

# The Art of Frank Bruce

1899-1970

# Art in the Family

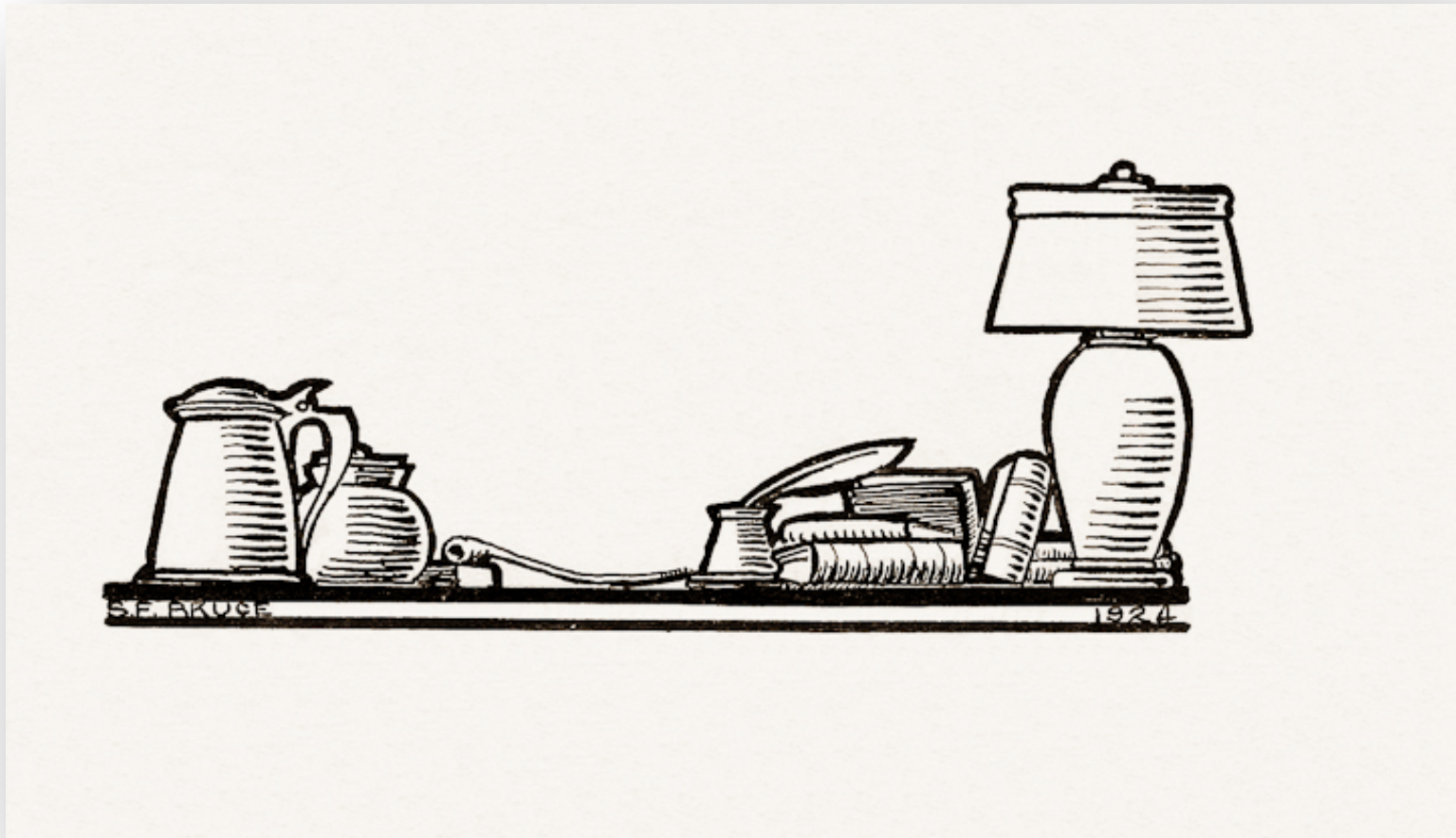
- In my father's time and particularly in his father's time, to write poetry, sketch and paint, and play a musical instrument were the mark of a cultured person.
- It helped, of course, if one had talent. Frank inherited a plethora of that from his mother, Rose Mary nee Caldwell, an accomplished pianist.
- Frank's brother Maurice was also an accomplished pianist and made his living repairing and tuning pianos. Frank played clarinet and drums all his adult life. And I note, my cousin Geoffrey (son of Geoffrey Bruce) has a remarkable 'ear' and feel for piano that I (Peter) can only envy.

