

# Ruth Anna Stolk

Ruth Anna produces pen and ink sketches with water color on various grades of hand-torn Arches paper.

She is addicted to bold colors - often laying the pigment directly on the textured paper with only a trace of water. And she thrills at the impact and play of different colors on her sketches. Sometimes she will produce the same sketch 5 or more times. Repeated from a "live" sketch in her sketchbook, they demonstrate the dramatic impact of completely different color schemes on each sketch.

Stolk has been drawing and painting most of her life, studied Figure Drawing at the Corcoran from Eugene Frederick, and Water Color from Susan Abbott in Vermont, at the Alexandria Art League, and at sites in France and Spain. Because Stolk has traveled extensively, and leads a colorful life working for the Smithsonian, she has accumulated piles of sketchbooks. She likes to draw from this reservoir to create new sketches for shows like this.

She calls these groups of sketches "inventories" of her life and of what she loves to observe.

This year she will feature pieces based on animals and buildings she observes at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, barns and fence lines, and travels in the Dominican Republic and The Netherlands.