts with an H or 2H pencil for the lighter lines, then continues with a 7 mm thick B pencil. He later adds some contrast with a softer 4B pencil. Then, like some other sketchers in this edition, he made color accents in the shade of his paper. Only the two traffic signs have a different colour, a cheerful accent. Finally, Daniel applied some highlights in the buildings and the sky with white opaque paint and in the lamppost a single line with a white marker. That's all.

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Jieun Lee, organizer of Urban Sketchers Busan (South Korea), stole my heart with this sketch. Looking at the serrated edges at the top I guess that she made this drawing on a supermarket paper bag. She uses chalk and a white marker. We can even feel the sunlight in her drawing. Jieun Lee lives in Busan, on the south coast of South Korea. When she visited the capital Seoul, she became acquainted with the local group of urban sketchers. When she returned home, she immediately started her own group so that she could draw together with other young sketchers. Her favorite quote is from Lee Dae-ho, a professional baseball player: 'The biggest failure is not to try.'

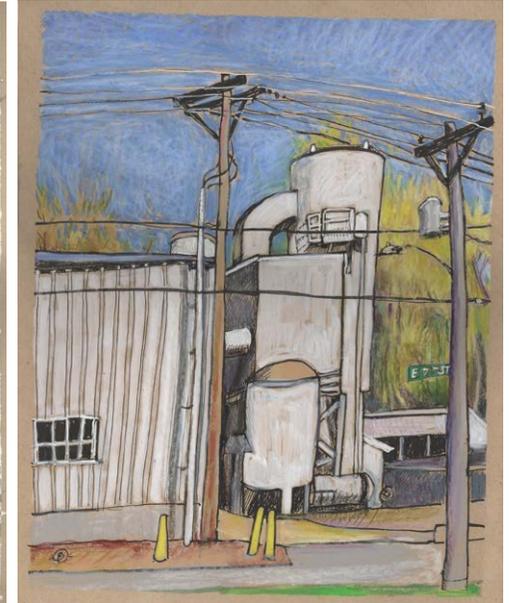
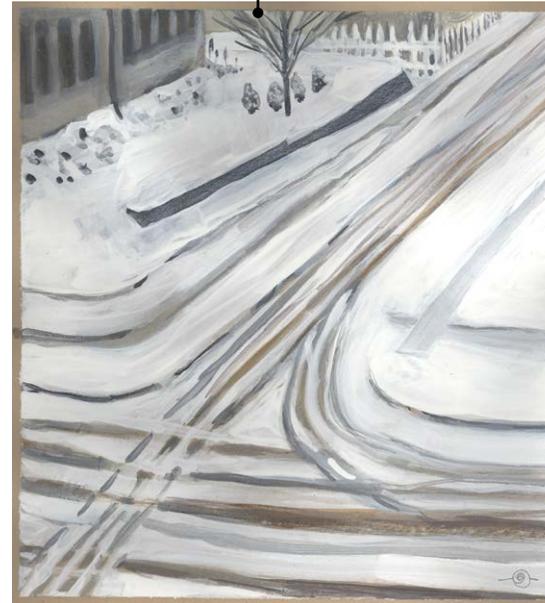
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Marcia Milner-Brage from Cedar Falls, Iowa (United States) often draws on colored paper. She is smart about it: she does not have to leave the white snow out of the white paper, but applies it to the tinted background with white gouache.

In this case it was too cold to go outside, it was the fourth time it was snowing in the month of April; she drew this intersection from her bedroom window. The same goes for the second drawing of the *Viking Pump Foundry on E. 7th Street*: the white buildings stand out well on the colored paper, because Marcia was able to work with white gouache. In addition, she colored the other parts with wax crayons (Neocolor II watercolor crayons, soluble in water).

Marcia has drawn all her life: 'As a five-year-old I was sitting in the back-seat of my family's 1950 Oldsmobile on a trip from Kansas to California: I tried to capture those animal-shaped clouds sailing by with my pencil and paper. Across the years: sketching my then infant son as he napped to drawing my elderly mother's hands on the day she died – drawing is one of the few continuous strands that runs through my life.' She likes to find a place near her home to draw, look at something for a long time and let her hand do the work. To her, her hometown Cedar Falls – a small, Midwestern US city – is as worthy a subject as any of the great metropolises or bucket-list worthy destinations she has been to.

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Tatiana Miller, artist and illustrator from Berlin (Germany) prefers to draw on brightly colored paper. Here we see some examples of her sketches. Tatiana uses opaque ink markers in a few colors and is smart about it. In the first drawing (a café on *Oranienplatz* in the *Kreuzberg* district), the street, building and sky are the color of the craft paper; she has cleverly used the blue pipes and the yellow storefronts to accentuate her drawing. You can see how well she handles this paper in the middle drawing (a view into *Osloer Strasse*): she has made a part of the side wall light yellow, the shadow is formed by the blue paper. For the drawing on the right (the top of a factory building on *Drontheimer Strasse* in the *Wedding* district), she made optimal use of the red color of the paper. Tatiana was born in Moscow; in Berlin she became acquainted with the Urban Sketchers Berlin and she has been drawing on location, outdoors ever since. She has a keen eye for her surroundings.

