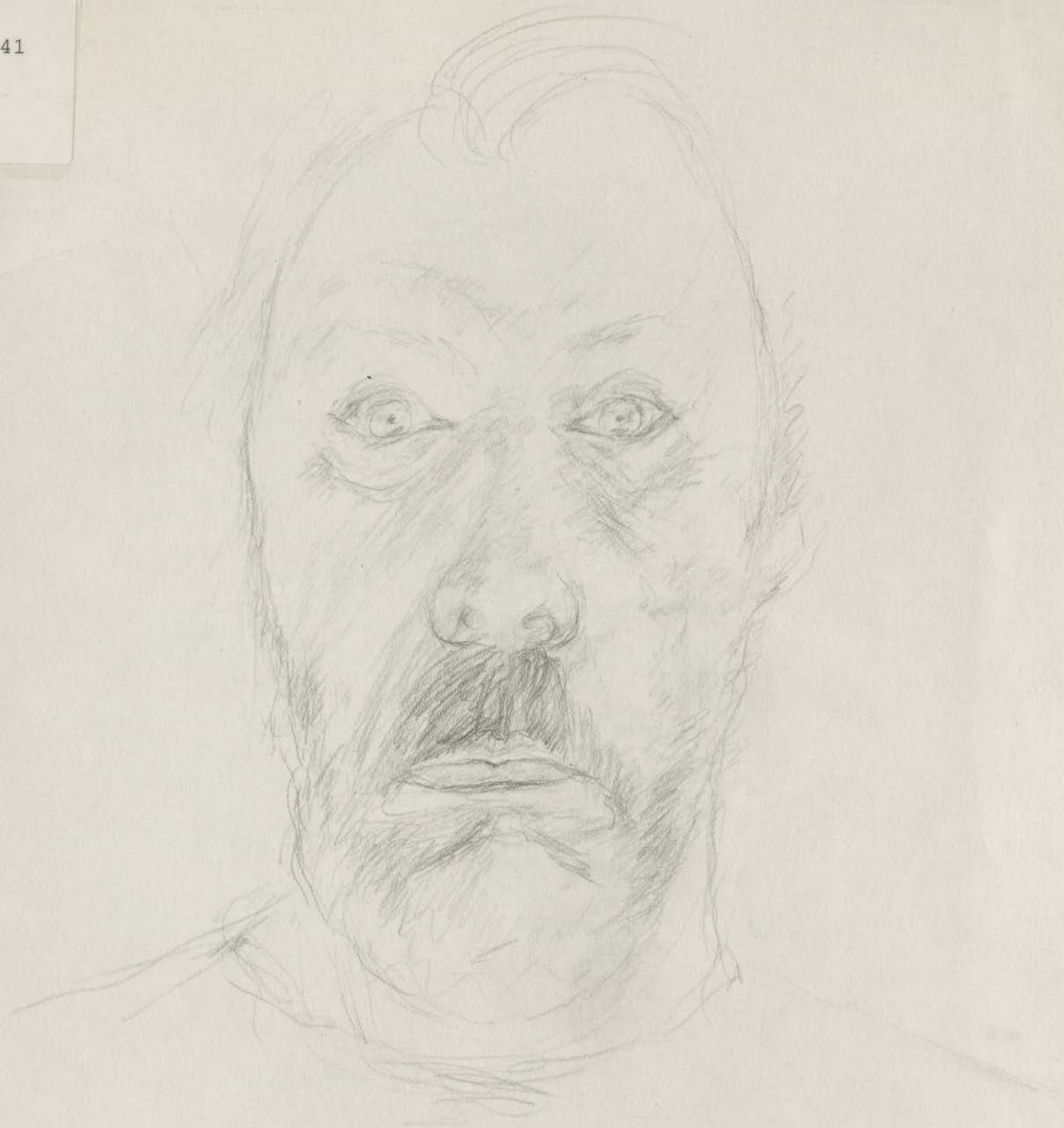
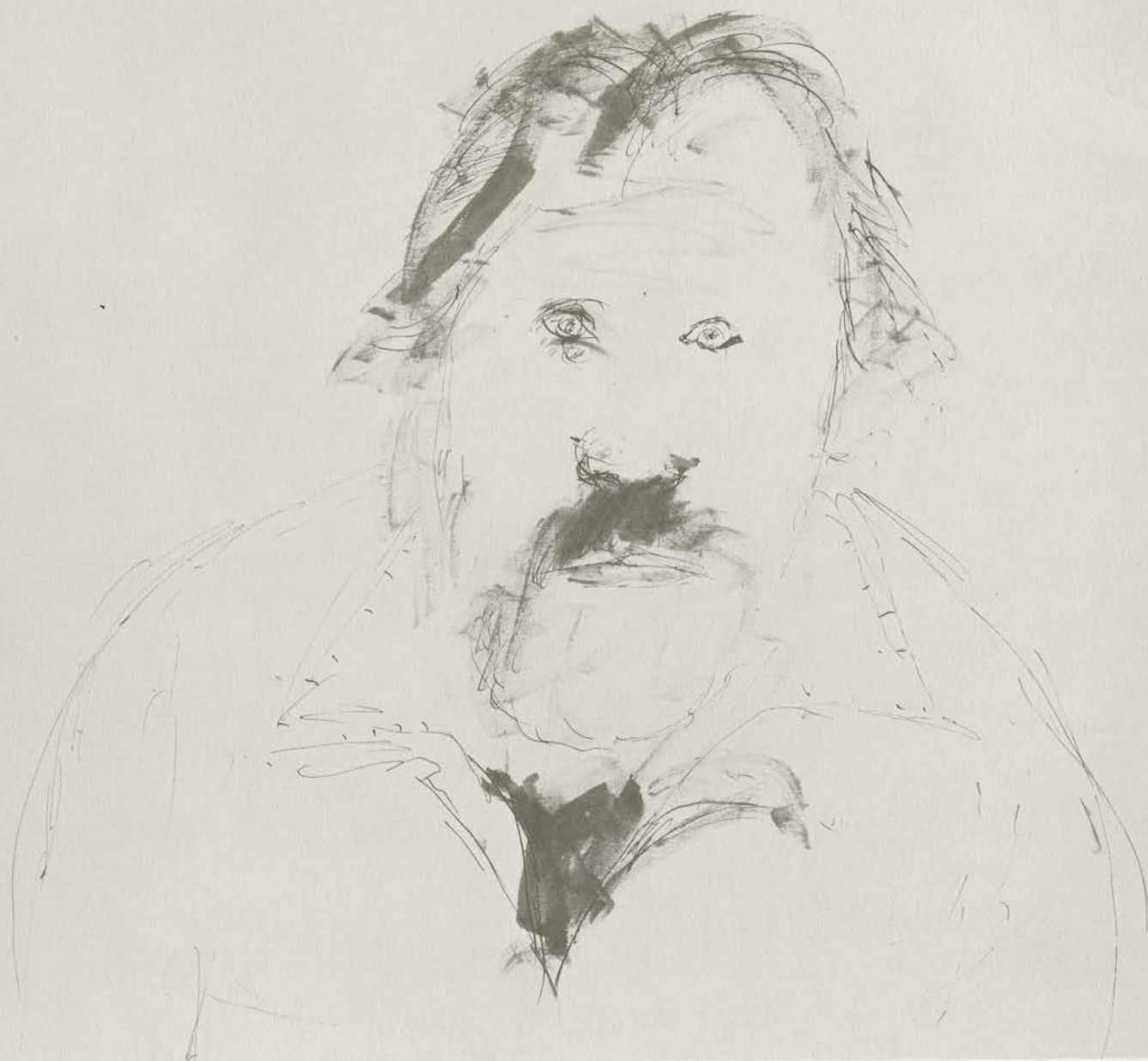


