NOSI ROMANTE











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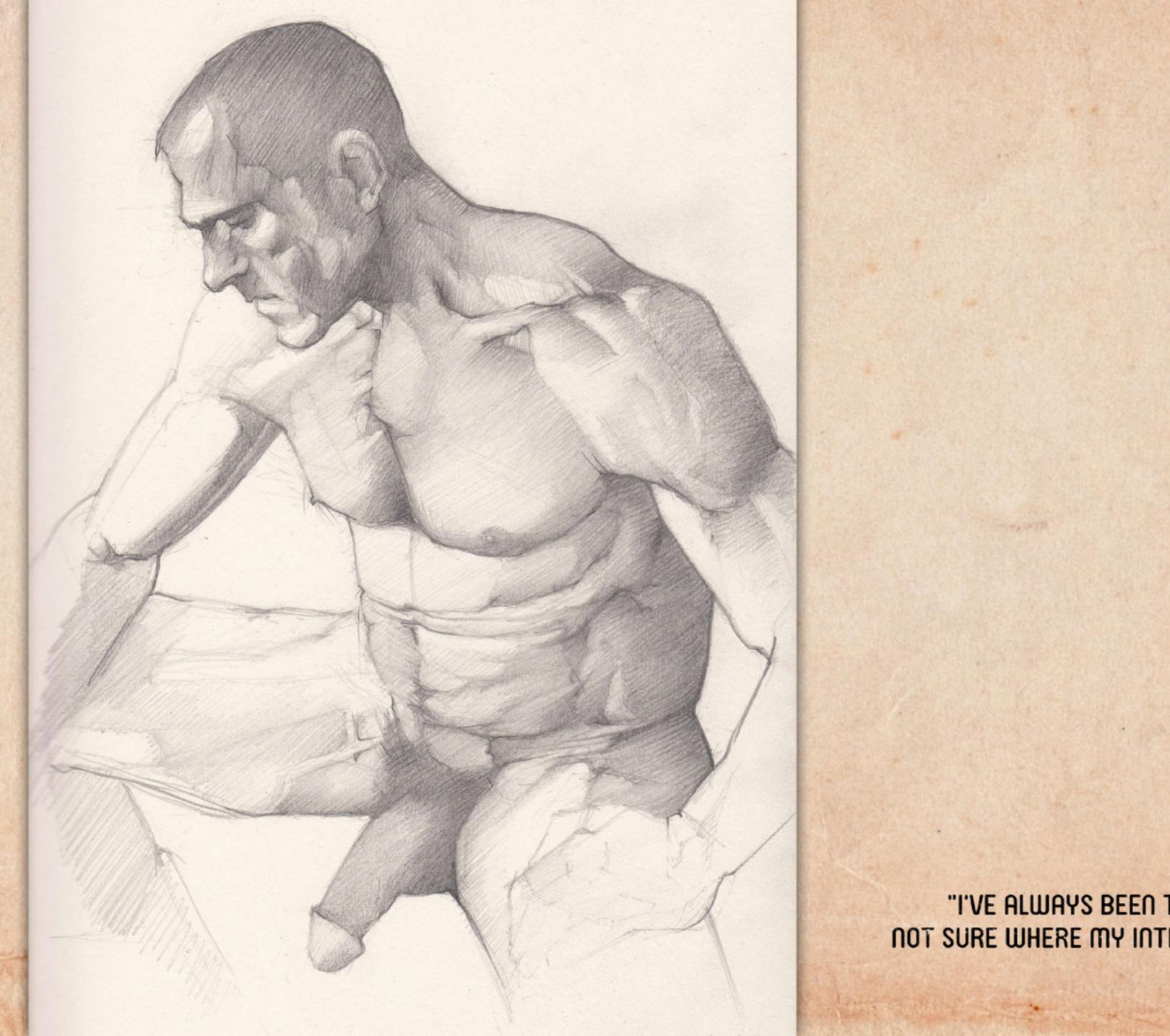


