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Study of a Girl (detail)  
by Casey Baugh

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*Casey Baugh*  
04

# What's Happening in Colored Pencil

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These 15 artists suggest that a range of styles and subject matter is being embraced in the world of colored pencil. **Have a look.**



## Deborah L. Friedman

Her thesis project for her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at the University of Massachusetts, in Amherst, was lithographic portraits, but Deborah L. Friedman switched to graphite pencil for convenience in drawing birds, then she switched to colored pencil for—rather obviously—their color. “So many birds lend themselves to color, and nature is full of color and pattern,” says Friedman. “I was uncertain whether I could achieve the results I was looking for with colored pencil but felt dissatisfied with the limits posed by graphite.” Friedman was interested in depicting realistic detail, and the iridescent feathers of a hummingbird, for instance, are not easily portrayed in black and white. She prefers a spare composition to allow the personality of the bird to take center stage.

“The greatest challenge in my drawing process is the layering of colors to produce a realistic depiction of each bird,” she says. “I want the birds to look lifelike, but even more important, I want to convey their personalities—they are so awe-inspiring and mysterious. I strive to bring some of this beauty and joy into my work.”

Friedman’s art is in numerous private collections, and in the Berkshire Art Museum, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

For more information on Friedman, visit her website at [www.dlfriedman.com](http://www.dlfriedman.com).

### Red-Breasted Nuthatch

by Deborah L. Friedman,  
2005, colored pencil and  
graphite, 11 x 8.