S241





▲2. The Innocent

◀Cover: 23. Watery Eyes

Arnold Saper

PERSONAE

An Exhibition
of Drawings

January 3-21
1983

Gallery 1.1.1.
School of Art
The University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba

(This exhibition and catalogue were made possible
through funding from the Manitoba Arts Council.)

Biography

Arnold Saper was born in Winnipeg in 1933. He attended The University of Manitoba where he received his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree. After taking additional course work in Education, Mr. Saper taught for several years in secondary schools in rural Manitoba and in Winnipeg. He received a Canada Council Grant in 1963 to study with Mauricio Lasansky at the State University of Iowa, where for two years he held the graduate teaching assistantship in that studio. He has taught Printmaking and Drawing at The University of Manitoba since 1967 and was appointed full professor in 1979.

Mr. Saper has participated in many group shows, local, national, and international from 1957 to 1982, the last being a large group show "Le Trait" held in Paris in April 1982. His work is represented in the collections of the Owens Art Gallery, Mount Allison University; St. Johns College, The University of Manitoba; and the Winnipeg Art Gallery. His prints are also hung in several Manitoba public schools and a piece is owned by the Manitoba Arts Council. In February, 1974, the Art Bank purchased editions of four prints and three drawings. Many prints and drawings are in private collections.

Artist's Note

I have so many contrary tendencies that I hardly believe in the reality of my own personality. The sabbatical year just past contributed to these doubts by removing me from such background as I have. Travelling alone in Europe, rapidly finding and losing other travellers, (bright with their own intensified existence) I became a newly met stranger to myself. When I returned home I was more than ready for a fixed position and settled into my studio like a hermit in his cell. These, then, are the circumstances and the mood in which I turned to my own image, prepared to confront the different characters I play in my life.