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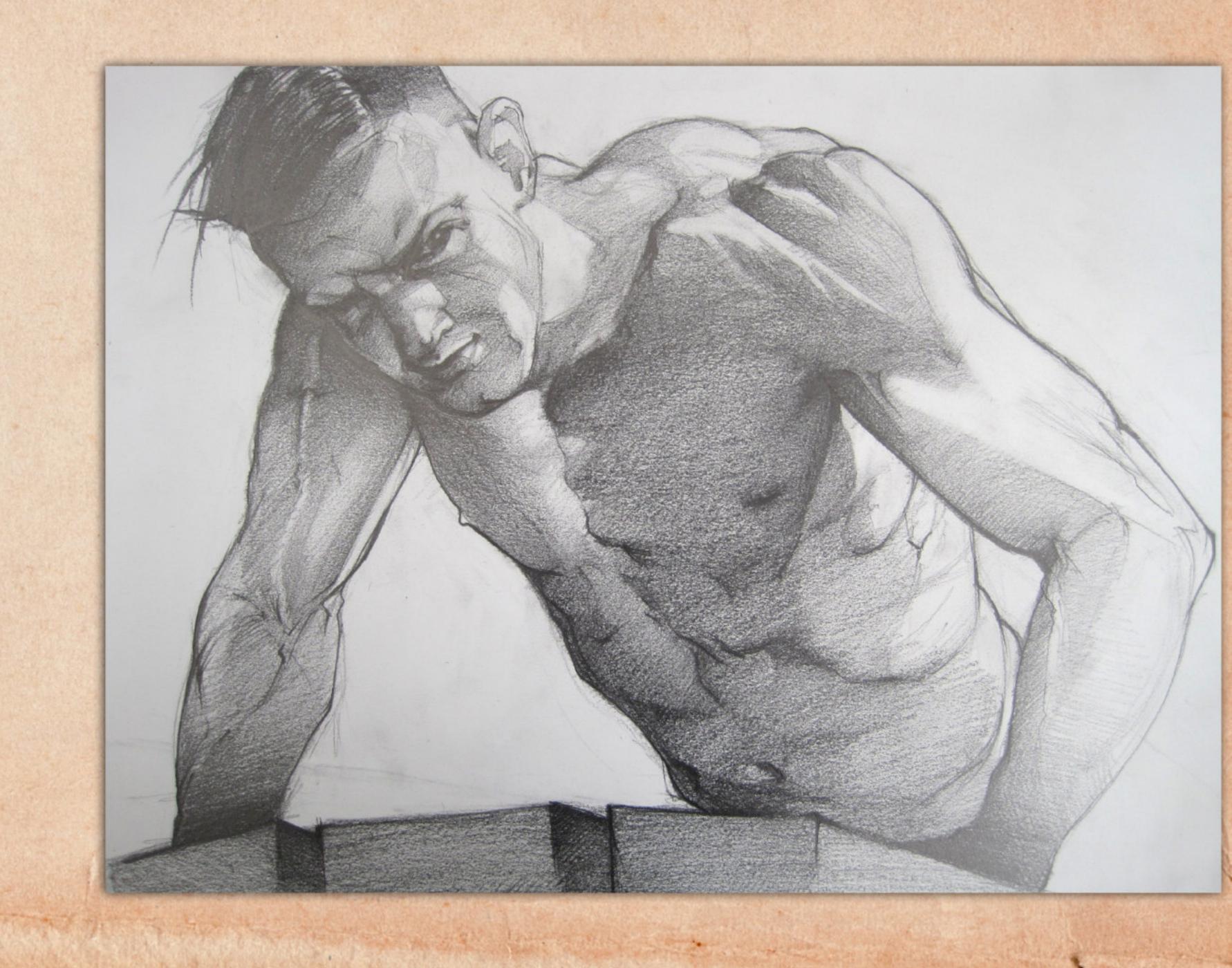
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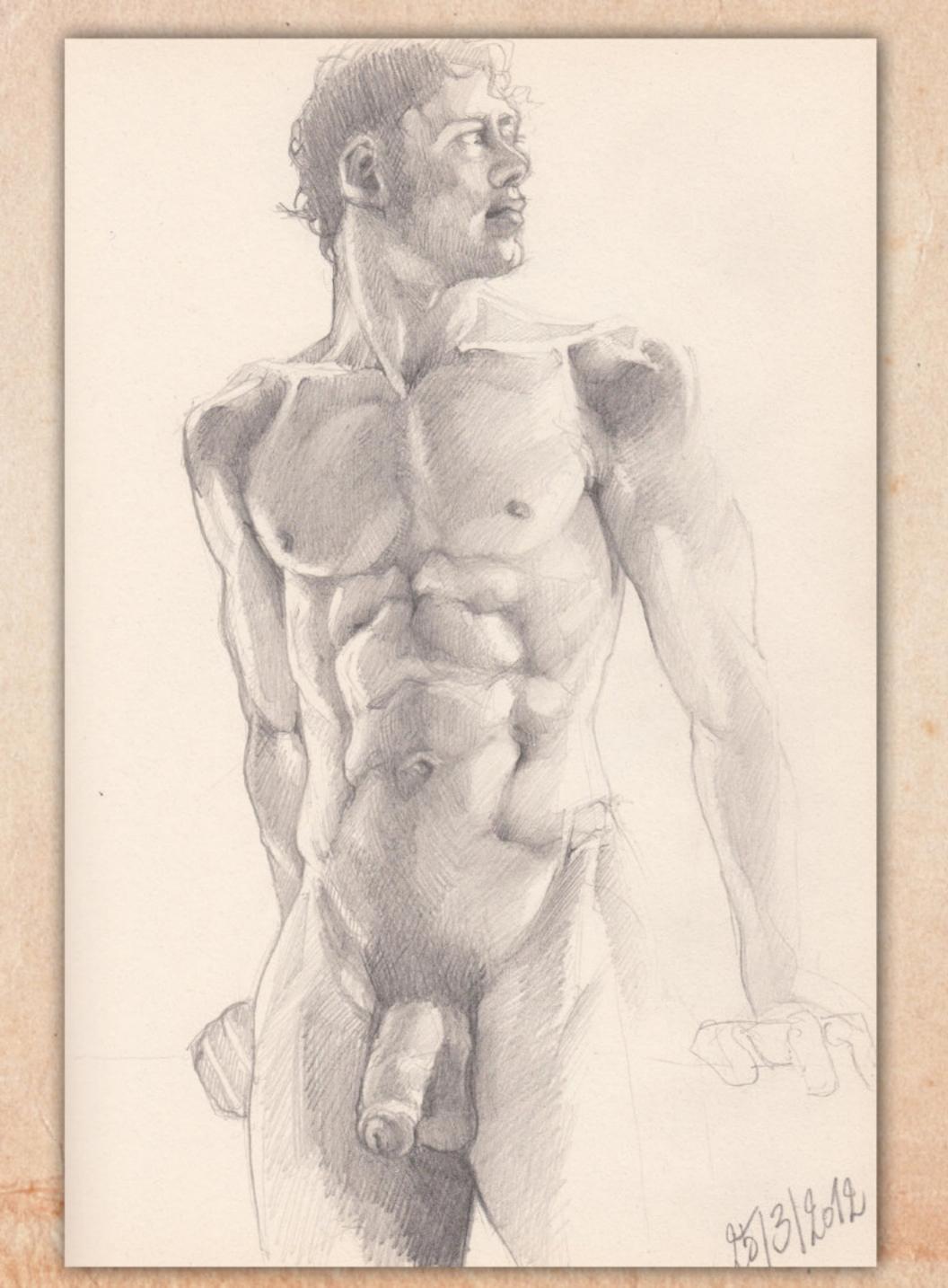