# Frank's Life with Art

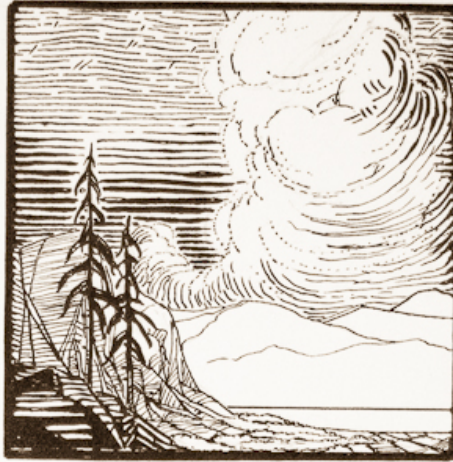
- Frank had a keen interest in art from an early age. He sketched in school, probably prolifically, for when he graduated he joined the army – the Artist's Rifles. Evidently even then, at age 18, he viewed himself as an artist.
- His early working years did not allow him to employ his artistic skills on the job, yet there is evidence he drew as a past-time. See his pen and ink still life (1924) and his poem 'The Lake' (1929) in the next two slides.
- In the late 1940s Frank graduated from the Vancouver School of Art, then leveraged that formal training to get work as an advertising manager at Galbraith and Sulley, a forest industry heavy machinery distributor.

# Frank's Life with Art

- After thirteen years, Frank was let go during a recession. He worked briefly for a poultry magazine doing layout work, then returned to work at Britannia Mines, his previous employer (1927-1934).
- Yet even there, Frank found an outlet for his artistic talent. Journalist/writer Bruce Ramsay was writing the book 'Britannia, a Story of a Mine' at the time and needed illustrations for the book. Just Frank's thing. See his illustrations on this page.
- Frank made little money from art sales. But he enjoyed it immensely. He and friend Llewellyn Petley Jones spent many good times painting together at Horseshoe Bay, near Vancouver. Find the Horseshoe Bay group below.



still life, age 24



The Lake, the Jewelled Lake, remote from  
~ ~ ~ ~ ~ Curious eyes,



Enbosomed by the Hills ~  
Serene and secret lies. ~

Here might have knelt Narcissus,  
While the Breeze,  
Mocked the faint voice of Echo,  
In the Trees . ~ ~ ~

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1929.

S.F.B.

