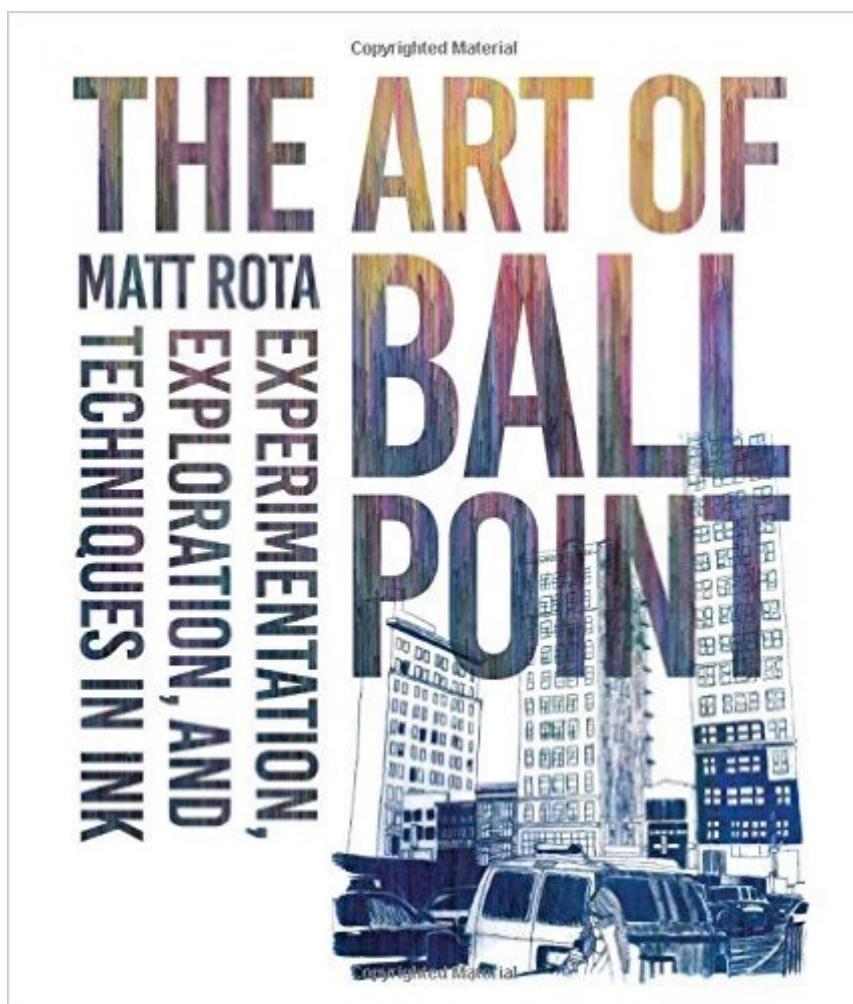


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# The Art Of Ballpoint: Experimentation, Exploration, And Techniques In Ink



## **Synopsis**

The Art of Ballpoint offers a historical perspective of the pen as an art medium and how it has evolved and grown in popularity. The book features several leading contemporary ballpoint artists who are creating complex and provocative masterpieces. They discuss their methods, the messages in their work, and their personal connections to the pen. These fascinating pieces range from psychologically charged portraits to mutant animals to spectacular wall-sized abstractions. The chapters cover classical drawings, modern abstractions, graphic illustration, contemporary realism, and sketchbook styles. Interspersed throughout the book, ballpoint techniques are demonstrated through stepped-out exercises that explore line drawing and crosshatching, shading and tone, photo-realism, drawing texture and pattern, working in layers, mixing other media with ballpoint, and more. Glide through this inspiring book and enjoy the intricate and impressive works created from an everyday tool.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Rockport Publishers (December 1, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 163159057X

ISBN-13: 978-1631590573

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.8 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #54,767 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Pen & Ink #42 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Commercial > Illustration

## **Customer Reviews**

Length: 1:40 Mins

This book features stunning artworks by artists who push the boundaries when it comes to using ballpoint pens for drawing. I'm in awe at what some of them have created. It's like these artists have turned the ballpoint pen into some sort of fine art tool. The chapters cover classical drawing, modern abstraction, graphic illustration, contemporary realism and sketchbook styles. There are some artworks that made me do a double take. Like is that created by coloured pencil or ballpoint pen?

