

MESSAGE FROM ERIC

- March -

DRAWING MADE EASIER

Translating a drawing from a small value sketch to a large sheet of watercolor paper can be daunting. If we're not careful we can end up with a drawing that is too small for the paper. Here are some techniques that work well for me.

Stand away from the paper at arm's length. This way you can see the whole paper and the spatial relationship of all the shapes to each other.

Hold the pencil loosely with the arm near full extension. Drawing from the shoulder rather than the wrist gives you more control, allowing you to establish broad, sweeping relationships.

As the drawing progresses, keep checking all the relationships to each other. I call this triangulating. I will pause, for example, with my pencil on the paper at the corner of the boat cabin and draw mental lines to other important points already sketched in. My eye quickly checks the angles and distances to make sure the proportions are correct.

I hope these suggestions make sketching less challenging.

Keep your brush wet,

Eric



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