

# Sketchy Characters

Peering into the Practice of Artist Sketchbooks

# Artist Sketchbooks

If you trace the history of sketchbooks, you'll find that although paper wasn't always bound up into leather Moleskines, sketchbook contents haven't changed much in the past few centuries. History's pages (yes, pun intended) show a mish-mash of visual and lexical note taking. [Da Vinci's sketchbooks](#) included detailed anatomical studies, cavorting kittens and sketches for a flying machine. He even catalogued his daily clothing choices, evidencing a penchant for pink tights.

Whether you see these pages as behind-the-scenes peeks or frame-worthy art objects in themselves, you'll be hard pressed to tear your eyes away from the ink scribbles, graphite sketches, color swatches and reveries that fill sketchbook pages — those contemporary and past.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GelzzFNh5oY>
- <http://the-creative-business.com/10-beautiful-sketchbooks-famous-artists/>
- <https://thebluereview.net/a-brief-history-of-sketchbooks-79d88825f10b>
- <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/archive/tga-812/sutherland-collection-of-forty-sketchbooks-and-fragments-of-sketchbooks>

# Vincent Van Gogh?

[Vincent van Gogh: The Lost Arles Sketchbook](#), was released November 15. The author, [Bogomila Welsh-Ovcharov](#), is an internationally renowned art historian and Van Gogh expert. [Ronald Pickvance](#), an art historian who has also written numerous books on the Dutch artist, wrote the foreword, [calling the sketchbook](#) “the most revolutionary discovery in the entire history of Van Gogh’s oeuvre.”

The book includes 250 color illustrations allegedly by the Dutch artist’s hand that were “kept within a humble account ledger given to him by Joseph and Marie Ginoux, the owners of the Café de la Gare in Arles,” according to a description from Abrams.

But the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam is not buying it. The institution released an email statement on Tuesday with the header: “Found Sketchbook With Drawings Is Not By Van Gogh, According to Van Gogh Museum.”

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GmxeS8657Do>









# VINCENT VAN GOGH

## The Lost Arles Sketchbook

BOGOMILA WELSH-OVCHAROV









# Franz Marc (1880-1916)

Franz Moritz Wilhelm Marc was a German painter and printmaker, one of the key figures of German Expressionism. He was a founding member of Der Blaue Reiter, a journal whose name later became synonymous with the circle of artists collaborating in it.

Franz Marc's famous *Sketchbook from the Field* contains thirty-six small-format pencil drawings that were produced between March and June 1915 - just a few months before the artist's death in March 1916. These precious sheets, which are among the last works produced by Marc, are his artistic legacy. In spite of their miniature scale, the sketches are among the greatest creations of drawing in the twentieth century. They mark the beginning of an age, and yet their Promethean energy points to the future. Delicately lyrical elements in them are linked with a deep constructivist spirit that does not only reflect the avant-garde of the new century, but even today, one hundred years later, has not lost any of its startling modernity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LqbdZRbrj9w>