"I'VE ALWAYS BEEN THE 'ARTIST OF THE FAMILY',
NOT SURE WHERE MY INTERESTS AND TALENT CAME FROM"



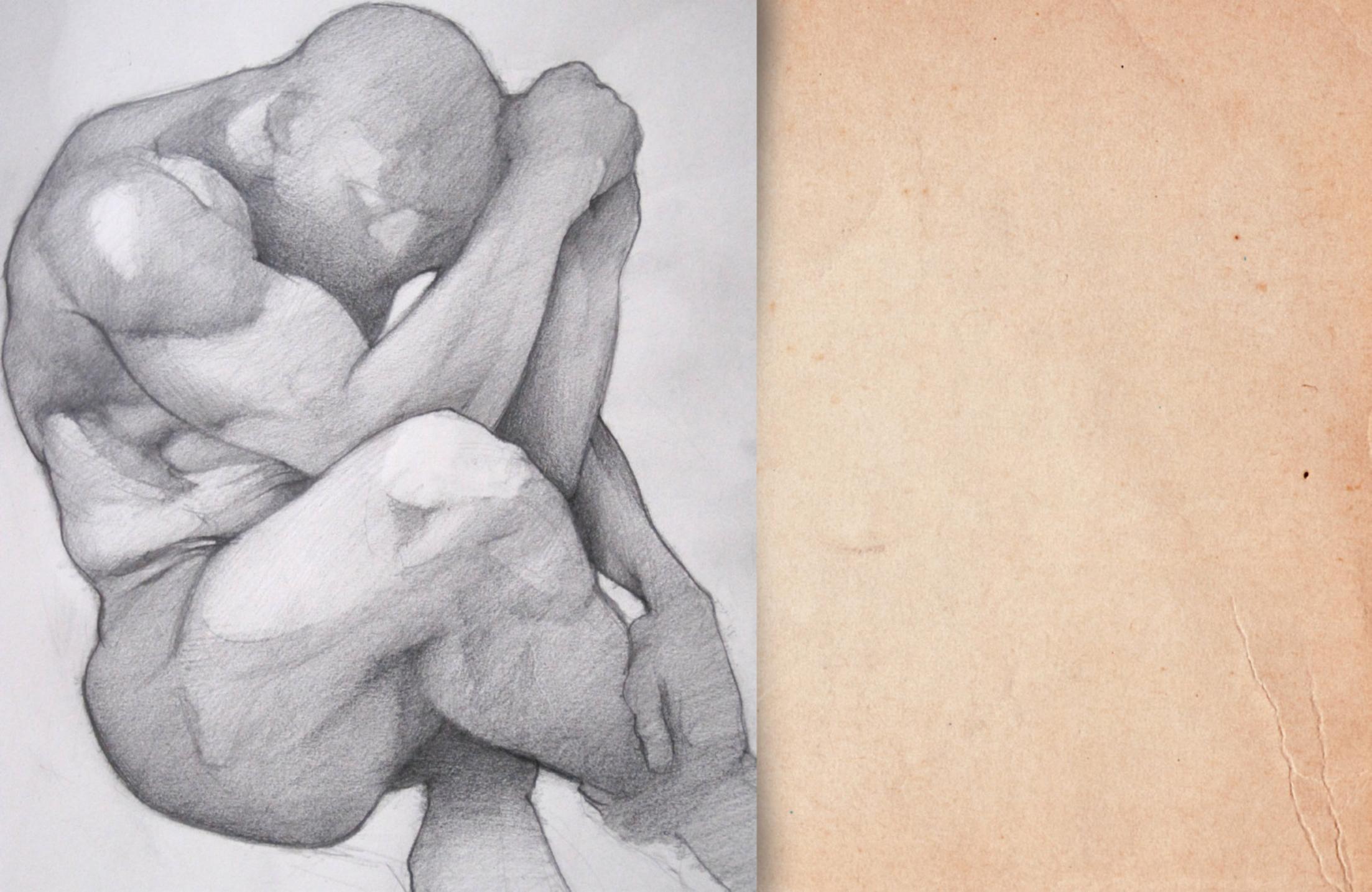


"AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER I'VE BEEN DRAWING AND MANY OF MY CHRISTMAS AND BIRTHDAY PRESENTS CONSISTED OF ART SUPPLIES"

"I STUDIED MUSIC THEORY AND FLUTE PERFORMANCE AT A LOCAL MUSIC ACADEMY. FROM THEN ON MUSIC AND FINE ARTS BECAME MY PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS"



"AT AGE OF 16 I BEGAN MY STUDIES AT AN ART SCHOOL IN BRUSSELS. DURING MY FIRST YEAR THERE I LEARNED THE BASICS ABOUT DRAWING, PERSPECTIVE AND COMPOSITION AND I ENJOYED IT VERY MUCH. THE NEXT TWO YEARS MY STUDIES FOCUSED ON CONCEPTUAL ART. WHICH MADE ME NEGLECT MUCH OF THE BEAUTIFUL DRAWINGS AND PAINTINGS, INSTEAD, I HAD TO INVENT MAGNIFICENT ARTWORKS WHICH I WASN'T ABLE TO REALIZE. ALL THE ELABORATE EXPLANATIONS ABOUT THOSE ILLUSTRIOUS WORKS OF ART SEEMED TO BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE ACTUAL WORK ITSELF AND THE MORE COMPLEX AND OBSCURE THESE EXPLANATIONS WERE, THE BETTER EVERYBODY THOUGHT THEY WERE"



"AFTER THREE YEARS IN BRUSSELS I WENT TO THE ACADEMY OF ANTWERP, AN ART SCHOOL WITH A MORE CONSERVATIVE REPUTATION. DURING MY FIRST YEAR THERE I HAD A WONDERFUL TEACHER WITH TREMENDOUS SKILLS AND A GENUINE FEELING FOR COLOUR. ONCE A WEEK WE HAD A FOUR HOURS SESSION OF MODEL DRAWING ON LIFE-SIZE SCALE. IN MY SECOND YEAR MY WONDERFUL TEACHER DIED AND HE WAS REPLACED BY A BUNCH OF QUARRELING TEACHERS, EACH OF THEM EXCELLING IN BLOWING OVERWHELMING CLOUDS OF GREAT ARTISTIC THEORIES"

