



► **ROOSTER**
 Jenna Hestekin
 Pen and ink on Strathmore 500 Series bristol plate paper
 7" × 5" (18cm × 13cm)

Generations of my family have lived on the farm where I now live, so the love of farm animals is deeply rooted in my soul. A photograph of this proud rooster was my inspiration. I began by making a graphite outline and then used a stippling technique along with lines and squiggles to achieve the textural elements and bold contrast needed for this realistic interpretation. Sakura Pigma Micron pens, primarily size 005, but also 01 and 03 with their rich, black ink, were my tools.



◄ **STRETCHING TIGER – BANDHAVGARH, INDIA**
 David Rankin
 9B woodless graphite on sketchbook paper
 8" × 10" (20cm × 25cm)

It was about 110° F (43° C) in the steamy jungles of India's famous Bandhavgarh National Park tiger reserve, and we had been on elephant-back all morning following a large male tiger up a steep nullah (a dry river bed). We came upon him sound asleep in the rocks. The elephant's movements in the dense bamboo forest woke the tiger abruptly. He wasn't happy, but as he awoke he reached out his huge paws, and, arching his whole spine upwards with his tail reaching toward the sky, he engaged in this prolonged whole-body stretch that must have felt great. But he did this right as I was changing batteries in my camera! Later that evening, I remembered this dynamic pose, and re-created it from memory.

► **GREYLAG GOOSE STUDY – KASHMIR, INDIA**
 David Rankin
 9B woodless graphite on sketchbook paper
 10" × 8" (25cm × 20cm)

Although I now also sketch on my Apple iPad, for twenty years I've used a 9B woodless graphite pencil on traditional sketchbook paper. My sketches are studies of form, light and posture. The added half-tone, created by smudging the graphite, provides the light source. This sketch is an example of "live sketching." For sixteen years I spent summers in Kashmir. A farmer I knew had this large beautiful pet greylag goose who posed for me proudly.