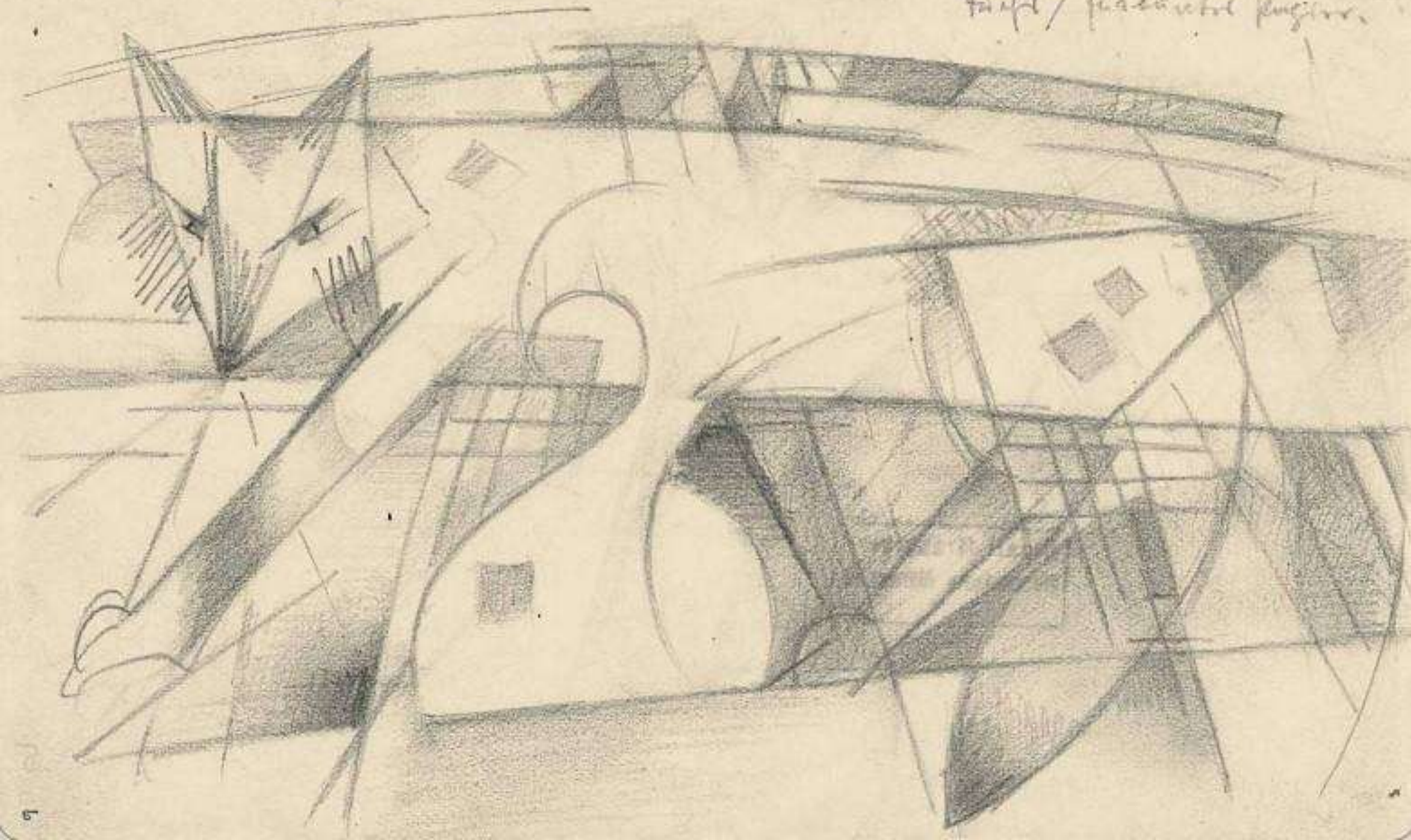
H. Kere



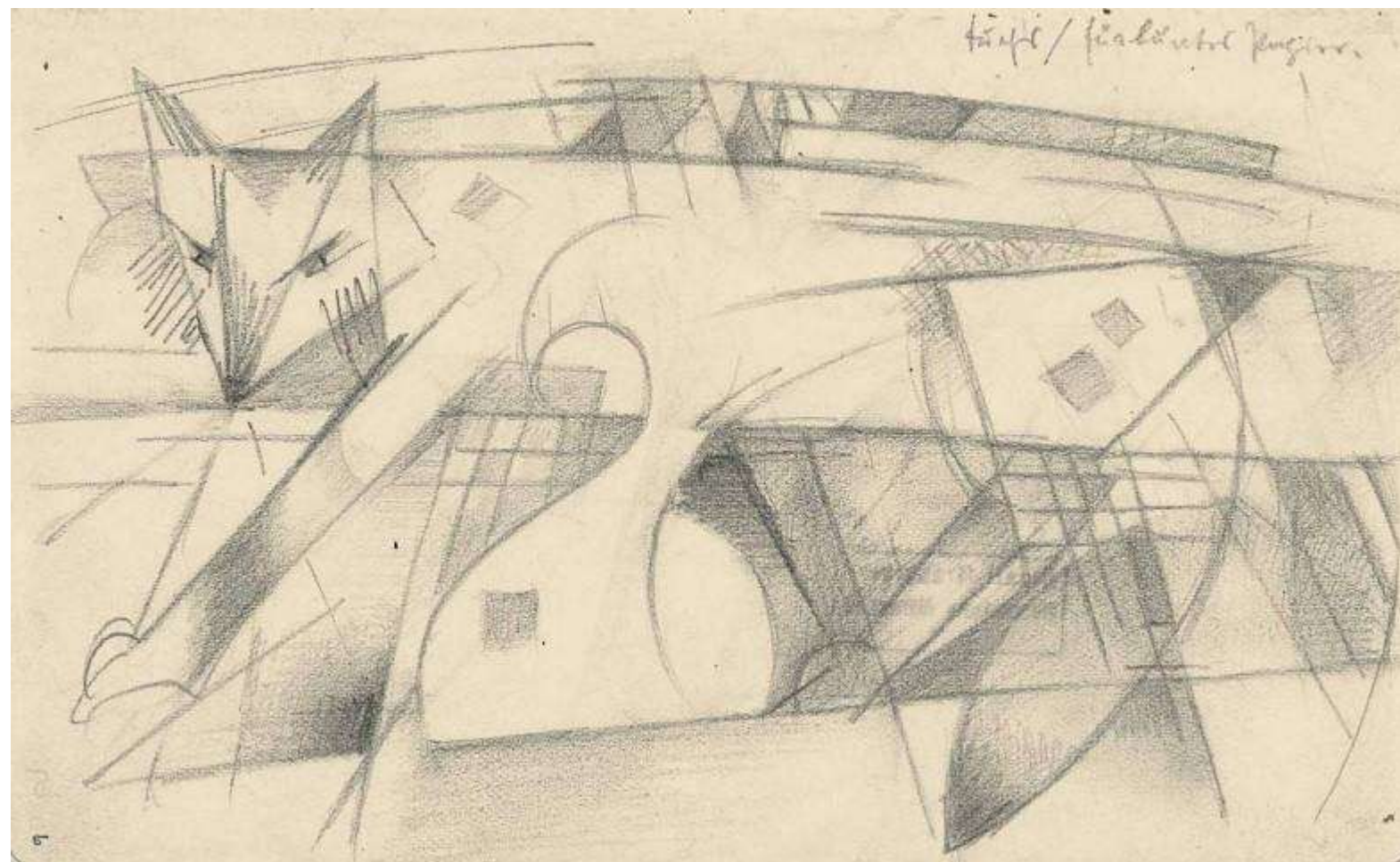




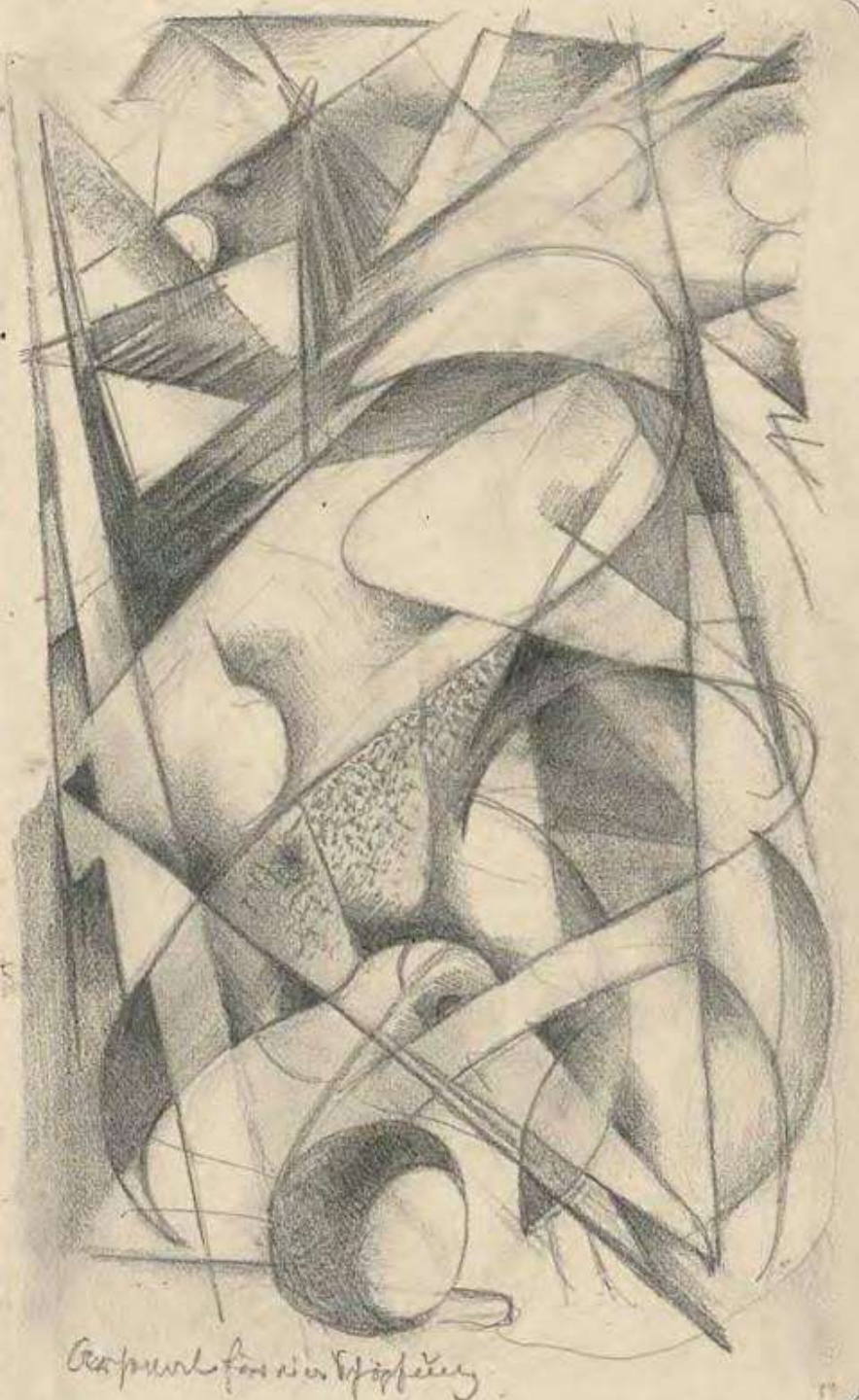
trübe / flachere / flachere / flachere



















# Edward Hopper

- <https://www.openculture.com/2020/10/edward-hoppers-creative-process.html>



days in the lake.  
 and now - Mrs. M. is in  
 room to take (Penguin) -  
 and we are in a group to a  
 large building complex that  
 has been recently mounted -  
 the group is studying at the  
 table is. waiting to go in. and I  
 keep feeling crowded out of  
 the line although father keeps  
 stopping back to let me in  
 when we get under there a  
 unit is now. when we take in  
 to out from there to go downstairs  
 and find the papers to settle  
 the dispute. As we are done  
 pull out a wrapped package  
 and drop it on the table.  
 along with other goodies is it  
 on how all come from a  
 wedding party. when our  
 story is over. and on the day  
 when I see. I walk out to  
 an overgrown air again  
 definitely a better model.  
 With our head when we see (eds.)  
 I have no clear idea is supposed  
 to ride. - This one is long in  
 the back seat and my wife  
 waiting for me. I look over  
 to be down up one of the  
 large glass compartments.  
 and try again. At that  
 moment a kangaroo hops.  
 go. Hard to stay focused.  
 with this kind of confusion  
 about. As I look in and on.