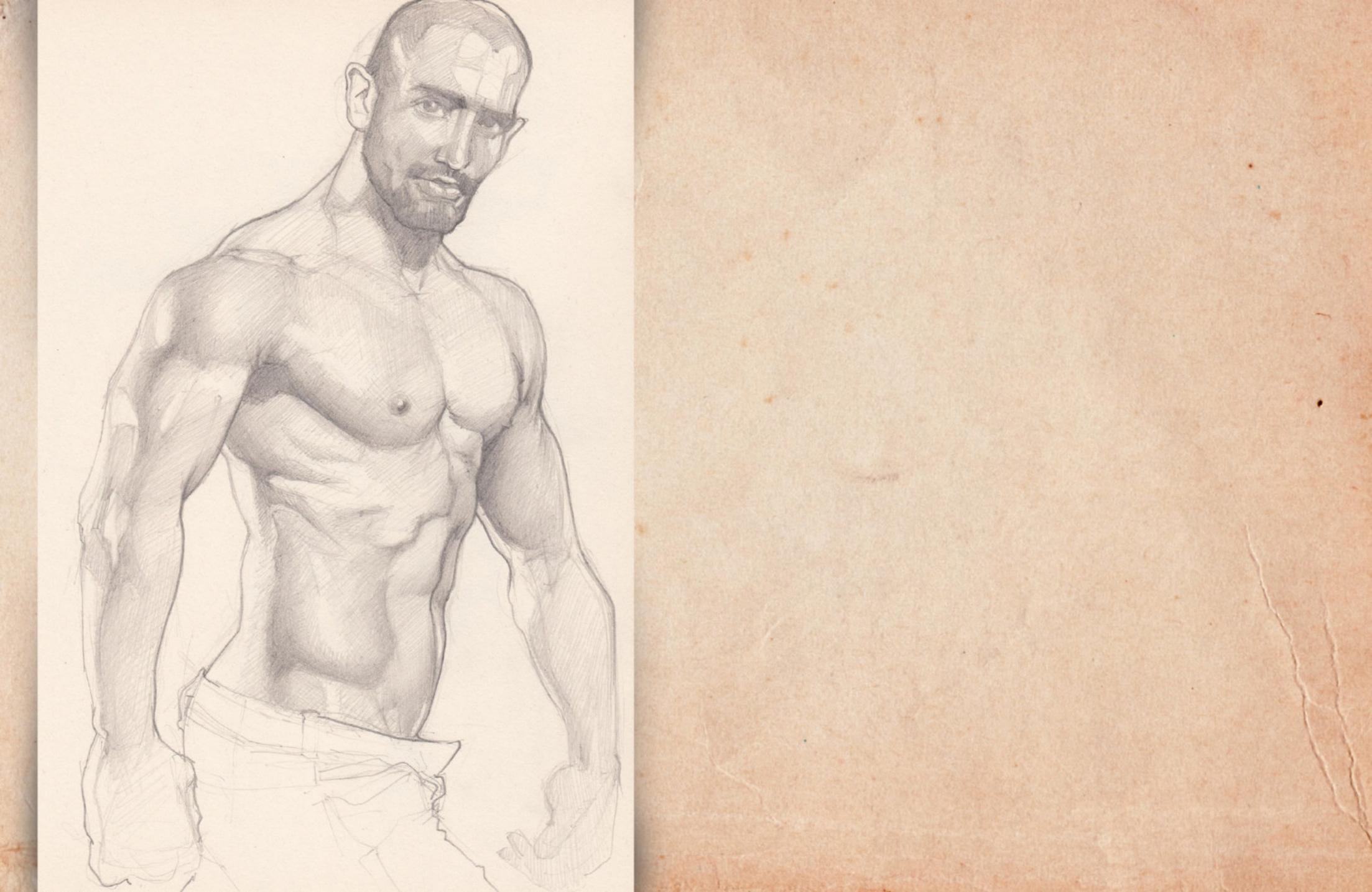


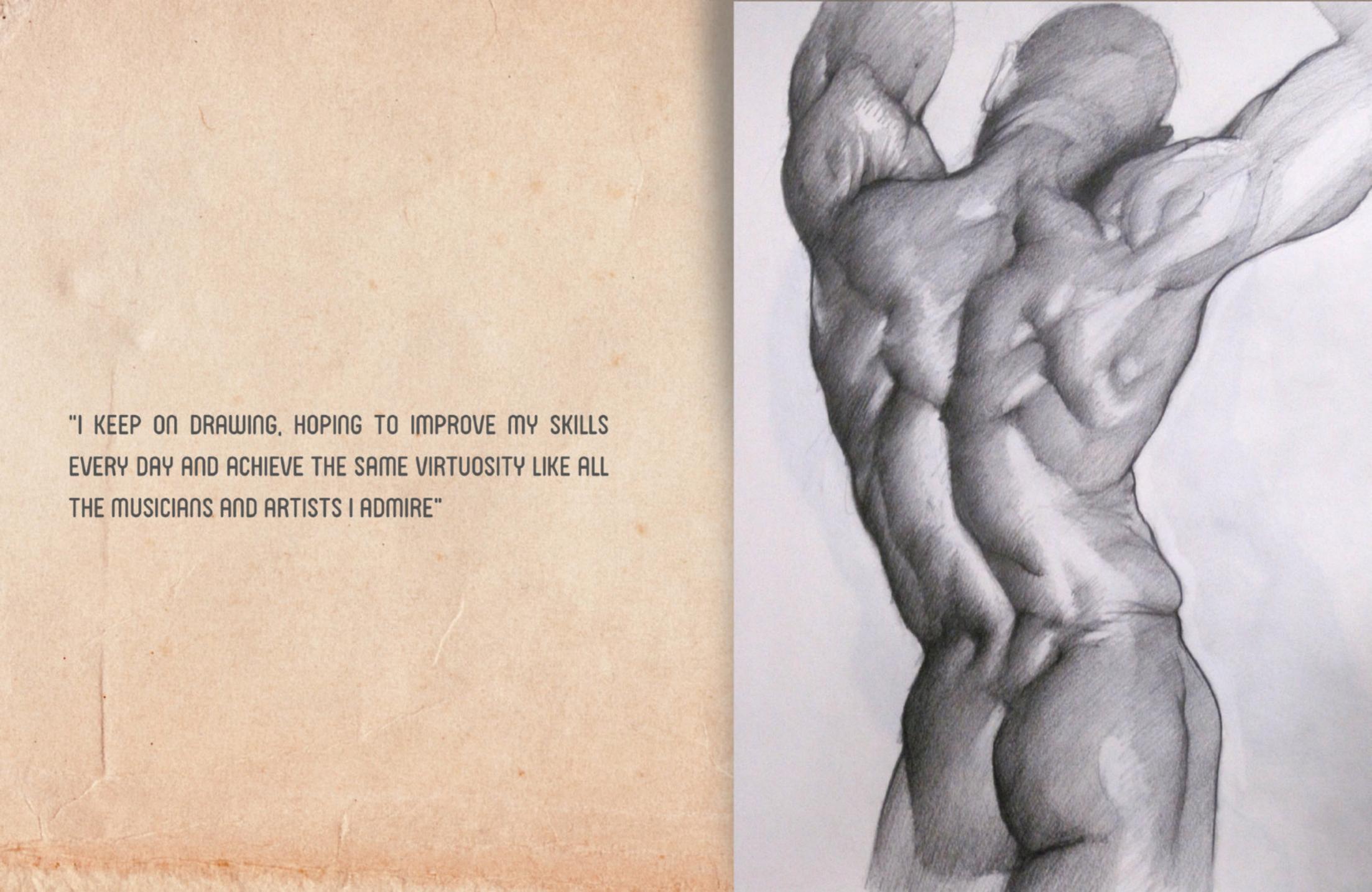


"AFTER MY GRADUATION I WENT LOOKING FOR A JOB.

BUT IN MY SPARE TIME I KEPT PAINTING AND ESPECIALLY DRAWING WHAT I LIKED AND THE WAY I LIKED IT. I SOON DISCOVERED THE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN DRAWING AND PLAYING THE FLUTE: THE HARDER I TRAINED ON THE FLUTE, THE BETTER IT SOUNDED AND NOBODY ASKED ME FOR ANY EXPLANATION OR ARTISTIC THEORY ABOUT THE RESULT"







...AND I AM STILL TRAINING AND ADMIRING.

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"FOR A YEAR AFTER THAT WAS DONE TO ME I WEPT EVERY DAY AT THE SAME HOUR AND FOR THE SAME SPACE OF TIME." OSCAR WILDE.

TO SAY THAT I WAS INSPIRED BY THESE WORDS WOULD BE UNTRUE, BUT I FOUND STRENGTH AND COURAGE TO MOVE FORWARD IN HOPES OF A DAY WHEN I WOULD NOT NEED TO THINK ABOUT BEING LAUGHED AT BY PEOPLE WHO WOULD JUDGE ME FOR MY DESIRES.

I FOUND MY INSPIRATION THROUGHOUT MY LIFE AND HAVE CONSTANTLY STRUGGLED TO REINVENT MYSELF AND MY WORK. I BELIEVE THAT ART SPEAKS THROUGH A MAGICAL LANGUAGE THAT IS OFTEN MUTE. IT IS UP TO THE LISTENER TO HEAR, INTERPRET AND UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO HIM.

