Quick Sketching Birds

Quick sketching is an effective drawing exercise and should be practiced regularly by aspiring artists of all ages. Moving your hold arm smoothly and swiftly is the goal. This project should ideally take no more than 15 minutes and can be used as a warm up for a drawing class. This exercise is good for ages 8-adult.

Supplies: White paper, #2 pencil, eraser

1. Moving your whole arm, swiftly sweep in three lines of action.
2. Now sweep in the cross lines of action for each bird. Be sure to look at the photo reference.
3. Swirl in circles for each head and ovals for each body.
4. Loosely sketch in the shapes of the wings and tails.
5. Now correct the shapes of the heads and attach them to the bodies.

6. Erase all of the “inside lines”.

7. Using the side of your pencil, quickly add some shading and value. Loosely scrub in some texture in the feathers and shadows on the birds’ bodies. Add a few details like markings and eyes.
Photo Reference
courtesy of www.morguefile.com