H. H. H.

1928











# Oils (con.)

Bought from Carl Hamilton (9 Calif.) by Harry C. Bentley, Pres. 55  
Bentley School of Accounting - Insurance  
7-1 Baypoint St., Boston

Delivered at Rehn gallery aisle. 36 x 48" 36 x 48" 36 x 48"  
Two on the Dike - Lady in grey, the fashionist theatre, man in robe.  
Mar. 7, 27 In Rehn gallery "Summer of the Seasons"  
Sold in Apr. 1931. 1500 - 1/3 com. = 1000 Nov. 4, 27

Oct. 1928 Carnegie Institute 1936  
Bgt. by Toledo Mus. from H. C. Bentley  
Oct. 15, 27 Light House Hill  
29 x 40  
Dark hill, light house. Uptm house light.  
Sold Mr. J. Sheaffer Nov. 2, 27 1500 - 1/3 com. 1000 Jan. 3, 1928.  
Mod. Mus. Oct. 9 - H. 1933.



(From the painting by Edward Hopper, at the Rehn gallery)

Oct. 15, 27 Capt. Upton's House.  
in back. House seen from side, fancy train on roof.  
Oct. 1928 In Greer's - Washington  
Sp. " Detroit  
Geo. Dyer Jan. 27 - 1400 - 1/3 (933) June 5, '29.

Dec. 9, 27 Ex. Lax - 29 x 40  
Bottles, window decorations, wonderful 1000 June 8, '28.  
Drop store. Side walk, red & green drug placement.  
John T. Spaulding, Jan. 20, '28. 1500 - 1/3 com. 1000  
Left to Boston Mus.  
Feb. 7, 28 Capt. Ed Staples - 28 x 36  
Hand hair. Sun light on middle pane of bay window  
in front of his house. in shirt sleeves, no collar,  
green necker cutting. yellow shingles, grey base -  
white wood trim.

"Honest Man in front of his Honest House" - Cleveland Plain Dealer - Summer 1929.  
Burnt up in railroad accident on way back from Cleveland Museum - Summer 1929.  
Insurance rec'd 2/3 amount value 1000 Nov. 2, 1929.  
Feb. 22, 28 Williamsburg Bridge. 29 x 43  
Red house, heavy overhang on 3, many windows  
open, shut, figure at one sitting. Fish cake on 2 window. Ruler of  
bridge across foreground white. Sweep of white cloud flows on up of blue sky.  
Metropolitan Museum (insurance of Lloyd Goodrich) May 27, 1937.  
2000 - 1/3 1333 1/3

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Oct. 15, 27 Capt. Upton's House.  
all blue & white - green ground.  
in back. House seen from side, fancy train on roof.  
Oct. 1928 In Greer's - Washington  
Sp. " Detroit  
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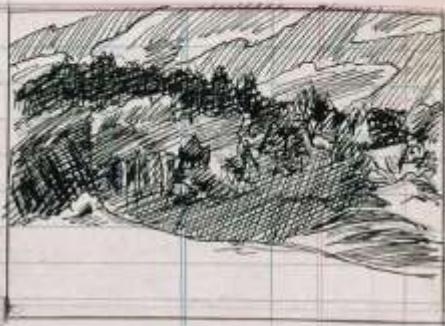
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Watercolors 1936 - Cape Cod  
Tanco + Vermont. Nov. 9.

### Vermont Hillside.

20 x 28. Sky deepish blue. Big clouds  
gray with white edges. Trees on horizon a rocky hill  
dark green. Foreground light green, yellow green,  
greenish yellow. Masses of light green, dark hill  
Center the light bushes a few trees tops.  
Near Rain fields, Vt.



June 27, 1939

Harry Goodrich - 500 - 1/3 = 33 1/3

### Houses with a Rain Barrel Tanco.

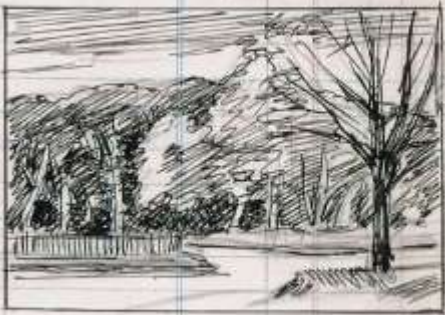
20 x 28. House pale yellow, roof yellowish  
brown. Sky pale blue, white clouds tinged  
with orange and purple. House pale. Bank along  
side of house in sunlight (pale yellow) grassy field  
leaves at base of hillside. A muddy stream  
reddish brown shadow. Road white, with pale reddish  
shades on it. L. bottom pale green. Back of house  
dark green hills. Rain barrel barrel brown  
R. little stream on bank L.



Mrs. Ball - 750 - 1/3 = 500.  
Mancie, Dad May 27, 1937.

### Oaks at Eastham. Cape Cod

20 x 28. Sky gray horizontal streaks -  
bit of pale blue L. Center a sky. Foreground 1880  
on left  
Rocks tree base with fungus orange brown L.  
Side of tree - center of picture  
Top of tree reddish brown, gray branches greenish  
gray green dark. Trunk yellow. Road white.  
Bit of reddish pale at base of big tree  
Mrs. Roberta Lord 1200 - 1/3 = 900. 12/30/38.