WHEN I WAS YOUNG I LOOKED AT THE MONA LISA AS A RATHER UNATTRACTIVE WOMAN WITH A NON-DESCRIPT SMILE. LATER IN LIFE I AWED AT THE MASTERY BEHIND THE STROKES. LATER STILL I FOUND MYSELF WONDERING WHAT SHE WAS THINKING WHEN SHE POSED WITH THAT SMILE. AFTER A SERIES OF STRUGGLES IN LIFE I DECIDED THAT MONA WAS SIMPLY BEING MONA... IT IS OUR IMAGINATION THAT CREATES THE WONDER OF THE MOMENT WHEN WE SET OUR EYES UPON HER FACE.

MY WEAKNESS, MY PASSION AND OFTEN MY DOWNFALL, HAS BEEN THE MALE FORM. MOST OF MY DECISIONS IN LIFE HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY MY NEEDS. I HAVE COME TO A POINT IN MY LIFE WHERE I CAN HONESTLY ADMIT THIS TO MYSELF, AS BASE AS IT MAY SEEM. BUT IT IS ONLY RECENTLY THAT I UNDERSTOOD THE NEED TO TURN THAT WEAKNESS INTO SOMETHING THAT I CAN BE PROUD OF REGARDLESS OF THE PEOPLE WHO MIGHT RIDICULE ME FOR MY DESIRES.

I UNDERSTAND OSCAR'S YEAR OF SORROW FOR THE SHAME HE EXPERIENCED. SUCH FEELINGS HAVE HAUNTED ME AND MANY GAY MEN ALL OUR LIVES. I HAVE CHOSEN TO NO LONGER BE HAUNTED NOR HUNTED, INSTEAD I CELEBRATE WHAT I 'NEED' AND DRAW INSPIRATION FROM WHAT MAKES ME BURN DEEP DOWN INSIDE. ITS DEPTH COMES FROM THE EASE IN WHICH THE VIEWER CAN RELATE TO ITS SURFACE, YET, AS WITH THE MONA LISA, IT ISN'T ALWAYS THE SURFACE WHICH YOU ASSUME.