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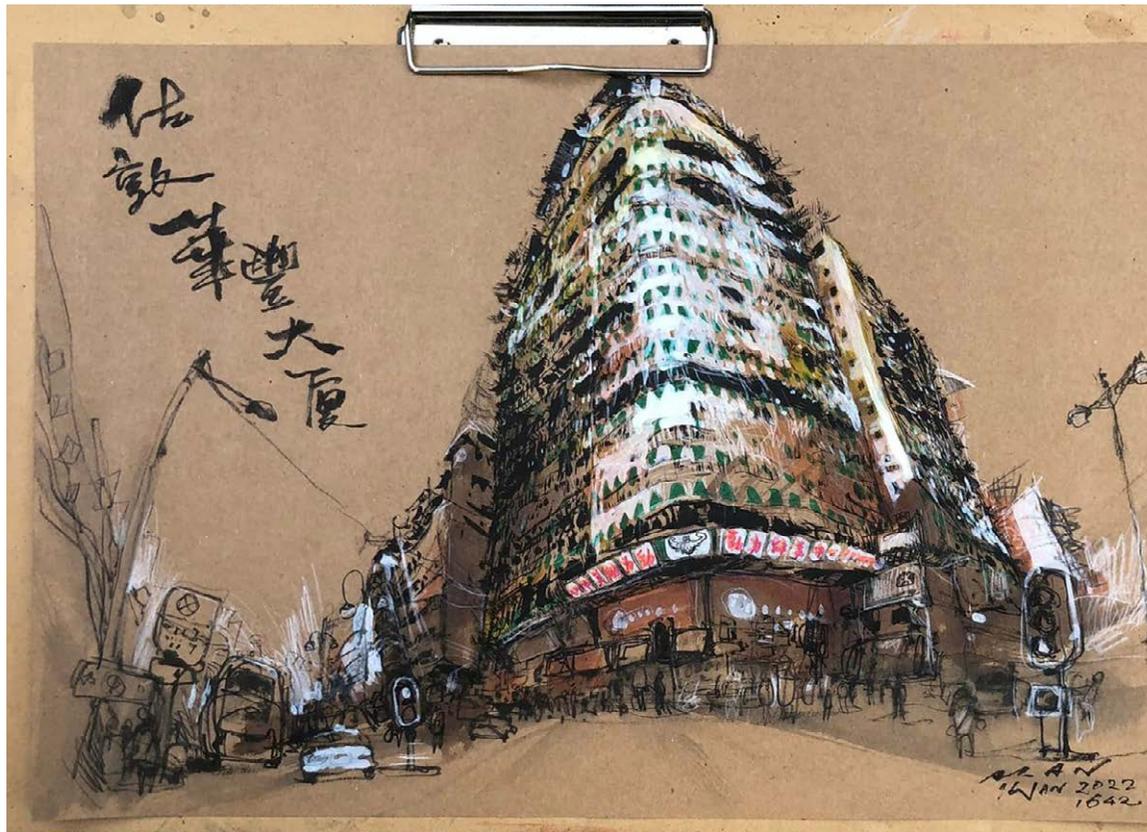


'Experiment and explore new ways to express yourself'

Farah Irani

Farah Irani from Camp, Puna (India) is an independent designer. She is an avid urban sketcher; she feels that outdoor sketching has intensified her view of the world around her and made her creative journey more exciting. She loves color and was intrigued by Pat Southern Pearce's use of color, who often uses colored paper to draw on. Pat has completely changed Farah's view of the possibilities of line and color. Farah now prefers to choose brightly colored paper to draw on. 'Very often, I go out sketching with a plan, but that plan is turned topsy turvy when I see the location. The feeling of the moment makes me reach for an unexpected color and media accordingly. It's like freezing my mood in the sketch.' It has made her so enthusiastic that she has developed a workshop so that she can pass on her passion for colored paper to others. 'Using color helps us to see the world differently, to let our own imaginative stories affect it.'

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'I'm a sketching and drawing maniac' Alan Cheung

Alan Cheung is a freelance illustrator and graphic designer from Hong Kong. He also teaches advertising design and drawing in various universities in Hong Kong. Look, what a wonderful example of drawing on colored paper: Alan went with some urban sketchers from Hong Kong to the old part of Kowloon district (Hong Kong) and took his seat opposite the Champion Building, on the corner of Jordan Road and Nathan Road. The rounded corner in the façade is striking. He has slightly distorted the perspective, so that the building appears more massive and dynamic. He mainly drew it with a black pen and applied some tones with watercolor in the color of the paper. Then some color accents, such as all the green triangles on the façade and finally white surfaces and lines with paint and marker, in order to capture the reflection of the sun on the building. Alan spent two hours working on this sketch. Hats off.

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Have you missed the previous episodes of **That's another way of doing it**? Here you can see and download the last eleven episodes (sorry, #1 and #2 are in Dutch only):

- [3. A tree in front of the building](#)
- [4. Colored pencils](#)
- [5. Perspective?](#)

- [6. White is also a color](#)
- [7. Sketching in your car](#)
- [8. It rains. Bah, now what](#)
- [9. No time. Really?](#)
- [10. Let's draw trees](#)
- [11. Pencil only](#)
- [12. Forgot my sketchbook](#)
- [13. Perspective without ruler](#)
- [14. The tower doesn't fit](#)

- [15. The real color. Or not](#)
 - [16. Within the lines](#)
 - [17. Text in your sketch](#)
- The Dutch blogs have appeared on [the website of Urban Sketchers Netherlands](#). You can find all episodes and downloads at urbansketchers.nl/vind-pagina under the heading 'ZO KAN HET OOK'.

More inspiratipon?

YouTube

- *Pen and Ink [Sketching on Painted Paper](#). Adding White Highlights.* Peter Sheeler
- *Fog and Twilight A watercolor value study sketch on [yellow tinted paper](#)*
- *Urban Sketching on [Toned Paper](#)*

And: [Jim Morris](#)