Edward Hopper

From my Window



# Frida Kahlo Diary

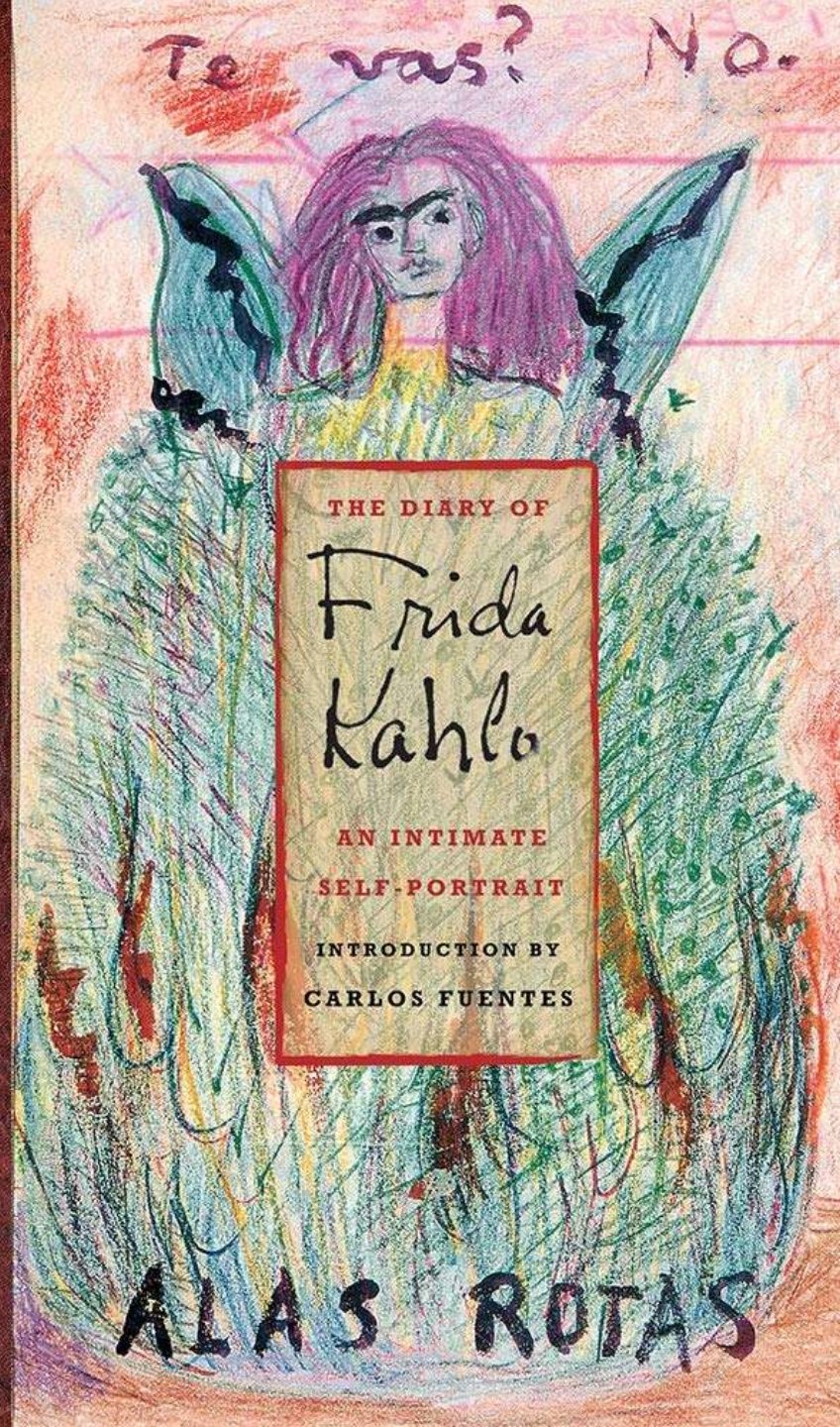
Spanning 1944-54, the final ten years of the artist's troubled lifetime, the diary is a captivating commonplace book filled with Kahlo's thoughts, poems and dreams. Her brightly colored, rounded script is accompanied by watercolor illustrations which offer wonderful insight into her creative approach – the sketches and paintings were often reworked and incorporated into Kahlo's later works.

The diary was never meant for public consumption, intended instead as 'journal in time', a private record written by a woman for herself, about herself. Thus as you rifle through the vibrant pages (helpfully translated at the back of the book), complete with beautiful self-portraits and deeply personal declarations

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsK5qAcOjJA>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wy5efn-ysf4>

















El fenómeno, imprevedible.





# El horrendo "Ojosauro" primitivo



Animal  
Antiguo, que  
se quedó muerto  
para incendiar  
las ciencias.

Mira hacia arriba...  
y no tiene nombre.  
Le pondremos uno:  
EL horrendo OJOSAURO!



Asombrada se quedó de ver  
las estrellas-soles  
y el mundo vivo-muerto.  
y está en la  
Sombra







Color de memoria



Todo al revés.

YA?

Sol

y

Luna

puros

de

Frijoles





# Dieter Roth (1930-1988)

Dieter Roth (1930-1998) was a poet, artist, and master printmaker. Born in Hannover, Germany to a Swiss father and German mother, Roth was evacuated at age 13 from war-torn Germany to Zürich.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVe5hd81IU&list=TLPQMjIwNDIwMjH7ujH6eQNk0A&index=1> (16 minutes)
- <http://blog.paperblanks.com/2016/03/famous-diaries-inside-dieter-roths-colourfully-explosive-diaries/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SjnDdvqR2VU>



1967  
Saturday 11 February

Thomas Alva Edison—Born 1847  
42nd day—293 days to come



1967  
Sunday 12 February

Abraham Lincoln, Born 1809—George Day—First Sunday in Lent  
43rd day—292 days to come