SOMEWHERE IN HERE I AM SUPPOSE TO IMPRESS YOU WITH MY SCHOOLING, TRAINING, MENTORS ETC... BUT THE TRUTH IS, I AM A POOR LEARNER. ART TEACHERS HAVE STRUGGLED THROUGHOUT MY LIFE TO GET ME TO PAY ATTENTION. IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T LISTEN NOR THAT I DON'T LEARN, I JUST DO SO AT MY OWN PACE AND IN MY OWN TIME. LESSONS REQUIRE RELEVANCE FOR ME SO WHAT YOU TELL ME TODAY MAY LAY DORMANT TILL SOME LIFE EVENT TRIGGERS A RESPONSE. HAVE YOU EVER LOOKED AT A MAP OR ILLUSTRATION AND WONDERED WHAT ALL THOSE LINES ARE SUPPOSED TO MEAN? THAT'S ME, I STRUGGLE WITH BASIC ILLUSTRATIONS, IT WASN'T UNTIL I BOUGHT A 35MM THAT I STARTED TO TAKE ART SERIOUSLY. PHOTOGRAPHY ALLOWED ME TO REALLY LOOK AT LINES AND SUDDENLY ALL THOSE LESSONS ON SKETCHES STARTED TO MAKE SENSE TO ME.

THUS MY PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION WAS LIMITED AND UNSUCCESSFUL AS MEASURED BY CERTIFICATIONS AND DIPLOMAS. I ATTEMPTED FINE ART DEGREES ON THREE OCCASIONS AND EACH TIME I LEFT FOR SOMETHING MORE URGENT. NOT TO SAY I DIDN'T LEARN, GROW AND CHANGE, I JUST NEVER STOOD BEFORE A PODIUM TO THANK EVERYONE IN MY LIFE FOR GETTING ME THIS FAR.

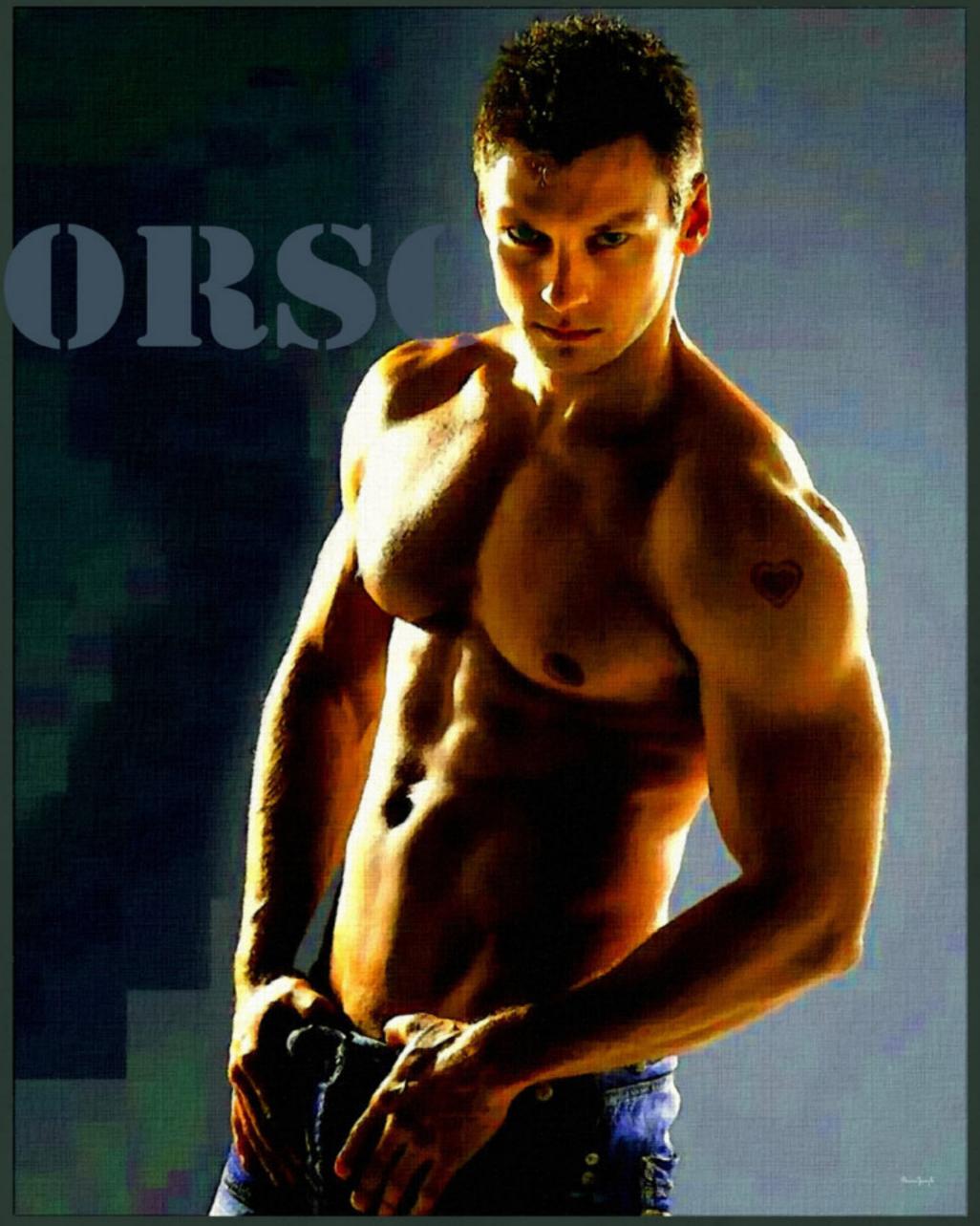
I HAVE TRAVELED A LOT AND FIND MYSELF ATTRACTED TO THE MANY MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES OF THE WORLD. MY ART HAS BEEN DISPLAYED IN SEVERAL OFF OFF OFF MAIN STREET GALLERIES FOUND IN VARIOUS CAPITAL CITIES. I TAKE PRIDE IN MY LACK OF CELEBRITY BUT ONLY BECAUSE IT LEAVES ME FREE TO BE ME AND NOT WHO I AM EXPECTED TO BE. GALAS AND OPENINGS ARE CURRENTLY NOT MY THING. PERHAPS SOMEDAY I WILL STAND IN A SPOTLIGHT FOR ALL TO SEE BUT I THINK THAT DAY IS NOT QUITE YET AROUND THE CORNER.

