HOPPING BEASTIES CRAWLING FLYING, C. SWIMMING

Affordable Art Fair



Guy is represented by Wychwood Art



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Hello, I'm Guy Allen – an artist who focuses on etchings. You may have done something similar at school by scratching into plastic or foam and then printing ink onto paper. Etching is a very old printing process that I discovered while studying art in Paris, with just a view of the Seine River and an old printing press. It's a really humbling art form to work in because the process has remained unchanged for more than five hundred years, yes 500 years! Long before iPads and computers. One of the artists who has inspired me is Rembrandt (1606 – 1669) and it's amazing to think that when I'm creating a piece of art, the printing processes I use would be recognisable to him. All artists are inspired by other artists – do you have a favourite artist?

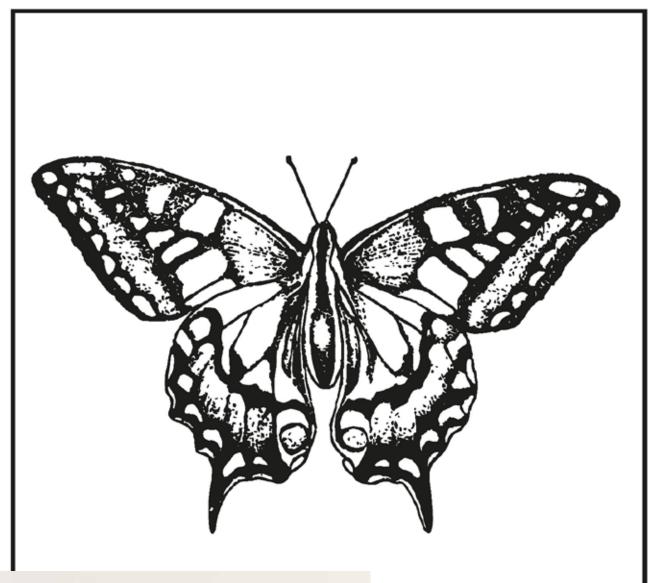
My etchings are inspired by wildlife and animals. I was fortunate to grow up right in the heart of the Norfolk Broads, where there are lots of animals that are very rare, like the swallowtail butterfly – the first drawing in this activity pack. This, of course doesn't include the bear, which I'm sure you know doesn't roam around in England. Where in the world would I have to go to find a bear?

Happy colouring in, kiddos! If you want to be an artist, try and draw something every day with passion, and who knows? One day you may well be exhibiting at the Affordable Art Fair.





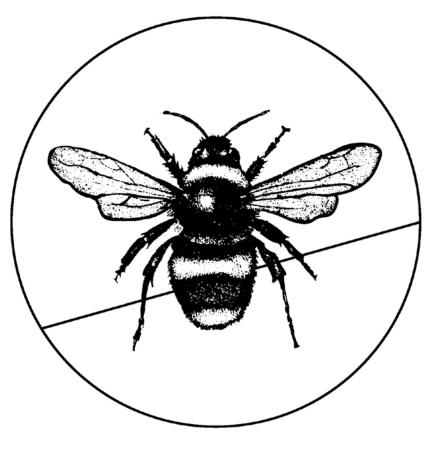
Guy Allen





"My etchings are created using a dotting technique (called the stippling effect) which gives the images a soft finish. It's perfect for the fur, feathers and feelers of the animals. I use delicate gold-leaf to finish each piece, which I apply by hand. It helps to highlight the natural beauty and fragility of the insect world."

Guy Allen, Swallowtail Butterfly, available on our online marketplace.