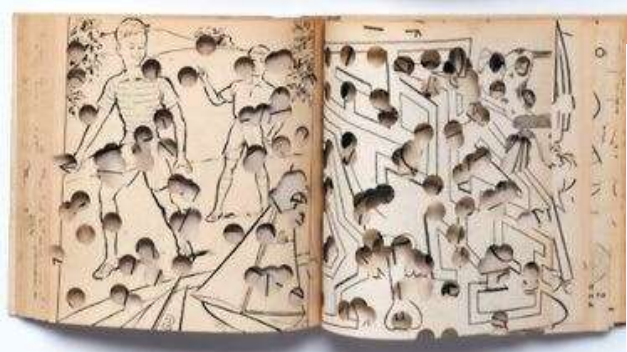














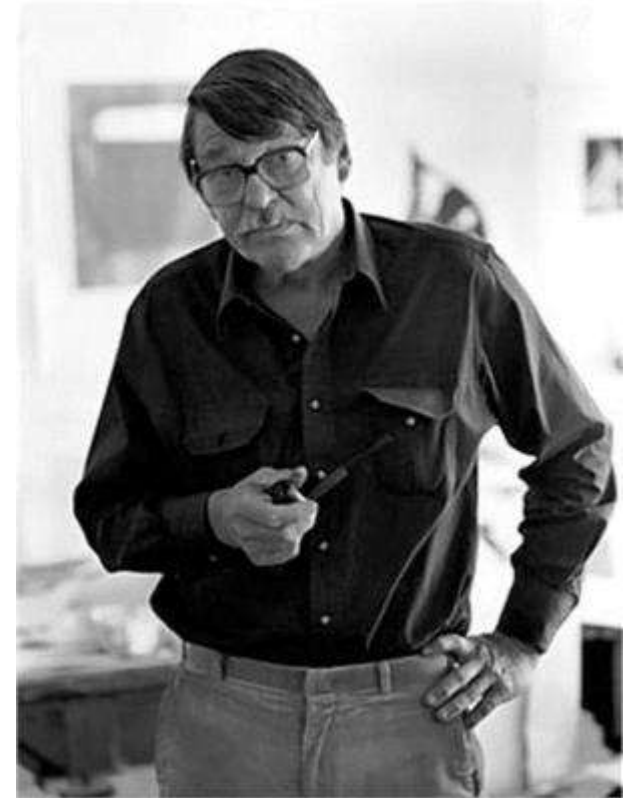




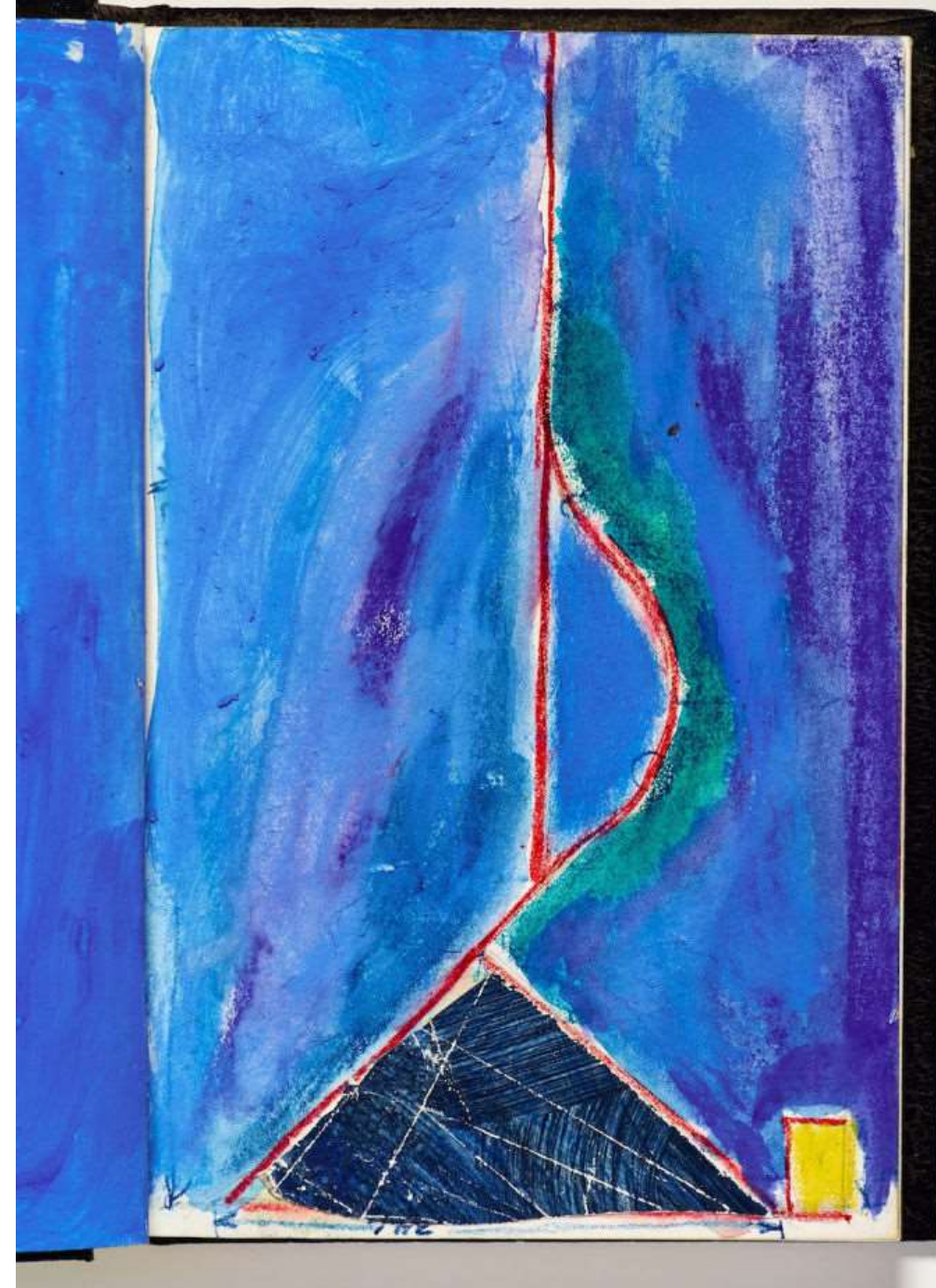
# Richard Diebenkorn (1922-1993)

Richard Diebenkorn was an American painter and printmaker. His early work is associated with abstract expressionism and the Bay Area Figurative Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. In the late 1960s he began his extensive series of geometric, lyrical abstract paintings.

- [Richard Diebenkorn: The Sketchbooks Revealed – YouTube](#)
- [Side by side: Matisse and Diebenkorn – YouTube](#)
- [From the archives: Artist Richard Diebenkorn - YouTube](#)







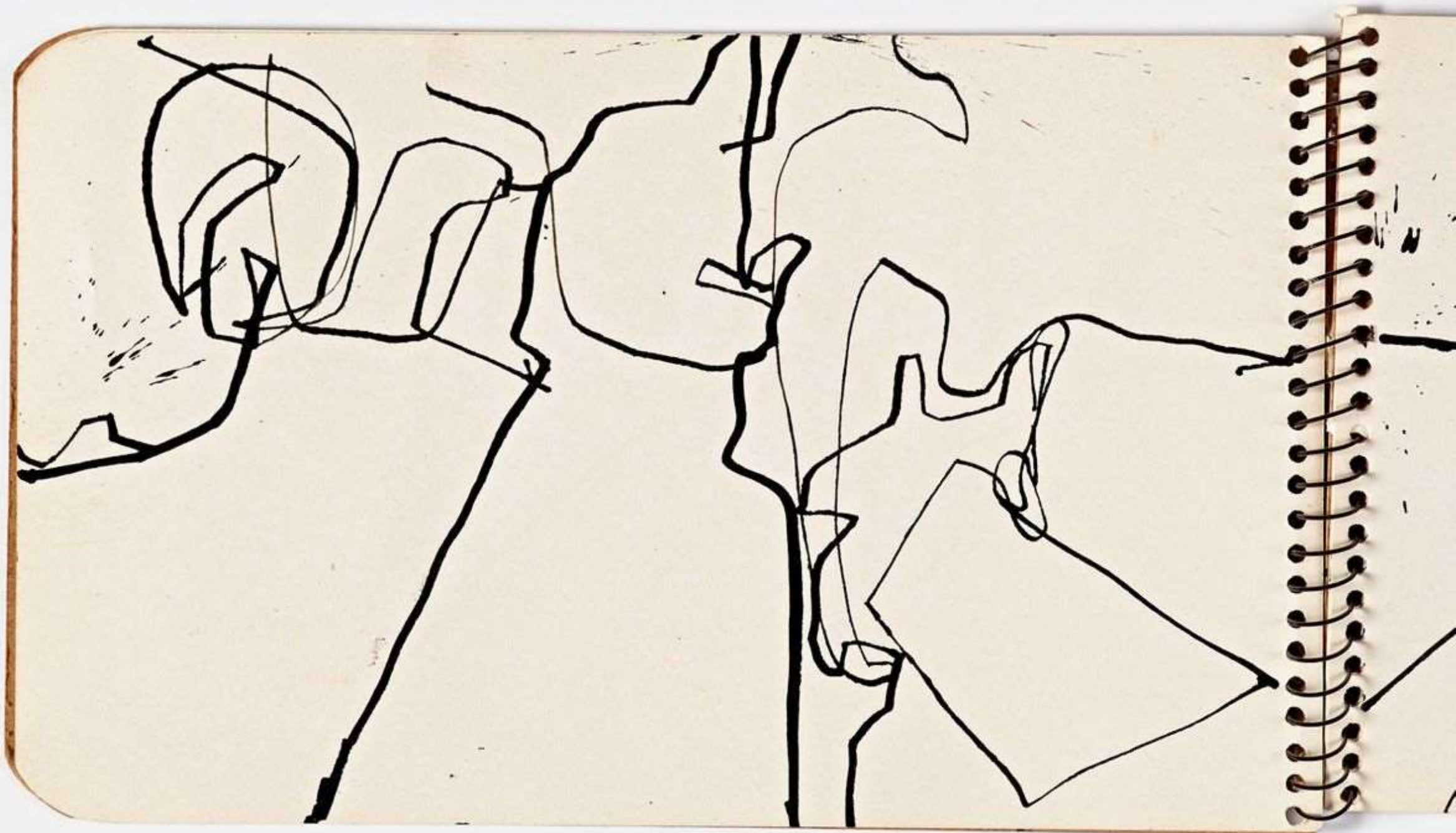






















# David Hockney

- [David Hockney shows his sketch book – YouTube](#)
- [David Hockney: Drawing from Life - YouTube](#)