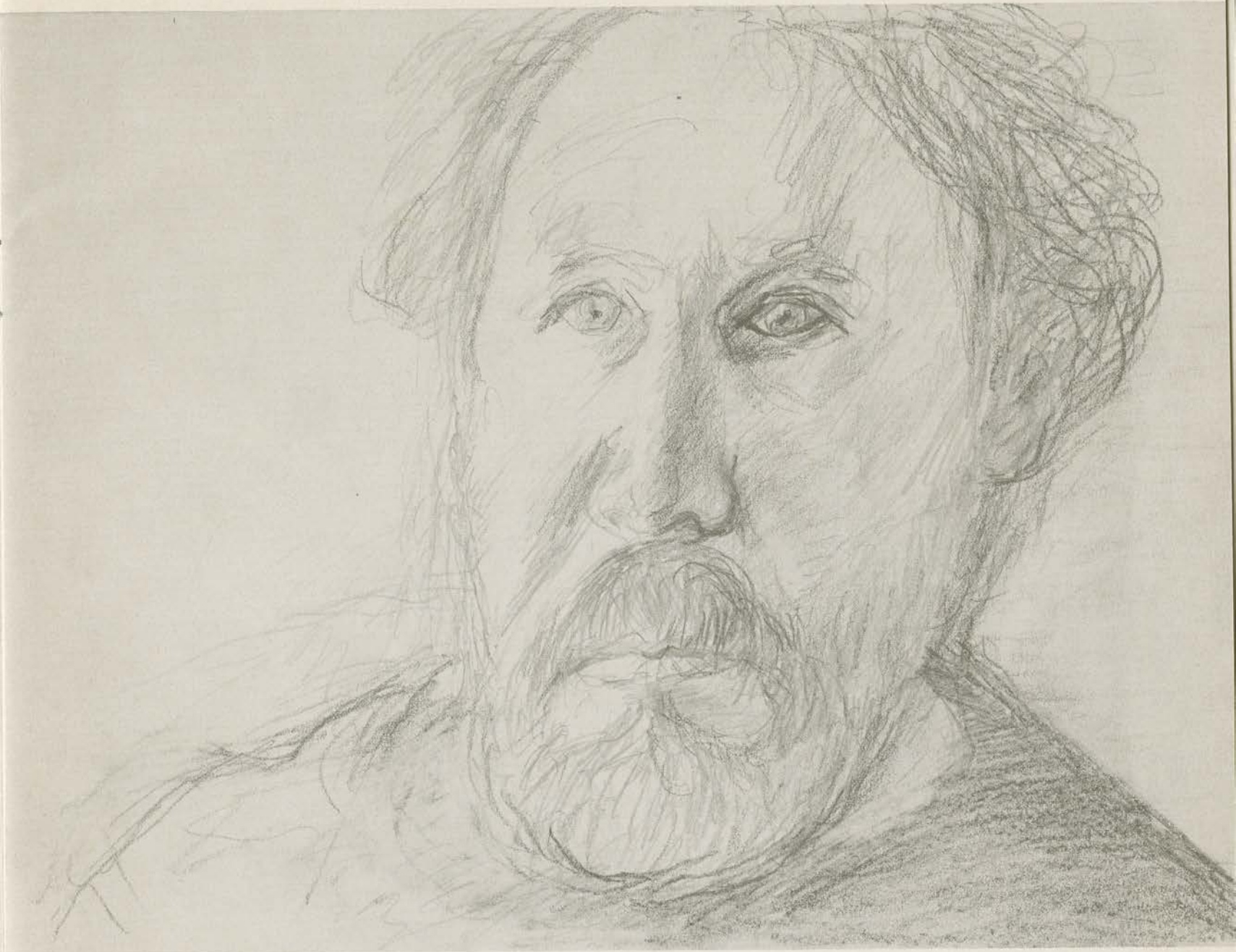
Apart from subject matter, the decision to work in drawing, particularly with simple tools, enabled me to stay closer to the work emotionally. I had come to realize how detached much of my work felt to other people. I had always dedicated myself, particularly in my intaglio prints, to surpassing the early states through an effort of will and extensive reworking. It became apparent that I may have succeeded only too well. I decided then to do a lot of serious drawing through which I could still work the image (all the more readily in fact) without losing touch with what was essential and living in it. The result, I hope, is work that exists in the present.

The portraits of women were posed for by my wife, Pat. She knows from long experience that the drawings usually are more about me than about her, and she forgives me for the sometimes strange results. My children are the most beautiful people I know, and, in the portraits of my two youngest, I hope my love and pride in them is expressed.

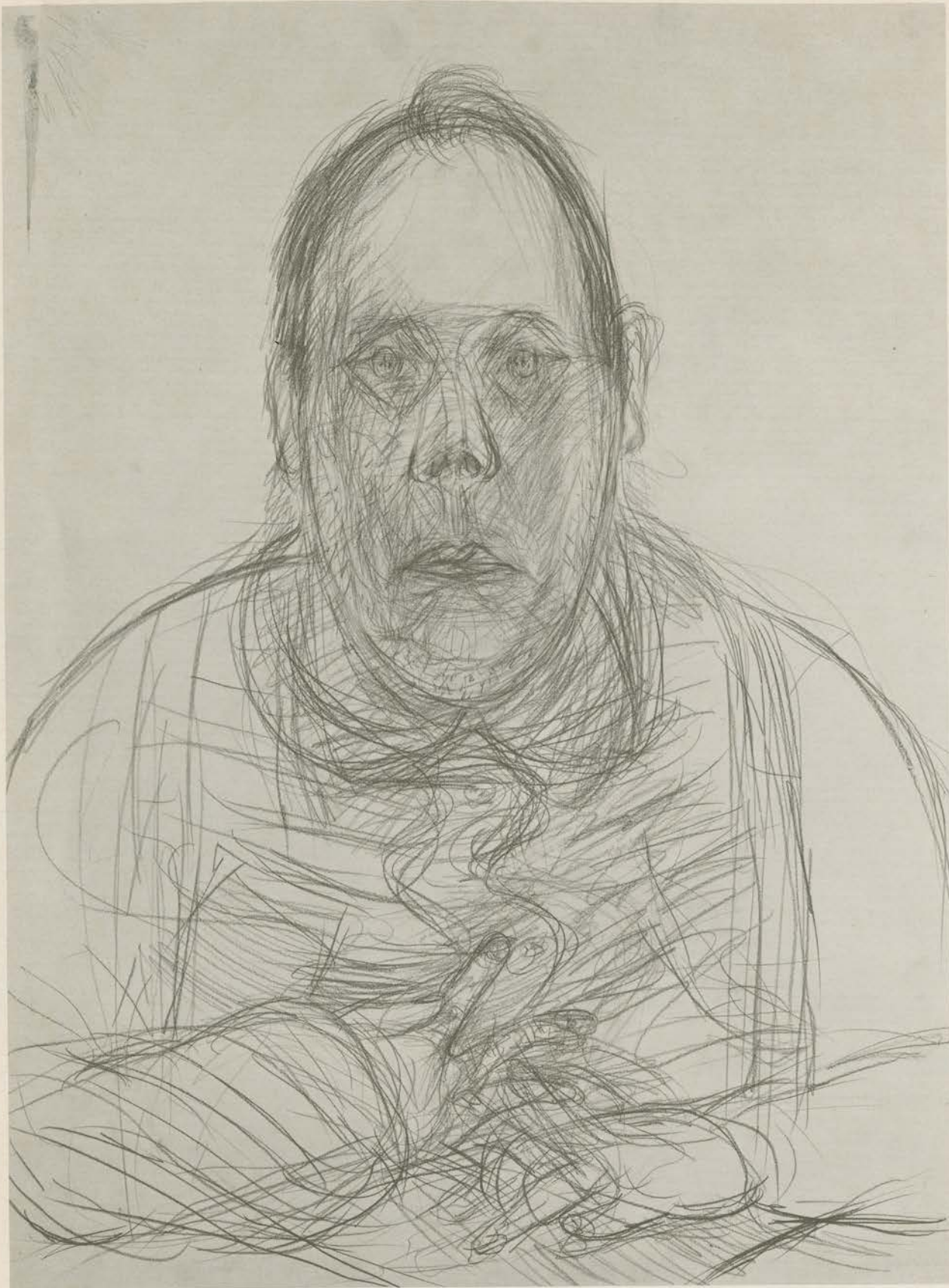
The drawings were selected from a larger body of work taking quality and relatedness into account. Some prints were made in this period, but they don't belong in this show. Two drawings are included that were made in the year 1978 when I went on a similar self-portrait bender. None of the pieces have been exhibited before.