A poem of Browning Lake near Britannia Beach, BC, age 29

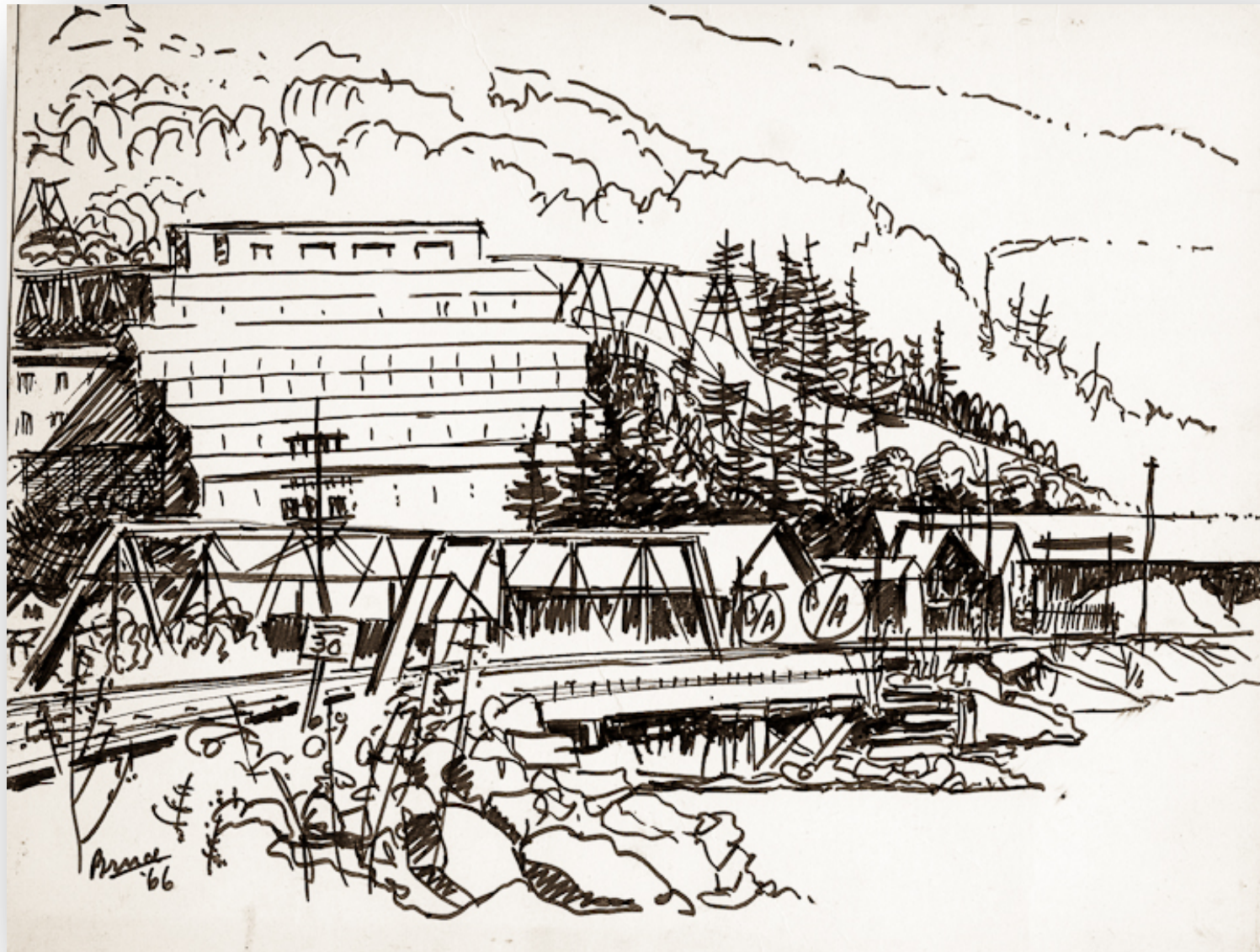


Illustration for the book 'Britannia' by Bruce Ramsay



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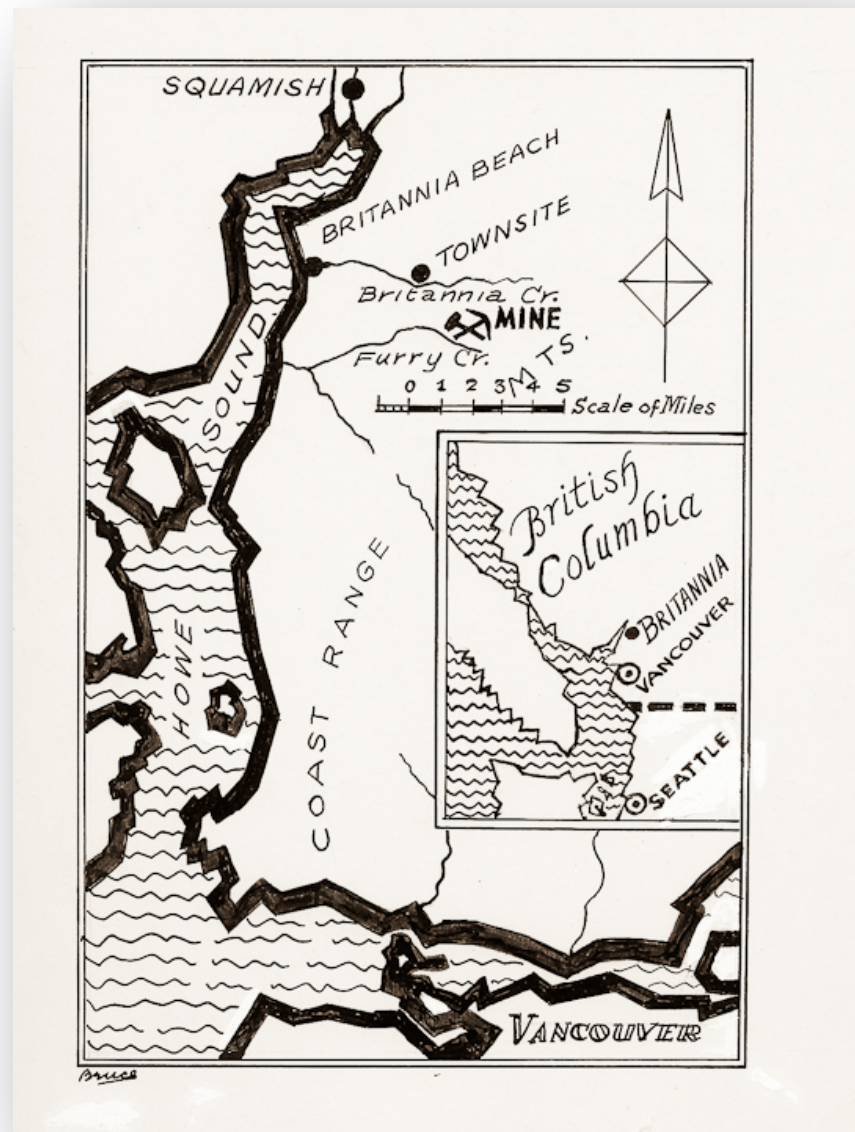