**DAVID HOCKNEY**  
A YORKSHIRE SKETCHBOOK









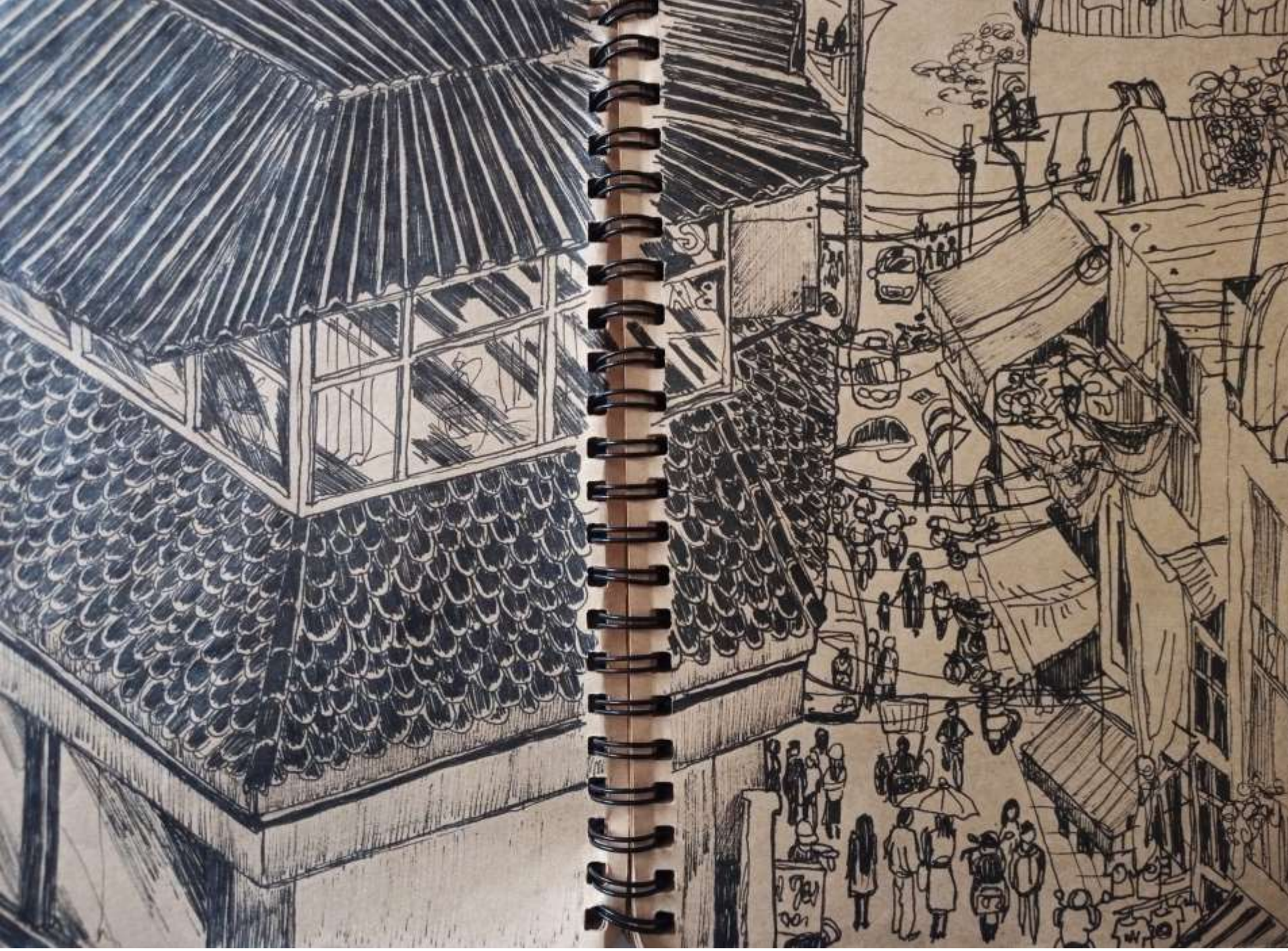














# Karen Stamper

Karen Stamper is a [multimedia](#) artist who creates layered and textural [paintings](#) inspired by her travels. [Architectural](#) shapes, patterned motifs and vibrant colours all come together to form Karen's [abstract paintings](#). Responding to [seascapes](#), [urban](#) settings and the weathering of buildings, Karen's bold and dynamic style captures the spirit of a place. Karen adapts [acrylic paintings](#) with elements of [collage](#) to further abstract the appearance of her work. At times, [typography](#) and subtle signs of found imagery come into play and work to develop the narrative of the paintings.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wiXEpX085e8>

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E0OGTX-rpIA>
- <https://karenstampercollage.com/>

























# Louise Fletcher

I create multi-layered, semi-abstract paintings in which landscape serves as a jumping off point for exploration – an exploration of my own feelings, perceptions, and moods, but also an exploration of paint, color, line, and texture. The results are often surprising, offering a sense of place while also hinting at multiple deeper meanings.

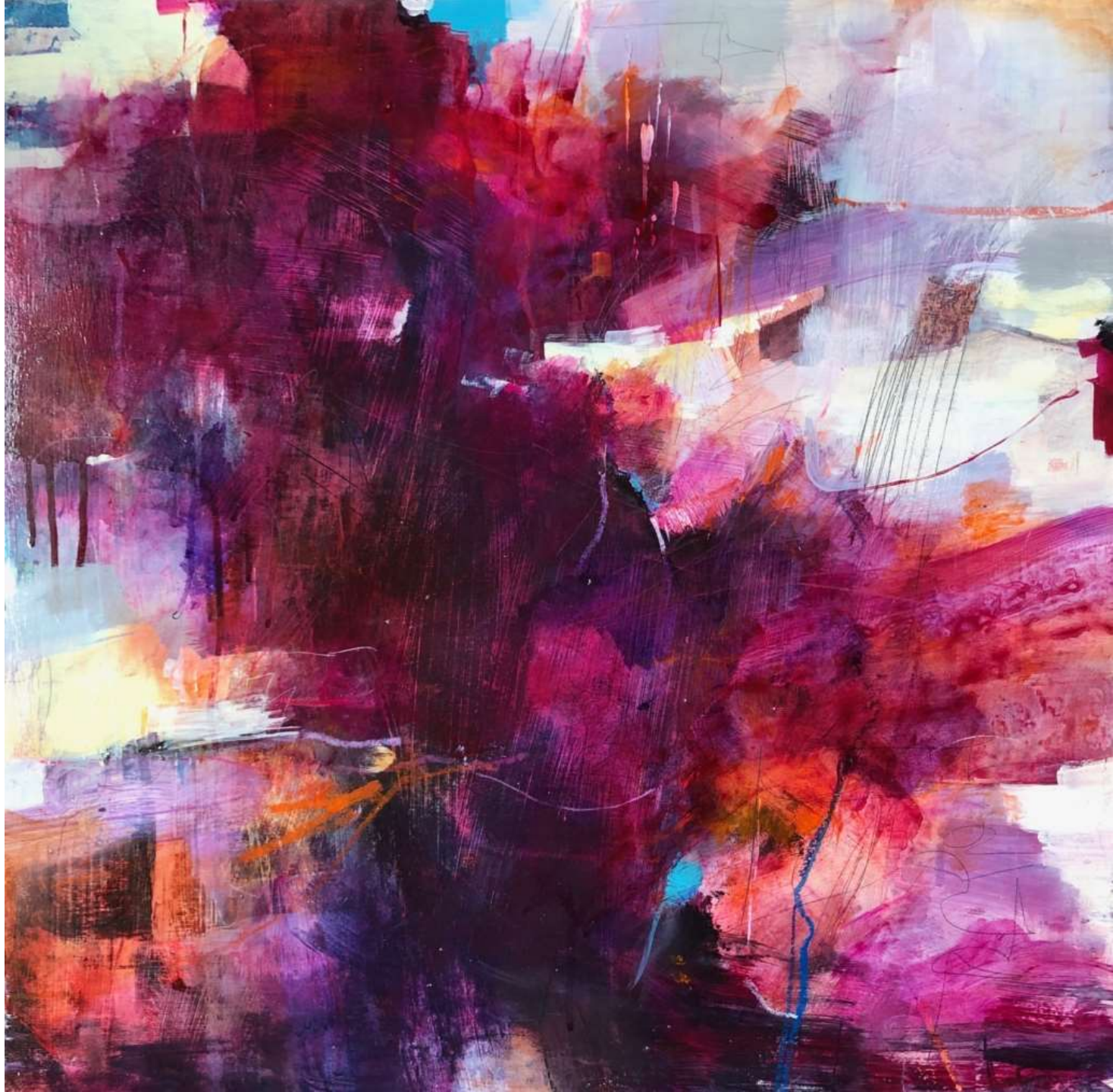
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WnOiDeASnol&t=34s>