Acknowledgements

I am thankful to Dale Amundson for encouraging me to do this exhibition; his belief in the worth of our community of artists is something I share, and I must admit to being pleased to be included. The Manitoba Arts Council helped produce this exhibition and catalogue and I thank them for their interest. Ken Armistead of the University Printing Services has been a pleasure to work with, anticipating my ideas about this booklet at every step. Ed Zdrill is the photographer responsible for the faithfulness of the reproductions. Zared Mann, technician for Gallery 1.1.1., put up the show. Michelle, James and Pat, thank you for the hours of sitting you have endured so patiently and for wanting the drawings to turn out well.

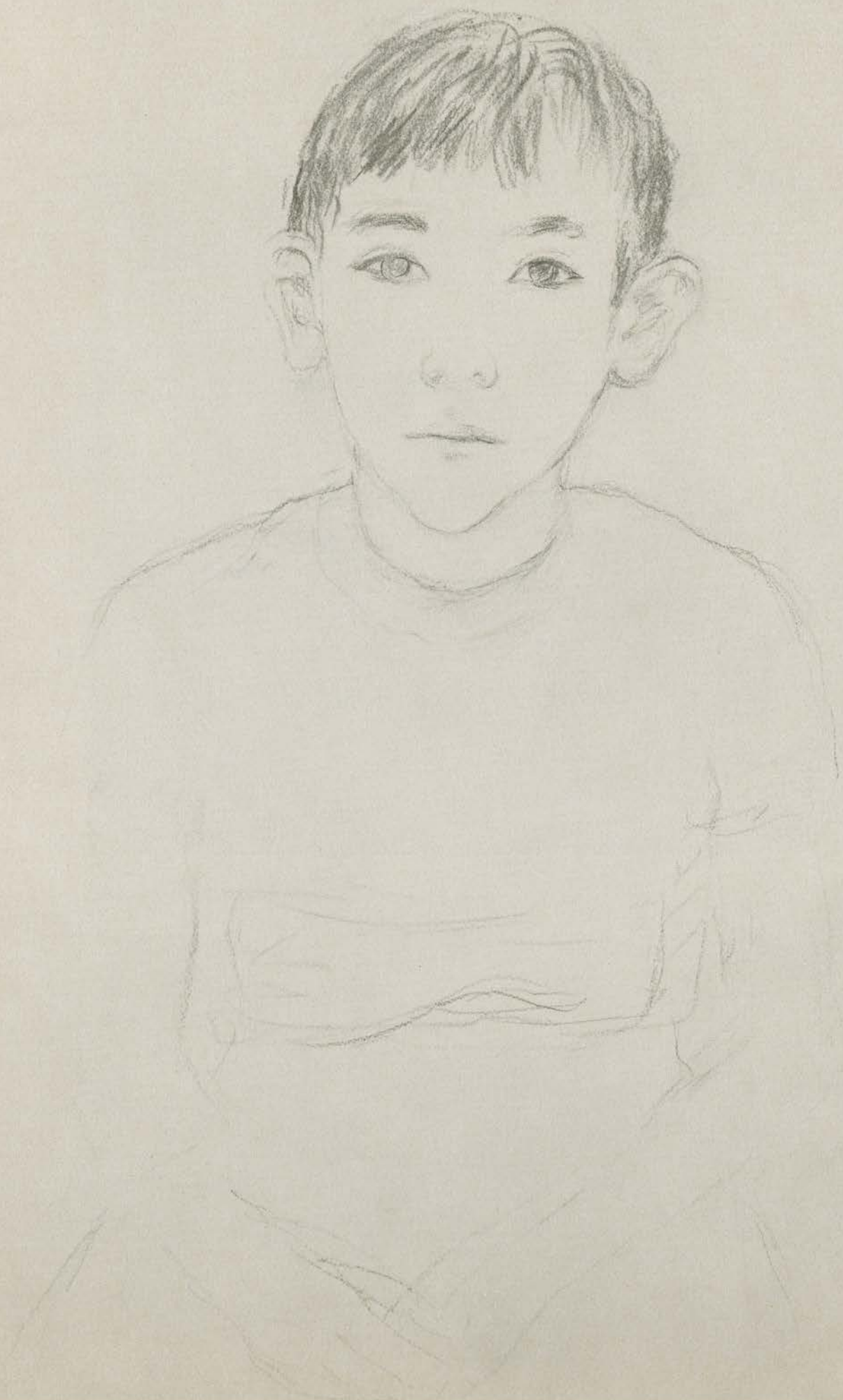


▲4. Self-Portrait in Soft Light



▲24. Fumbler

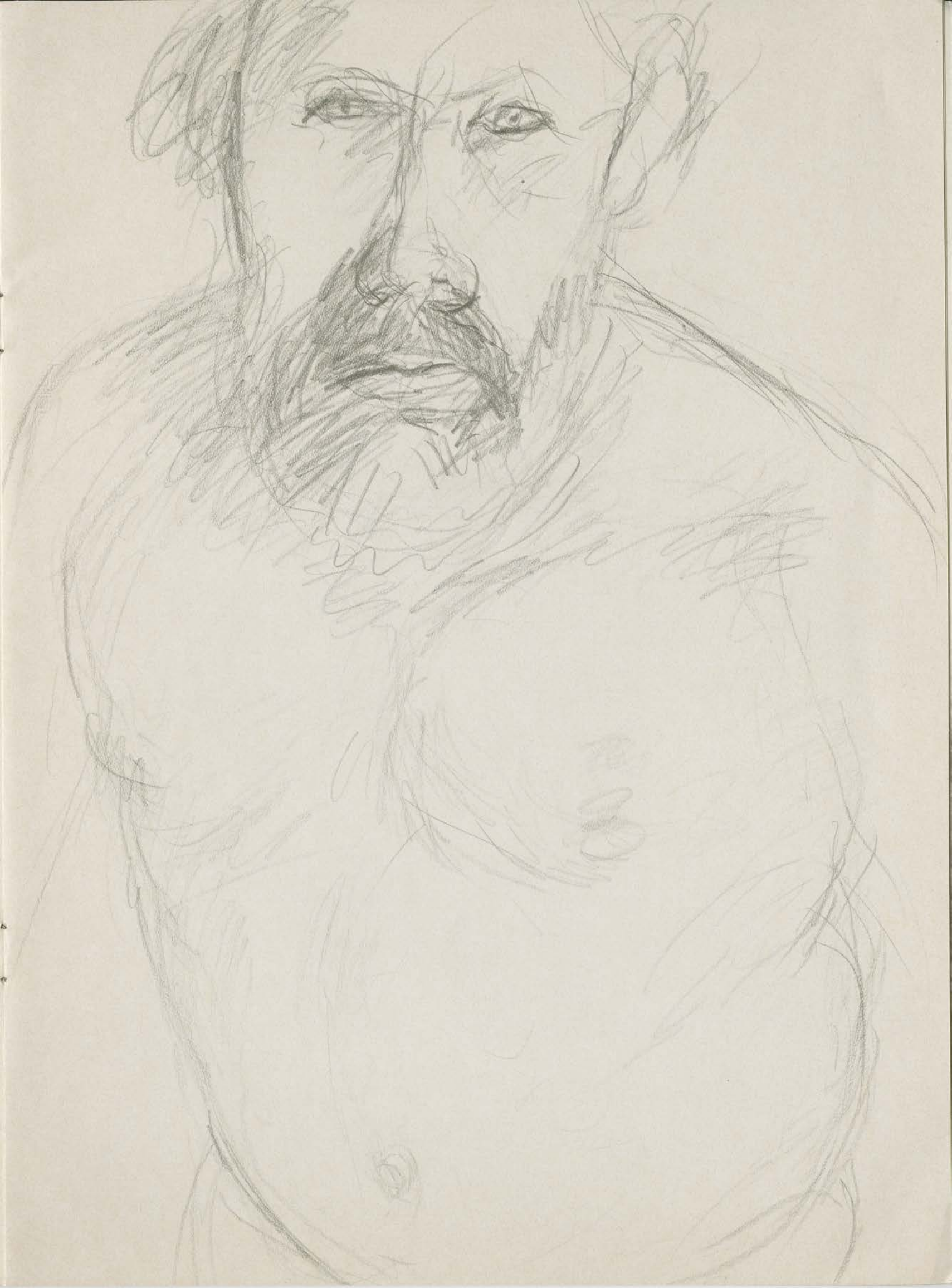
10. James, Age 10▶

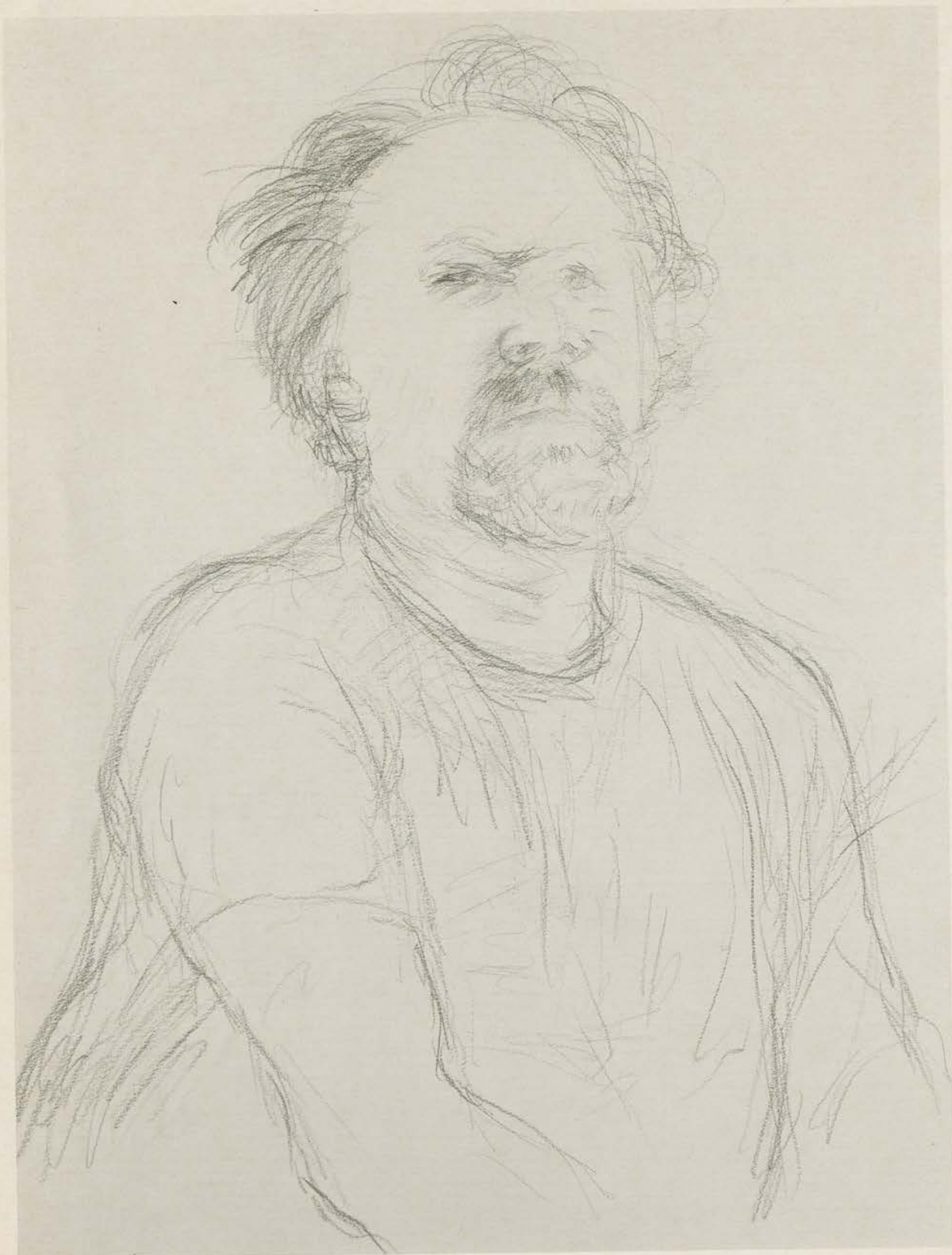




▲12. Woman in Suit Jacket

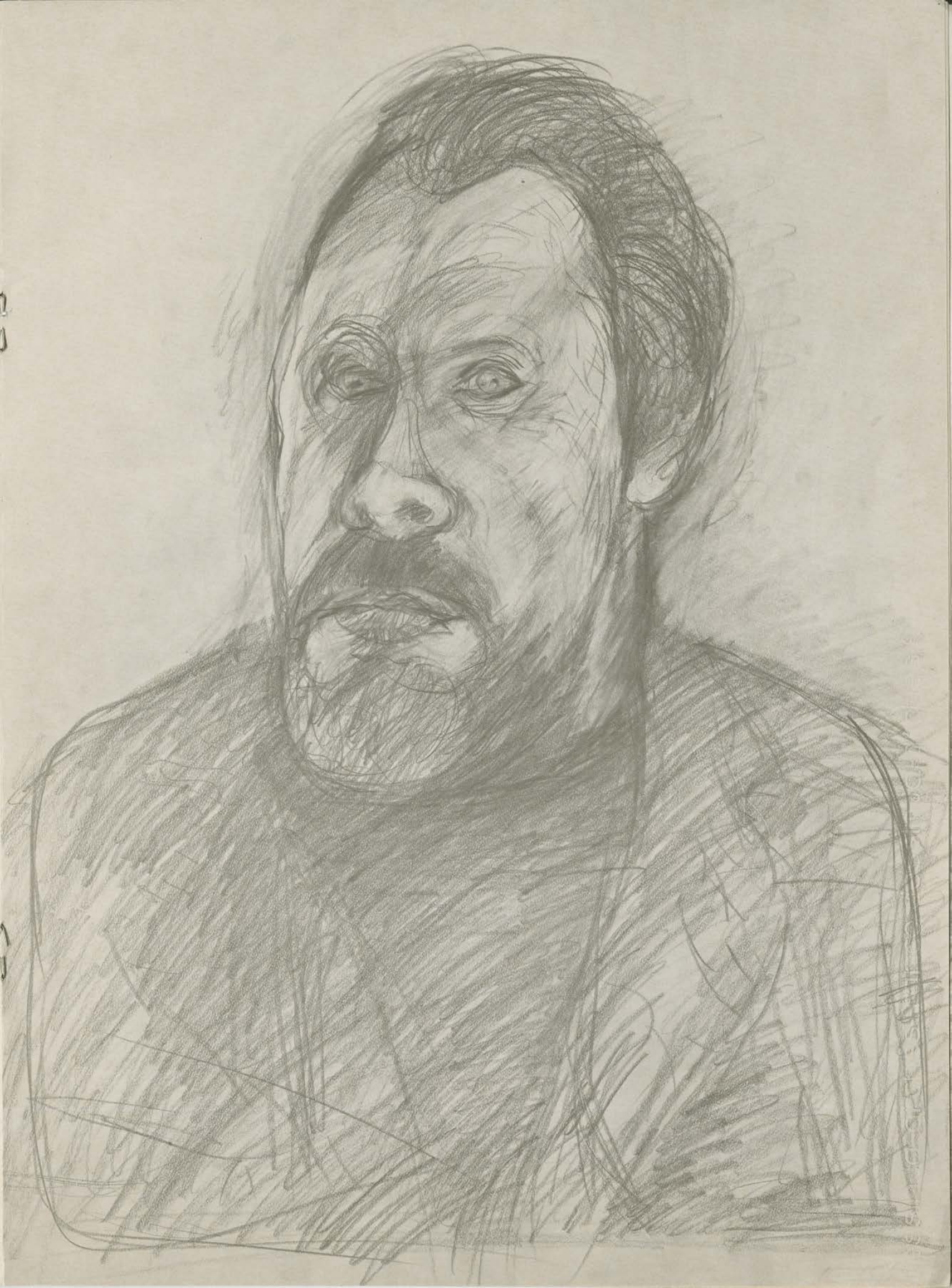
19. Satyr▶





▲8. Artist Drawing

32. The Maniac▶

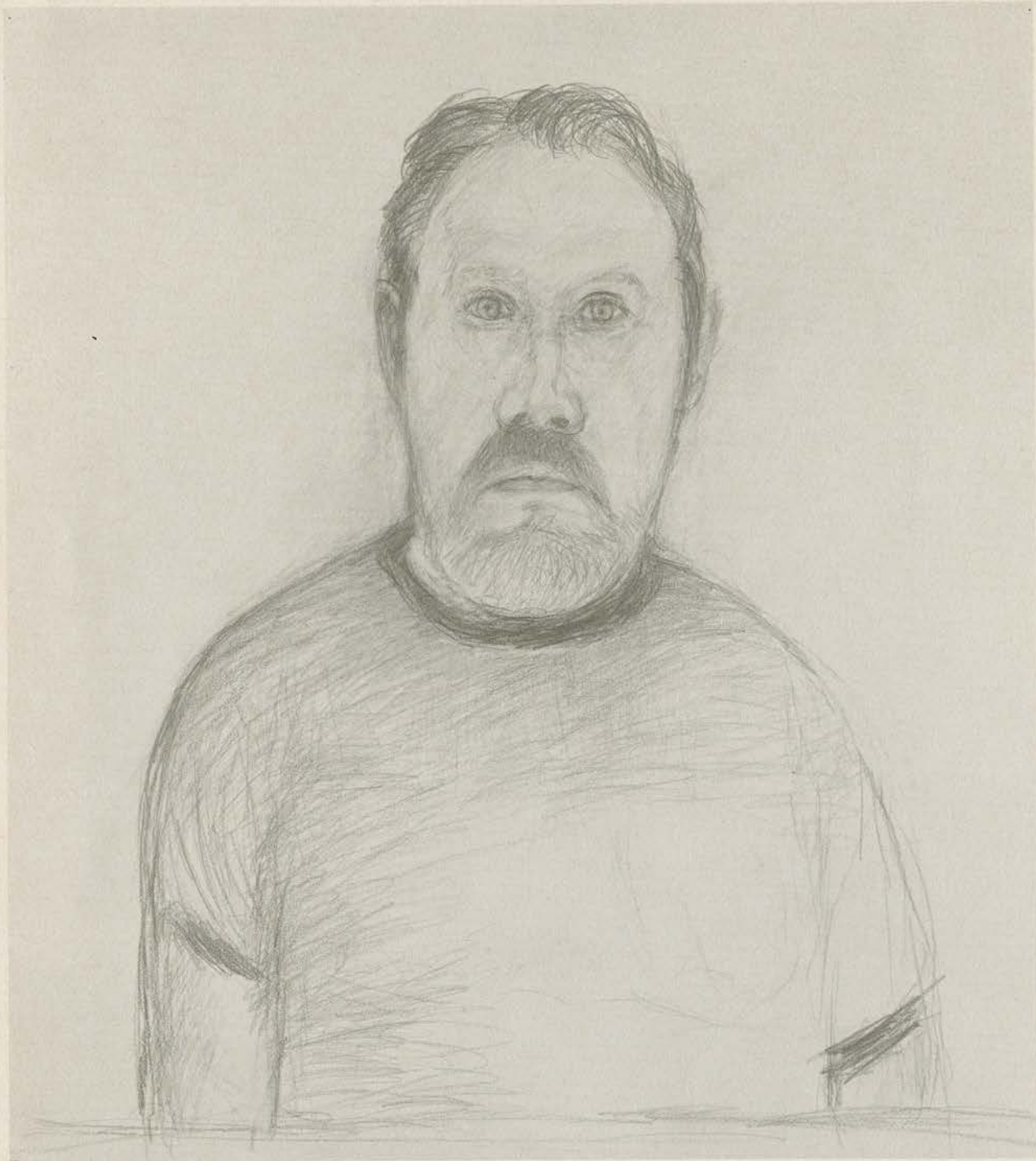




▲27. Dark Huddled Woman

26. Shy man▶

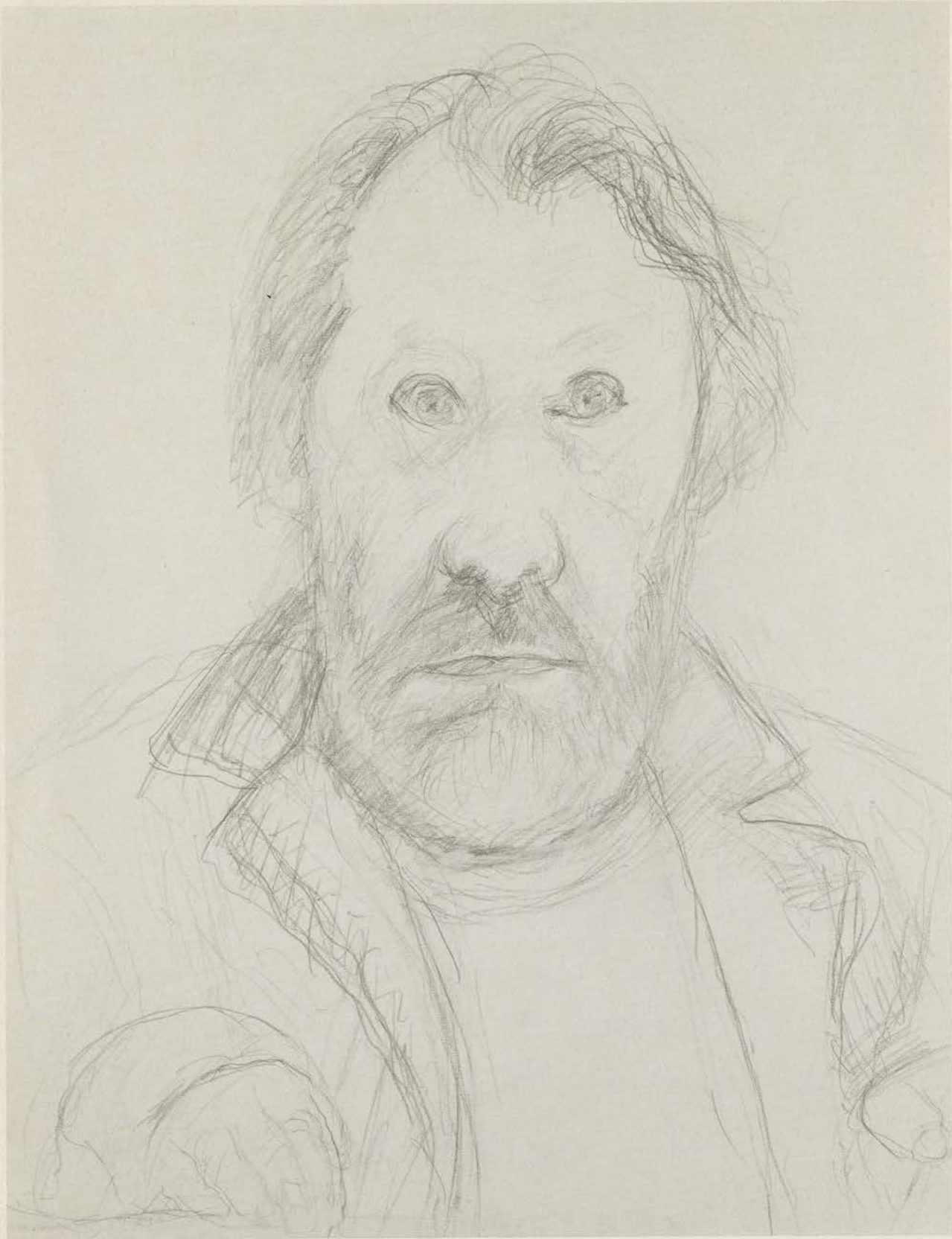




▲18. Self-portrait in T-shirt

34. Thin Woman▶





▲20. Bewildered Artist

15. Michelle Age 12▶



Catalogue of the Exhibition

1. Dishevelled Man
Pencil, blue chalk, red conté
and black felt pen
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

2. The Innocent
Black and reddish brown ink