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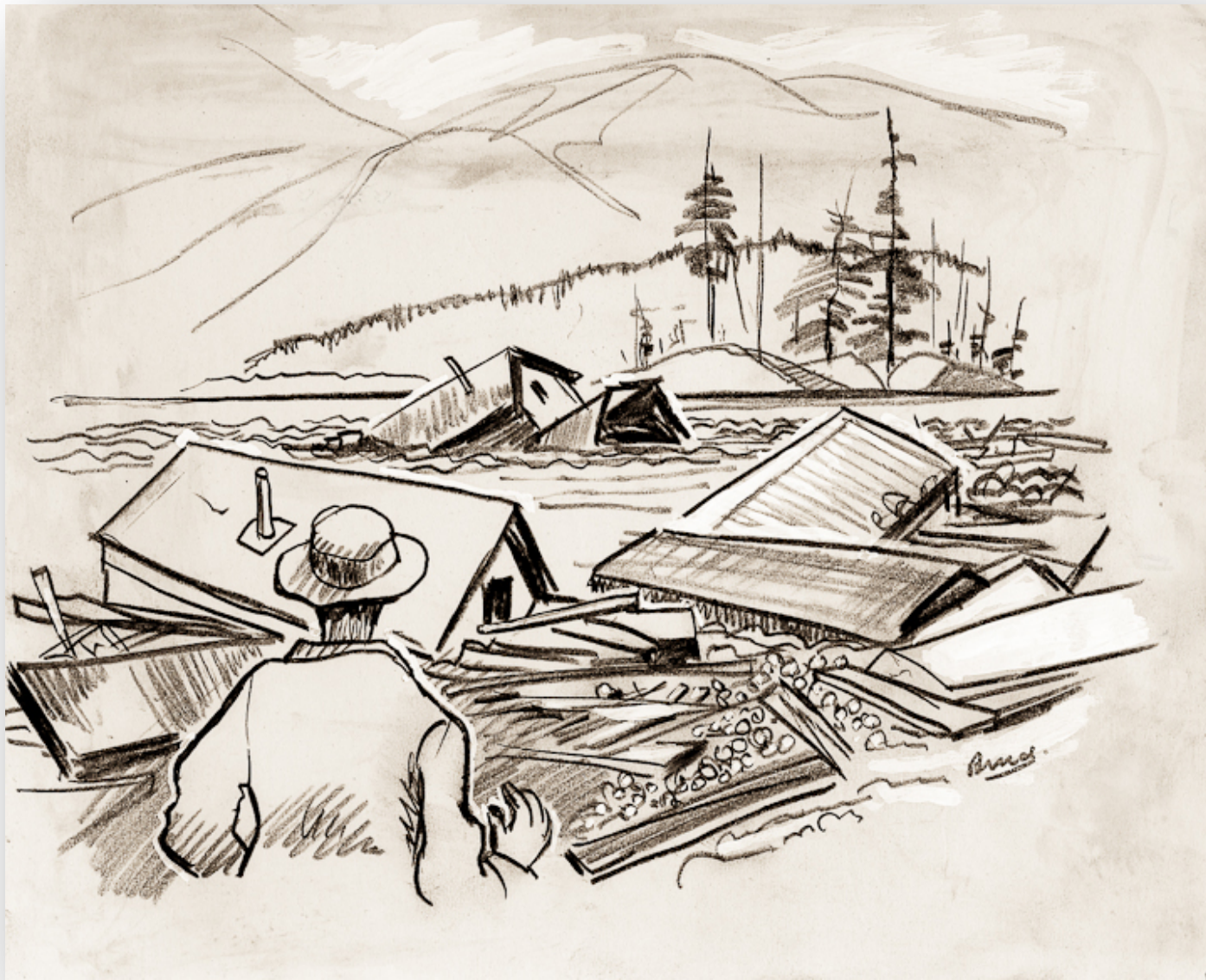