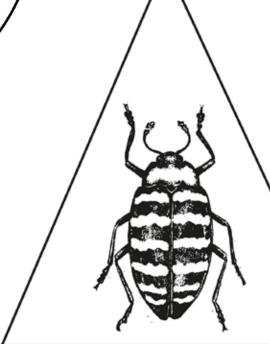


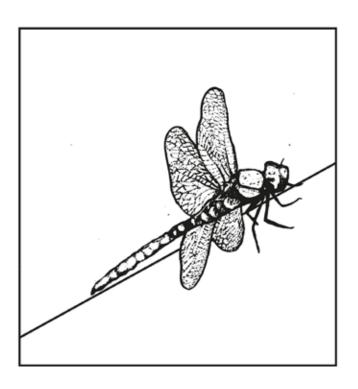
DID YOU KNOW?

A bumblebee flaps its wings 200 times per second. That's a similar speed to some motorcycle engines!



There are over 350,000 beetle species, with many more beetles yet to be discovered!



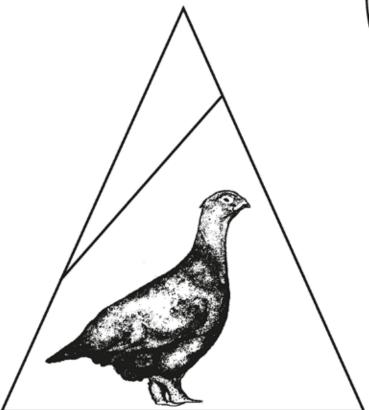


DID YOU KNOW?

Dragonflies have been around for 300 million years. Prehistoric dragonflies were much larger and could have a wingspan of 76 cm or 2 ½ feet!

DID YOU KNOW?

Frogs typically lay their eggs in the water; a group of eggs is called frog spawn. Have you seen frog spawn in a pond or lake?



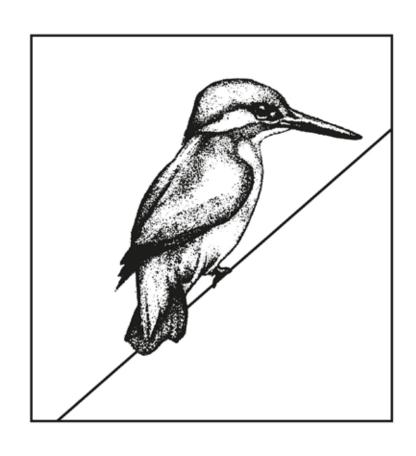


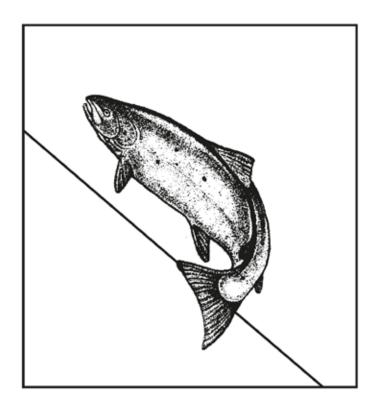
DID YOU KNOW?

During the winter, grouse can hide in deep snow, which provides insulation from the cold temperature.

DID YOU KNOW?

In many parts of northern and eastern Europe the kingfisher is migratory, some traveling up to 3,000km from their summer to wintering grounds.



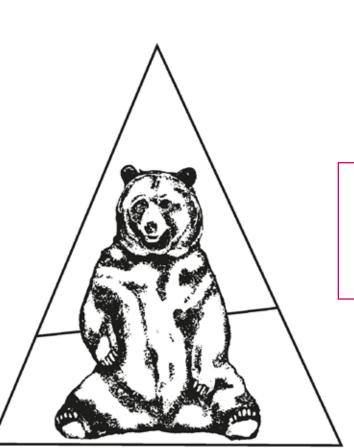


DID YOU KNOW?

Salmon negotiate waterfalls and rapids by leaping or jumping. They have been recorded making vertical jumps as high as 3.65 metres (12 ft)!

DID YOU KNOW?

The male stag beetle is easily recognised because of his large mandibles (jaws) which resemble the antlers on a stag's head.



DID YOU KNOW?

Bears can run up to 40 miles per hour, fast enough to catch a running horse. The fastest known human alive today is Usain Bolt, who can run 27mph.