



Freehand Drawing and Discovery: Urban Sketching and Concept Drawing for Designers

By James Richards

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Designed to help architects, planners, and landscape architects use freehand sketching to quickly and creatively generate design concepts, *Freehand Drawing and Discovery* uses an array of cross-disciplinary examples to help readers develop their drawing skills. Taking a "both/and" approach, this book provides step-by-step guidance on drawing tools and techniques and offers practical suggestions on how to use these skills in conjunction with digital tools on real-world projects. Illustrated with nearly 300 full color drawings, the book includes a series of video demonstrations that reinforces the sketching techniques.

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Sketched on location while waiting for a bus in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. These delightful refreshment stops seemed to be everywhere in southeastern Brazil. Richards was particularly taken with the happy coconut drinks on the roof of this one. He used a Microperm 05 permanent ink pen and watercolor in a large Moleskine watercolor sketchbook. The line sketch and watercolor went very fast, about 20 minutes total.



Sketched on location in the Peruvian Andes. It was mid-afternoon, after many tourists had left. Perched on a boulder, Jim Richards used a Microperm 05 permanent ink pen and watercolor in a large Moleskine watercolor sketchbook. The line sketch took about 20 minutes; watercolor took another 20 minutes.

From the Back Cover

"The things we learn about our environment when we draw on location help us as we imagine, draw, and design the future."

—**Francis D.K. Ching**

While computer-aided design has changed the way designers explore and communicate their visions, freehand drawing remains an essential skill for capturing a flow of visual ideas and developing them on the spot. *Freehand Drawing & Discovery* takes an updated and practical approach to using hand sketching in a digital world, employing a "both/and" philosophy that shows you how to rapidly capture ideas with hand sketching that can then be further explored and refined using digital tools.

Created by an urban designer and blog correspondent for Urban Sketchers, this resource-rich, user-friendly guide provides step-by-step instruction on drawing tools and techniques. It offers practical suggestions on how to use freehand sketching skills in conjunction with digital tools on real-world projects. *Freehand Drawing & Discovery*:

- Crosses disciplinary boundaries, from architecture, urban planning, and landscape architecture to the widely diverse Urban Sketching community
- Covers sketching tools and techniques, location sketching, concept sketching, and digital sketching
- Includes nearly 300 full-color drawings, including contributions by Michael Vergason, Kevin Sloan, Christine Ten Eyck, Luis Ruiz, Gabriel Campanario, Liz Steel, Kim Perry, Bob Hopewell, and a special contribution on digital design sketching by Robert Chipman
- Features access to video tutorials in which the author demonstrates techniques for creating sketches from your imagination, sketching on location, sketching on a digital tablet, and painting with watercolors

Freehand Drawing & Discovery is a must-have handbook for students and professionals in urban planning, landscape architecture, and architecture. It is also a rewarding resource for general artists, sketchers, and anyone interested in the Urban Sketching phenomenon.

About the Author

JAMES RICHARDS, FASLA, is cofounder and Principal of Townscape, Inc., an urban design consultancy, and an Associate Professor at the University of Texas at Arlington's School of Architecture. He is a national award-winning designer, writer, and illustrator whose work spans landscape architecture, town planning, and urban design. Mr. Richards is a blog correspondent for Urban Sketchers (www.urbansketchers.org), an international drawing movement. He travels globally conducting drawing workshops for both students and professionals.

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