BORN ON JUNE 13TH, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND (PURPOSEFULLY LEFT BLANK) TO A FANCIFUL WOMAN WHO NEVER ALLOWED A MOMENT OF LIFE TO PASS BY WITHOUT CELEBRATION. I LOVE YOU AND I MISS YOU MOM, YOU ARE THE SOURCE OF MY STRENGTH AND COURAGE TO MOVE EVER FORWARD.

I AM BRIAN JOSEPH AND I INVITE YOU TO HATE OR LOVE MY WORK WITH A PASSION.



SIEXY T





















My current paintings are somewhat autobiographical, an expression of what I'm working through in my life. Art as a way to tear down judgmental thinking, build compassion and extend a sense of healing

lesitant Surrender





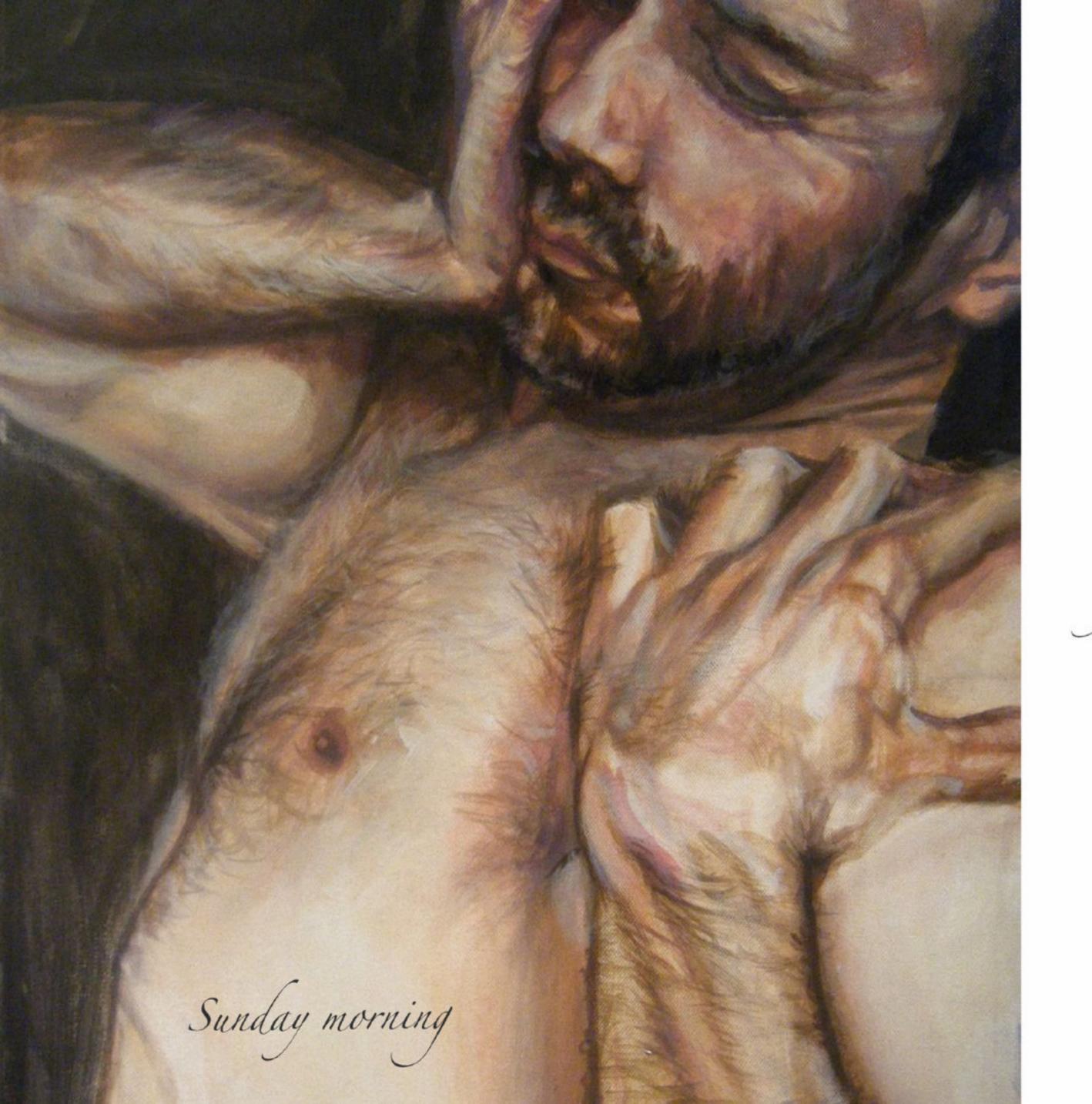


Art as a way to connect to the user and to universal truths about the numan condition – tears, joys, pleasure, pain.



Art as a way to think outside the limits of one's own self-centered concerns ... That we are part of a greater whole with a rhythm and flow and life of its own. "Breaking the Bonds" was painted during one of the most difficult times in my recovery when I realized I had to let go of some of my shortcomings.

Breaking the bonds



Art as a way to express that we are not alone, that in this moment someone out there is feeling something very similar. Exploring that spark that emerges with that realization...

