



JEFF GANDERT, SAA

Resides: Maineville, Ohio

Late December

Downy woodpecker

Acrylic

24 x 16

I am always amazed how a common bird like this Downy woodpecker can, with a vise-like grip, seize my attention when one suddenly alights very near. After countless hours spent watching, observing, and painting these birds it's still a surprising and spiritual event. With tuxedo like attire it's as if having been invited to a black tie gala, he's the only one with the presence and nerve to arrive wearing a red tie.

A somewhat calm and delicate bird for such bold markings, he proved to be the perfect accent for this stately maple I found one wintry December afternoon.