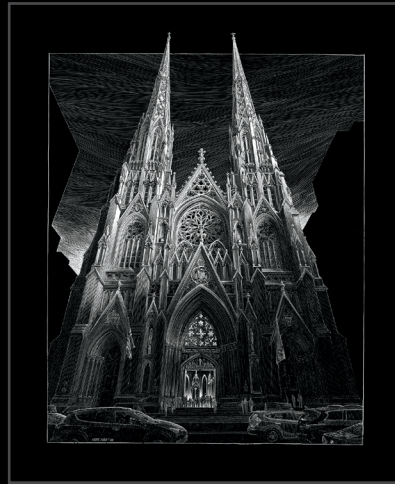


## What is Scratchboard Art?

The Scratchboard technique is a two-dimensional, subtractive process. It involves the use of a variety of tools to remove a dark (often black) surface layer to expose a light (often white) layer below.

The values within the artwork are predominantly achieved by varying the amount of surface layer that has been scratched away, or left on the surface.

Works may be color or black and white, on paper, board, or masonite panels.



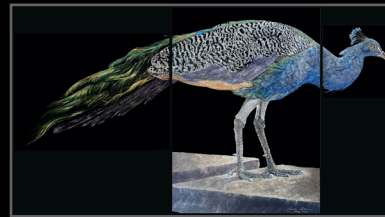
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## Getting Started

Some artists prefer to start with a white, un-inked surface. Dark colored inks or paints are added to that surface and then scratched away using the same tools and techniques used when working on a pre-coated black scratchboard surface. The work is still a unique subtractive process - scratching away dark to reveal light.

### Scratchboard Cross Section



## What tools are used?

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

## How is color added?

Color is added using a variety of transparent mediums including inks, fluid acrylics, watercolors, and markers. The color is applied with an assortment of tools and techniques including brushes, airbrush, and paper towels among others. The scratched white (light) areas accept the color.