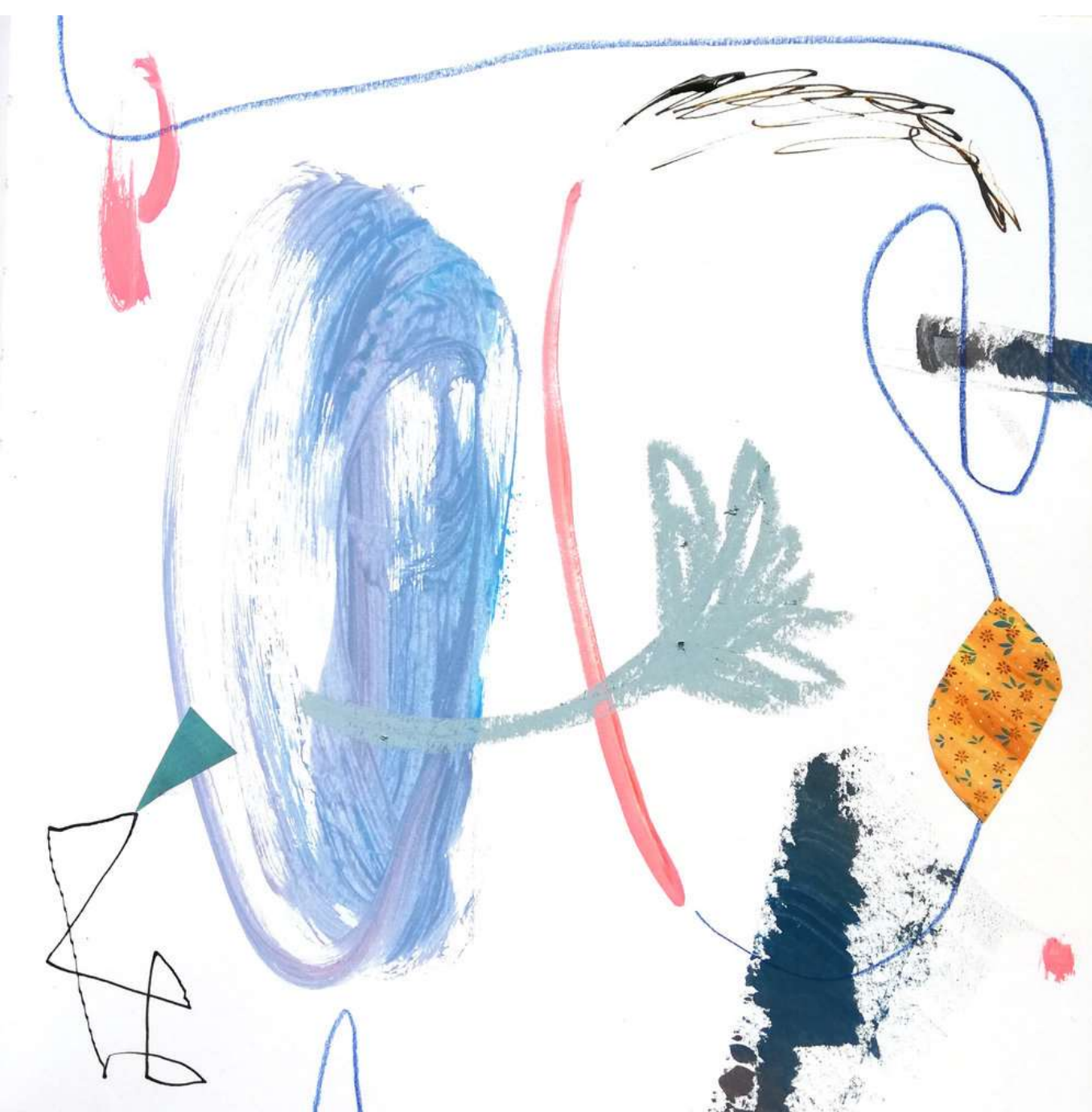


















# Janice Lowry

Janice Lowry moved to California from Phoenix Arizona where she attended the Art Center College of Design. It was here that she started doing assemblage at first as a creative and inexpensive solution for framing. Soon, this solution evolved into an art-form as unique as the artist herself. Janice has also been keeping journals since the age of five. What started as small books with a single lock have turned into creative master pieces over the years. In October of 2007, Janice had the honor of having all of her journals inducted into the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Archives of America in Washington, D.C. Janice works from her gallery in the Artist Village Lofts in Downtown Santa Ana.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcuIjM6He0k>

