



What is sketching?

The term “sketching” usually describes the activity of doing quick drawings of what we see around us. They are made in the diaries that are called “sketchbooks”. You can draw any monument, street, people or whatever you want without thinking about a final result as it is not considered as an artwork.

Usually, a pen, a pencil, watercolours and a sketchbook are used to do sketches.

Who are the urban sketchers?

Essentially, Urban sketchers are people sharing passion for drawing the places that they discover when travelling.

The phenomenon “Urban Sketchers” appeared on the Internet via a blog, created by a Spanish illustrator and journalist Gabriel Campanario, with the aim to meet various sketchers around the world. Today, it represents hundreds of participants from London, Barcelona, New York, San Francisco, Lisbon, Singapore, Sydney, Delhi and others.

Project

The goal of the project World Sketching is to realise a dream that was growing in my heart once travelling became the part of my life. The sketchbooks that I have done could show a full picture of the places I have been to, people that I have been with and everything that my eyes could see.

Mission

The mission of World Sketching is to contact different urban sketchers around the world, exchange and share their experience, technical knowledge, habits, information and discover a human part besides the passion for drawing. To explore the world of sketchbook and to learn as much as we can from what we discover and what is really unexpected, will be common in this kind of project.

Vision

To improve your personal and professional skills and to share the experience and the unique moments through the existing techniques and the new ones that can be brought by every one who will be interested in project.

Objectives

One of the main goals is to gather the information, to learn drawing, to contact and to meet different artists that are members on the website www.urbansketchers.org. At the same time, it aims to help understanding of their habits, techniques, what are their drawing preferences and how did the passion for the sketch is born...

As for me, it also targets to create a complete sketchbook that would transmit my adventures, difficulties, worship and discovery that I have done by passing from country to another.

The adventure is to travel by all means of transportation that are available in each and every place, trying to put the airplane travels aside as much as possible.

Itinerary

The idea is to take the start from Lisbon in the East direction and to find the shortest way to meet the sketchers of every country, following the itinerary that needs to be defined in order to achieve this project at the best. However, whenever there is an opportunity to meet other people that can share their experience and the know-how, the itinerary can be modified. That's the idea of the outside-box thinking.

Only the destination and sketchers contacts are planned in advance, when the trip can start at any time and any moment.

In total, 45 countries are to be passed through:

Spain, France, Ireland, United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Italy, Russia, Israel, Siberia, Mongolia, China, Tibet, Nepal, India, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Macau, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea North, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Maldives, USA, Canada, Alaska, Mexico, Guatemala, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, South Africa, Madagascar, Tanzania...

Strategy

- Use drawing in order to show what I have been inspired by: trips, good tips, advices, techniques and best practices...
- Use video, photography and writing only in case when the sketch cannot pass the whole idea: sounds, travel episodes, smells...

Media

- TV channels
- Press
- Websites, blogs, Youtube
- Social network
- Personal and professional relationship circles

My offer

- Website, blog
- Publishing sketches during the entire journey
- Publishing travel sketchbooks
- Recording the entire trip with the above mentioned means
- Interviews with members of "Urban sketchers" contacted during the trip

The origin of the idea

It is quite difficult for me to tell when exactly this idea was born. The passion for drawing appeared when I was five and I started travelling a lot, when I was twenty. I guess, when both passions met each other, the idea started growing up.

One day, when I was at my class of drawing at the School of Design – IADE Lisbon, Professor Eduardo Corte-Real asked the following question:

"Travel to draw, or draw to travel?"

At that time, it was just a simple question, but it lately became my way of living. The trips make me drawing what I want to know better and the drawing takes me to the travel of a profound observation and assimilation.

And with time, I have done a small but relevant change in the above question and the motto was born:

"Travel to draw **and** draw to travel"

Goals

Personal:

- Travel to draw and draw to travel
- Discover new realities, customs and people
- Create an entire sketchbook per each and every country
- Be really happy by doing what I like the most

Professional:

- Develop drawing and painting techniques
- Improve language skills
- Share my knowledge with the Urban Sketchers community as well as with every person that is passionate for drawing and painting

Biography

Luís Ricardo Santos Galrinho Simões – I am born on 20th of July 1979 in Lisbon and I am living in Carnaxide, Portugal. I have a degree in Visual design of the School of design, marketing and advertisement – IADE. I have been working as a motion designer at SIC, Portuguese independent TV channel already for 8 years. In 2010, I had been within a design studio “We Are Plus” in New York City as a motion designer for 3 months.

I spend my free time for drawing and listening to the music as it helps me to stay focused and inspired. As for practicing sport activities, my choice is done for swimming, korfbal, capoeira and surf.

By my nature, I am a compulsive observer (don't have any idea about what is that exactly, so don't know whether it does exist in English- it's kind of scary, this expression, frankly speaking) and I use my visual memory as a guiding compass.

I prefer to leave my photcamera at home and look for the ideas and potential good pictures that would inspire my future sketches. Any object can become a good reason to create a sketch: architecture, sculpture, people, food, lights, shapes. Especially, when you travel, there are no limits to the creativity.

References

- www.urbansketchers.org
- urbansketchers-portugal.blogspot.com

Portfolio



