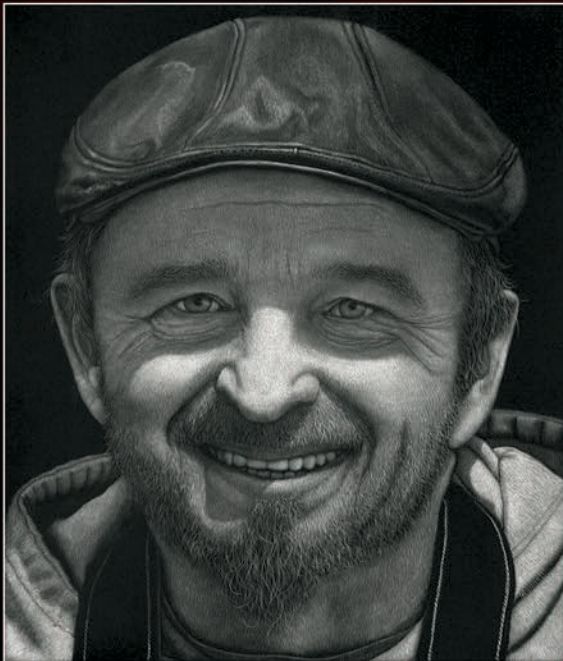
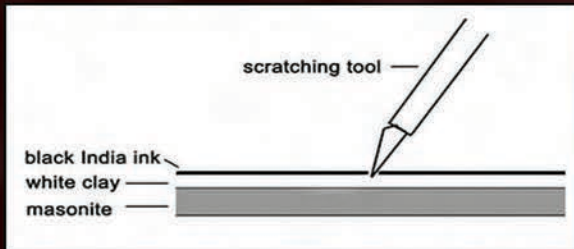


WHAT IS SCRATCHBOARD ART?

Scratchboard Art is a subtractive medium where the artist uses a variety of tools to remove a dark (often black) layer of ink or paint which exposes a white layer below. The values are established by scratching more or less dark ink away. Color can be added in the scratched areas if desired. Works may be on paper or board.



© Lorna Hannett, MSA - "Rodman"

ABOUT CLAYBOARD

Some artists prefer to start with an uninked white panel, rather than black. Dark or colored paint or inks are added by the artist to the white surface and then it is scratched away using most of the same tools and techniques used by artists working on the black boards. Clayboard works may look different at a glance, due to their lighter or colored backgrounds, but the work is still subtractive, scratching away dark to reveal highlights.



© Cathy Sheeter, MSA - "Preening Macaw"

HOW DO YOU ADD THE COLORS?

Scratchboards can be colored with a variety of different mediums. Most artists color their works with either inks, fluid acrylics or watercolors. The color is applied with a paintbrush or an airbrush. Only white areas, where the clay is exposed, accept the color.



WHAT TOOLS ARE USED FOR CREATING SCRATCHBOARD ART?

Scratchboard artists use a wide variety of abrasive tools to scratch out different textures in the artwork, including x-actos, scalpels, tattoo needles, sandpaper, steel wool, erasers, and fiberglass brushes.



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