<https://www.si.edu/object/janice-lowry-journal-101:AAADCD> item 9850





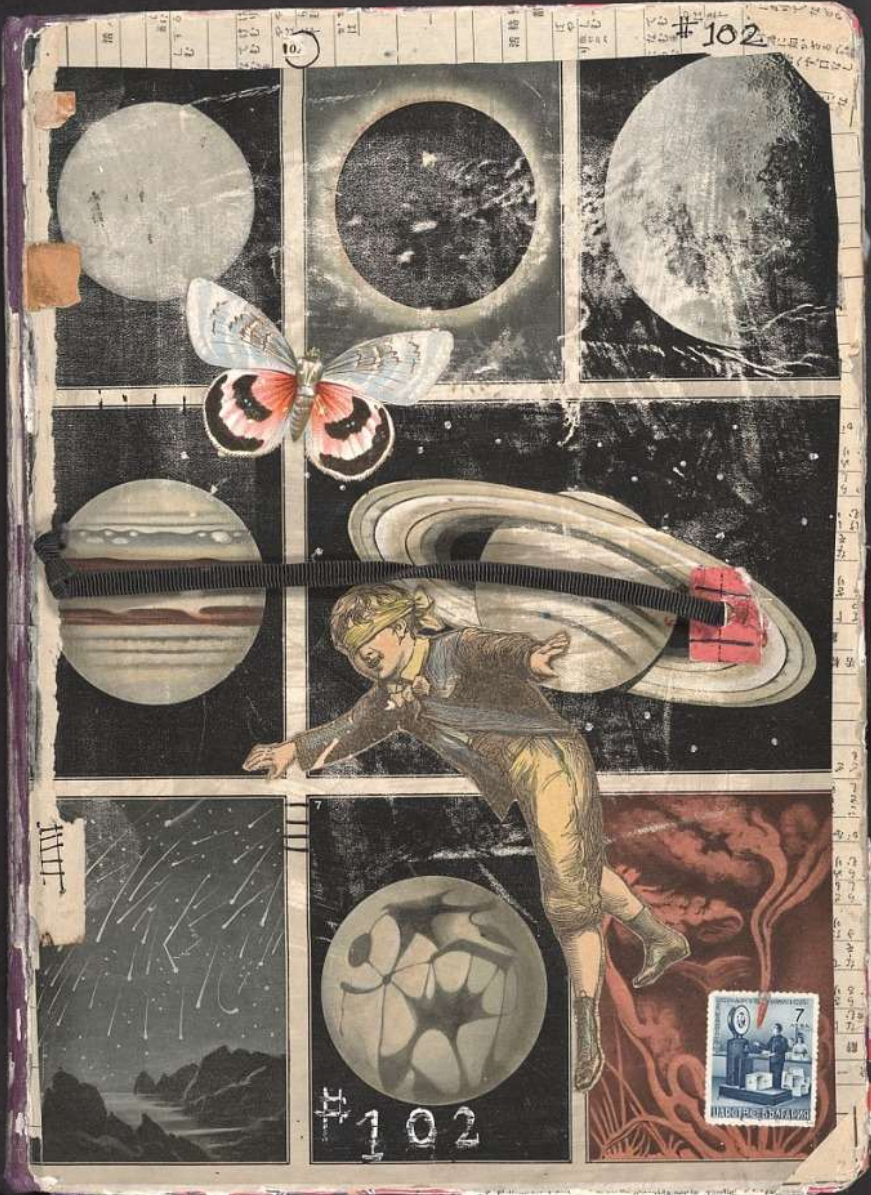












Dec. 15. 03

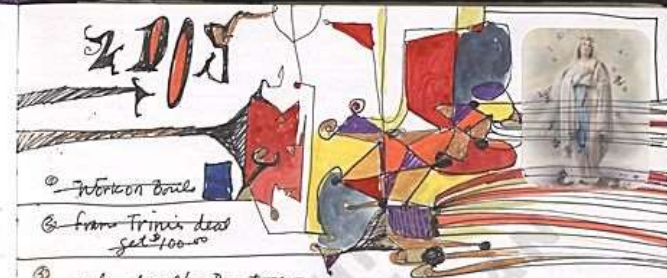
Maybe its the neediness of  
the Cuban neighborhood. I  
think that is part of it.  
the neediness of the poor -  
the trash the way property  
is kept up - or not. the  
people in the neighbor  
Robbie, Cates, Vicky, Marlene  
Martins all needy &  
not capable of helping.  
we put them on our  
cuts & take them with  
us. Ready to stop.

Now my 2 do list will change  
& become something else. Back to my  
own life. I look my own list.  
this time tasks, more. people don't  
know. they just don't get it.

I want my life back & today I can start  
with that. Christmas getting ready.  
planning for the holidays

Dec 16. 03

just finished reading 29. Palm - murder. the writer, too hep.  
to clean. & I put Desert was written over 2,000 times.  
But the story - 2 girls murdered. the lives - and to think we  
looked at home in 29 Palm - seems a terrible place  
to live - drugs, sex, alcohol - a place where  
after reading a book like that you almost have to  
'cleanse your mind'



- ① - Horizon bowl
- ② - from Trina's desk  
get 2/100
- ③ - get - describe - Pranta's car
- ④ - Rent supplies
- ⑤ - Call people about what to bring
- ⑥ - Wrap gifts
- ⑦ - Shop for gifts
- ⑧ - mag. Pranta car
- ⑨ - Calls - Judy - Bob -  
Marianne - Pranta



-Marianne  
Give it Up!  
here for a meeting for Brent  
Vicky wants to watch -

Later  
the next  
day  
Dec 19:20  
Thursday  
TV. at our house. with Nina  
Monte - it seems that all  
things are just out of sorts for  
me - Today idly, would  
work on the Books all day.  
hopeful they will be good  
gifts -





Do some picture looking. the photo I have - my school photo same dress. Hair - a then later taken at grandma's house with Dad - Did we all take a trip together? I was there - at school for photo day - so we must have gone to Clifton on the weekend. Today in tomorrow we talk about feelings - & ask ourselves, them.

I don't remember feelings. I remember even being alive - I remember light, description - but I don't remember me - my feelings - only being in my body with a full set of But not. I remember feelings - I remember even being alive - I remember light, description - but I don't remember me - my feelings - only being in my body with a full set of But not. I remember feelings - I remember even being alive - I remember light, description - but I don't remember me - my feelings - only being in my body with a full set of But not.



Back away from individuals who are impulsive.

What one pushed up family. the stuff I remember is what made me an artist - Not feelings - that does seem so foreign. How I felt - ?? This stuff is bright looking back to being a little girl - being little. I miss my family - like an accident. Misses Dope - To day Dr. Jompa said I was smart - that felt nice. - A little Thunder rolling - its just the light in a you in my mind.

# Field Notes

un stoppable

SEP 30 2002



SEP 11 2001

Sept. 11. 01

NEW YORK

CNN news

Live

America under ATTACK

attack against target in  
New York & Washington -  
how long did we think we  
were exempt from terrorists?

- the shock was off - the  
reality that this could  
happen. this scale -  
Tom Clancy Author is  
talking - please.

Another one expected

a large plane crashed in Pitts. SE of Pitts.



...ients all flights to  
... will all survive this.  
... a religion.

... unpuls you hold on  
... things are th. soft tough.

Do we have a pres. Able to  
handle this. 8:45 Eastern time.

it makes me want to meditate.  
mad men to take control of the  
aircraft. this is the time



a second hijacked  
Plane.

not to lose focus.

oh my God!

SEP 11 2001

Colin Powell out of the  
Country - ~~100,000 people dead?~~

I don't know? Thank God Less 9/22/01

50 thousand people work  
in the trade center



Can the President  
rise to this occasion  
an awful day in  
America -  
a Modern Pearl Harbor.

And then the blq.  
Collapse?!!

A catastrophe - what is our world  
coming too. My mind thinks who  
lives in N.Y. Katyjo home - we want  
our ordinariness. we don't want this.

Targets symbolic in nature  
the pentagon. + the ~~world~~ World  
Trade center. One last flight!!  
at this time we are not fed where

people running.  
the only solution for me  
is to do ordinary things  
just regular things.



# John Bokor

- [Artist John Bokor's sketchbooks - YouTube](#)























# Assignment Suggestions...

- Collect some works on paper and bind/paste them into a book. You can sew the pages together, put them in a binder or glue them into a sketchbook
- Cut up some artworks/sketches that you aren't happy with and piece them together and edit them with collage or paint, ink or pastels. Collect them in a sketchbook.
- Strive for volume not perfection.
- Create a quick sketch of a room or your garden...one a day and collect them in a book.
- Doodle while watching TV or listening to a podcast.
- Take a grocery list or other jottings and incorporate them into a sketchbook entry