h. 57 cm. w. 75.8 cm.

3. Frightened Man
Pen and black ink
h. 65 cm. w. 50 cm.

4. Self-Portrait in Soft Light
Pencil
h. 25 cm. w. 32.5 cm.

5. Self-Portrait with Reading Glasses
Pencil
h. 25.5 cm. w. 32.3 cm.

6. Head with Stubble Beard
Pencil
h. 23.5 cm. w. 35 cm.

7. Two Faces
Brush and black ink
h. 19 cm. w. 10 cm.
h. 19 cm. w. 10.5 cm.

8. Artist Drawing
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 57 cm.

9. Pale Figure
Pencil
h. 65 cm. w. 50 cm.

10. James, Age 10
Charcoal
h. 75.8 cm. w. 56 cm.
Collection of James Saper

11. James Drawing
Pencil
h. 42 cm. w. 45.5 cm.

12. Woman in Suit Jacket
Pencil
h. 42 cm. w. 49 cm.

13. Woman with Hands in Lap
Pencil
h. 70 cm. w. 48.7 cm.

14. Woman Bundled in Sweater
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

15. Michelle, Age 12
Pencil and coloured chalk
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.
Collection of Michelle Saper

16. Michelle in Cable-knit Vest
Pencil and brown conté
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

17. Michelle with Locket
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

18. Self-Portrait in T-Shirt
Pencil
h. 62 cm. w. 55.8 cm.

19. Satyr
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

20. Bewildered Artist
Pencil
h. 65 cm. w. 50 cm.

21. The Paranoiac
Pencil
h. 46 cm. w. 49.5 cm.

22. Vexed Head
Pencil
h. 58 cm. w. 55.5 cm.

23. Watery Eyes
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

24. Fumbler (ca 1978)
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

25. Prickly Face (ca 1978)
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

26. Shy Man
Pencil and red conté
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

27. Dark Huddled Woman
Pencil
h. 64 cm. w. 51 cm.

28. Gentle Huddled Woman
Pencil
h. 61 cm. w. 46 cm.

29. Spider Lady
Pencil
h. 63 cm. w. 56 cm.

30. Barbaric Head
Pencil
h. 58 cm. w. 50 cm.

31. Man in Spotty Shirt
Black conté
h. 65 cm. w. 50 cm.

32. The Maniac
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

33. Actor
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

34. Thin Woman
Pencil
h. 76 cm. w. 56 cm.

Text and selection of works © Arnold Saper

Inside Cover: 33. Actor

Back Cover: 20. Dishevelled Man