The techniques of the artists are fantastic. Portrait drawings or landscape sketches are drawn as if with pencils until you read the caption to see that everything's with ballpoint ink. I'm surprised that there are so many colours available for the pens. Matt Rota's the author of this book and he's also a skilful artist himself. He has included the history of ballpoint pens, profiles and analysis of contributing artists and their work, and also wrote several tutorials in this book. The book's not just inspiring, it also teaches. This is a fantastic book. It will show you the possibilities of the humble ballpoint pen. Highly recommended. The artists that are featured are Jean-Pierre Arboleda, Carine Brancowitz, Jonathan Brechignac, Dina Brodsky, Hannah Chalew, Joo Chung, Dawn Clements, Joanne Greenbaum, Joo Lee Kang, Melissa Ling, Shane McAdams, Mu Pan, Guno Park, Joey Parlett, Chris Pugliese, Jim Rugg, Joan Salo, Chamo San, Nicolas V. Sanchez, Dominique Vangilbergen. (See more pictures of the book on my blog. Just visit my profile for the link.)

The Art of Ballpoint was a great reference book for some of the best artists working in this medium (some of the portraits in this book are mind-blowing). And for anyone who wants to try and do a little bit more with the pens lying around their house themselves, Matt Rota has designed a very clear instructional method with examples and exercises to walk you through the basics. I typically work with digital drawing programs, but this reminded me of how beautiful ink on paper can be, and inspired me to do more sketching. I was really surprised by the possibilities, and the artists in this book are selected in a particular way to demonstrate the pen's full range. This is also a good introduction to Rota, an amazing artist himself, who keeps the book alive with a website, Facebook and Instagram, where he shares more artists and reference material. Definitely recommend this!

A jewel of an art manual. A very pleasurable, fascinating read with plentiful examples in varied styles to suit everyone's tastes and practical, fun hands-on exercises to put your newly acquired knowledge to the test with a tool that everyone has to hand. The look and feel of the book is particularly aesthetic, and the friendly choice of typeface makes the huge wealth of information not at all daunting, but easily readable. The layout is clear and sufficient space and time is given to each subject. It opens up a whole new world of inspiration in a technique not traditionally considered artistic, but which at the hands of a number of hugely talented and proficient featured artists (personal favorites Dominique Vangilbergen, Mu Pan, Melissa Ling, Dawn Clements, Joo Chung) comes into its own as a medium. It also gives the reader a precious insight into the mind of the working contemporary artist and the chance to try and emulate their style, understand their motivations and appreciate the immense skill that goes into the making of every mark. The author,

himself an accomplished illustrator, shines a new spotlight on this modern medium, lifting it to new sophisticated heights with his intelligent writing and at the same time relating it to a study of the principles of art in general. It promises great things for other books in the series!

All I can say is that prior to reading this book I "thought" I knew all there was to the whole "ballpoint art thing." I was completely wrong. This book is pretty awesome. The beautiful and insightful presentation of the works and the apparent deep background effort that went into its development shows. It can be a bit "wordy" in the well intending descriptions of the works and artists themselves, but that fact doesn't degrade the amazing work being done with the once lowly ballpoint pen or the value of the insightful nature of the writing. Great exploration of the medium and the many vastly differing approaches to art creation that can be expressed either directly or in concert with the ballpoint pen. Fun, inspiring read. Good job Matt Rota!

This book is amazing (very good tips and artwork)..... It's amazing what these artist can do with a simple ballpoint pen, I would highly recommend this book to anyone interested in drawing and art - heck I wish everyone would read it for the beauty of the art pieces found within it....

This book is a rare resource focused exclusively on artworks made using ball point pen.I've never seen anything covering this subject matter before. Ballpoint may seem like a niche mediumbut it has an interesting history and many contemporary practitioners are highlighted here.The author, Matt Rota, is a killer illustrator in his own right and The Art of Ballpoint includesa half dozen pages of the incredible Mu Pan's artwork along with 20 other talented artists.The accompanying text gives great insight into their practices as well.Get this book!!!

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