**Celebration of Urban Sketching week**

**May 4, 204**

**Co-hosted by Urban Sketchers Houston and Watercolor Art Society - Houston**

**Materials List**

In keeping with the Urban Sketcher’s Manifesto, we will be drawing on location capturing what we see from direct observation. We will be sketching at the Menil Museum, and you may sketch outside or inside.

The objective is to tell the story of our surroundings, through a record of the time and place as we see it that day. It is not a studio painting or even what one might think of as plein air. We’re capturing what we see, often fast and loose. Wonky will be OK, it is about your story and not perfection.

Participants are free to use whatever media and tools they would like. As you think about your supplies, think “portable”. Large paint palettes, big water containers, loose leaf paper, etc. can become unwieldy.

**You need something to sketch in…a sketchbook.**

* **Suggested size:** Bring whatever size you are comfortable with. Weather permitting, the demo will be outside and focused on the museum building. With that in mind, larger books are recommended. Depending on brand, that might be a 5.5”x8” or 8” x 10” or an A4 or A5 size. Smaller is OK if you are comfortable with it.
* **Orientation:** Landscape format might be better for capturing the building and grounds, but portrait works also.
* **Paper:** The paper should be suitable for your medium (pen & ink, watercolor, markers, pencil, etc.). For watercolor, 140# or heavier paper is recommended. For pens and markers, make sure they won’t bleed through the paper.
* **Cover:** You will be working without a table and, probably, without an easel. For this reason, a hard bound sketchbook is recommended. Spiral bound books are workable, but it is harder to work across pages with a spiral binding.
* **Brands:** If you have a sketchbook that fills the bill, bring it! If you go shopping, there are many good brands including Etchr, Stillman & Birn, Hahnemuhle, Strathmore, and Moleskin.

**You need something to draw with…bring what you need for your medium. For example:**

* **Fine Liner Pens:** Waterproof fine liner pens in sizes such as 005, 01, and 05 and, optionally, a brush pen. Recommended brands are Prismacolor, Micron, Faber Castell, and Copic. Color is up to you. If it is your first time, you might stick to black.
* **Watercolors:** a travel palette loaded with your favorite colors, brushes or water brush, small water container and bottle of water, paper towel.
* **Fountain Pen:** Lamy Safari or similar pen with a fine or medium nib or a fude nib, loaded with waterproof ink. Suggested ink brands include DeAtramentis Document ink and Platinum Carbon ink.
* **Markers:** Set of your favorites
* **Colored Pencils:** Set of your favorites along with a pencil sharpener
* **Graphite Pencils:** Set of your favorites along with a pencil sharpener

**Other optional:**

* Folding stool or chair for outdoor work
* Something to carry it all in. I use a messenger bag. Some use backpacks. Whatever works for you.
* Snack, drink…we’ll be there for 2-3 hours. Food and drink may not be allowed inside the museum.