In the past three years Tom Acevedo has recommitted to being a fine artist. He studied for three years at the Massachusetts College of Art, and unable to afford classes in painting, he then left and apprenticed under an artist and mural painter. Soon after he began his career as a painter in the Boston area, and for 25 years his technique was honed working hand in hand with his clients. Yet only in these past three years he has begun to paint on canvas and for









"Tonglen" shares his meager belongings to the viewer, we tend to hold on to the good and share the bad but it doesn't have to be. The paintings are figurative Using the male nude to transfer an emotion or a stage of growth onto the canvas. Layer by layer I apply acrylic paint and glaze, building references to the emotion I am trying to express.

Tonglen

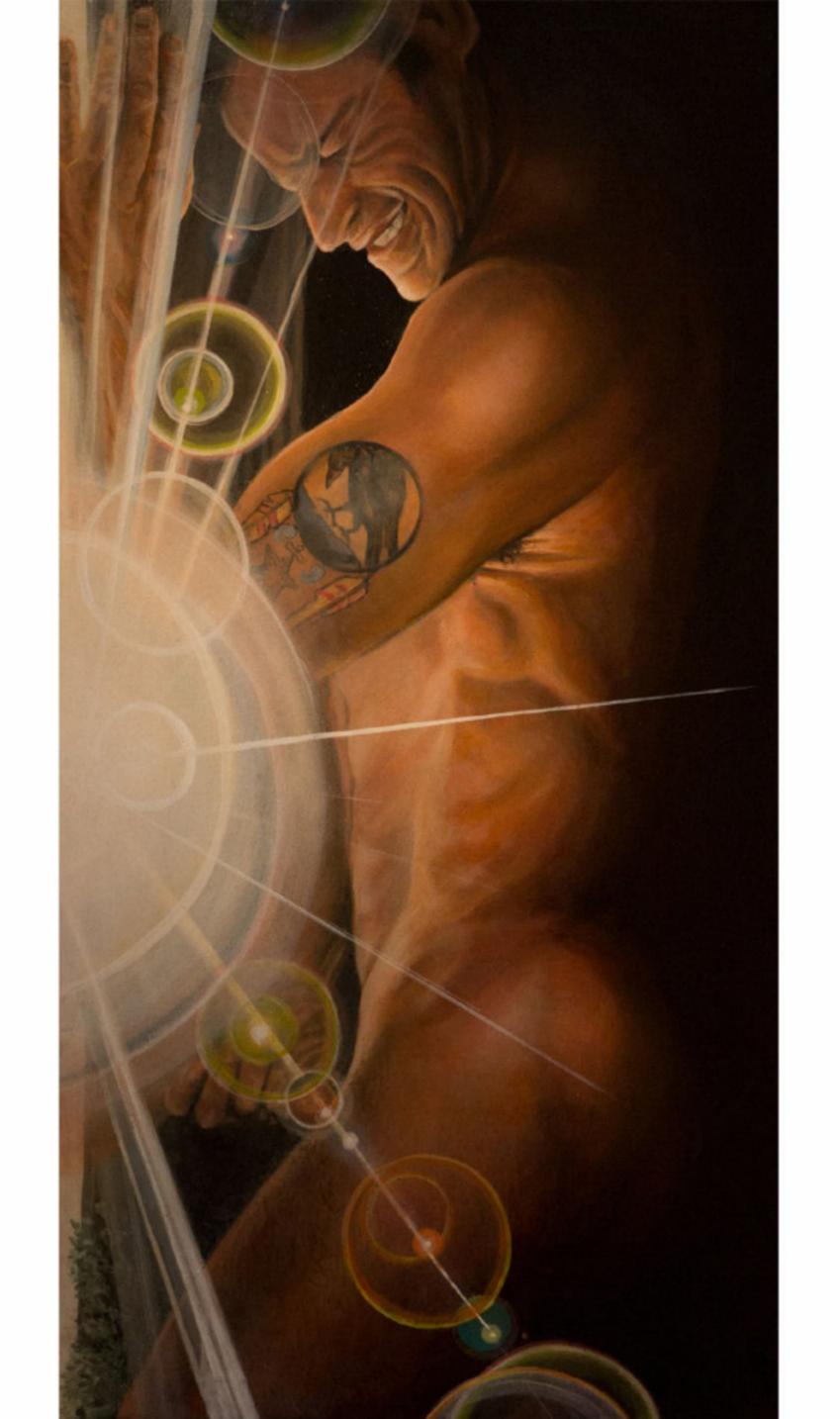


Allegory of the Cave II

Because of my Illustrative back ground I battle not to directing the viewer down one path but to take as many as one would like and at the end come away with a compassion or peace of mind that is universal but personal and not entirely my story. I truly am blessed to have this venue for expression. Those some of my paintings can be a source of healing and inspiration, as well as something pleasing to the eye. The subjects, painted in acrylic, convey a masculine vulnerability, capturing a moment in time when the spirit of consciousness is pure. That moment can come not only in the best of times, but as in life, the most challenging of times as well.



A Power Greater





While the motivations may be deeply personal, my work seeks to portray the trials of any life, the beauty of each day, and burdens that are universally felt and understood. I would like to break down some of the walls built up just by living in this world. The, "us and them" feeling the, "I gotta get it first before someone else does", the, "I" and "not I", "MINE" mentality. It is through working on my addiction that I have a greater appreciation for the "easy buttons" that we all have, not one of us is immune from pushing it when things get a little tense or at times not even tense, but habitual. Just through helping others we get out of that mentality, we are less likely to focus on what we perceive as bad and good for us and what is good for others. In doing that together, we can be opened to a not so western way of thinking, and that would be, being. Instead of being about, me, how can I express myself in a way that can add to the stream of life how can I make this place I live a better place, how can I be present while I create and have that be conveyed through art.

Hukon

www.capolovaro.com
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