Illustration for the book 'Britannia' by Bruce Ramsay



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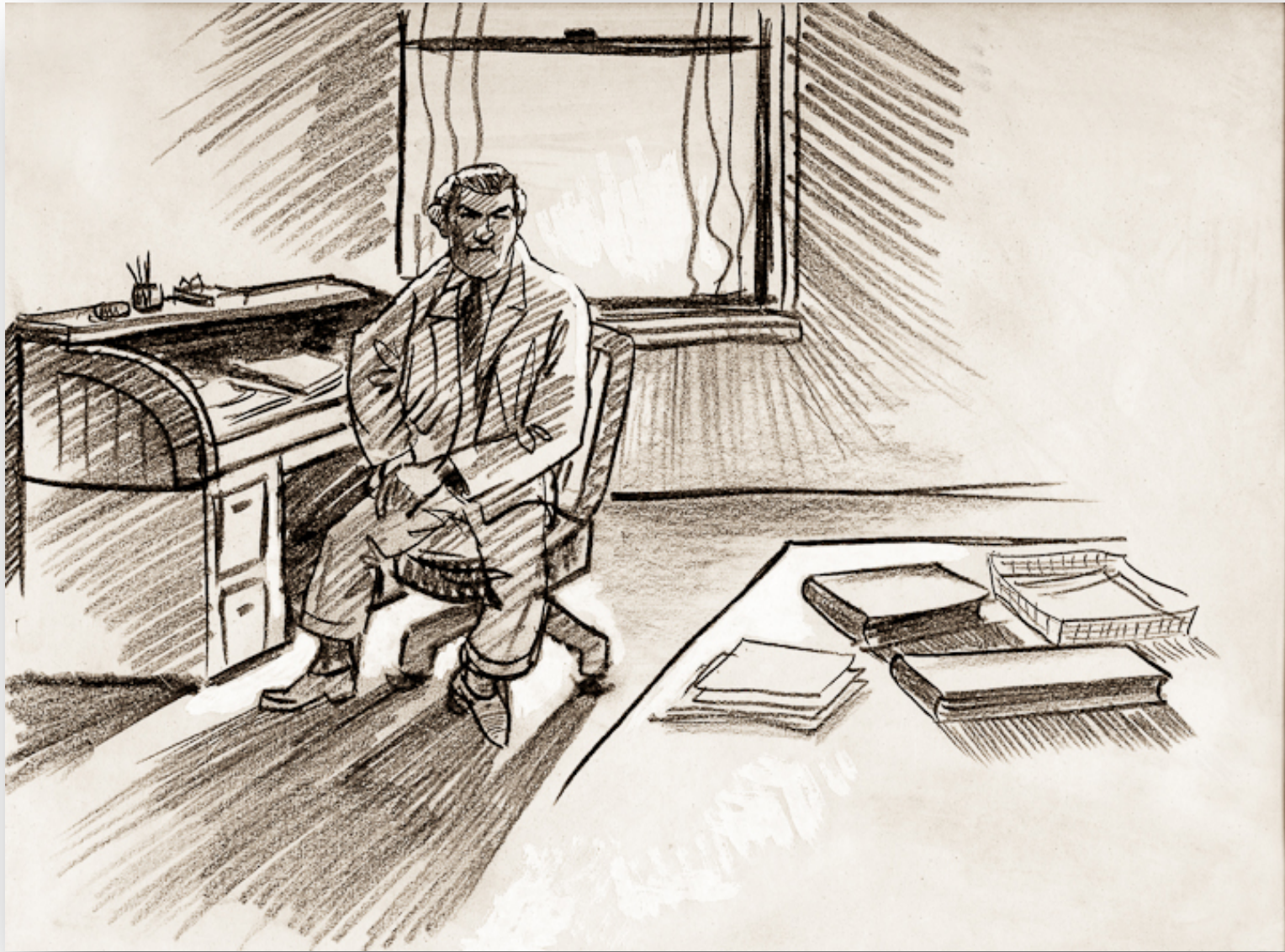


Illustration for the book 'Britannia' by Bruce Ramsay



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Horseshoe Bay, near Vancouver, BC



Horseshoe Bay, near Vancouver, BC



Horseshoe Bay, near Vancouver, BC

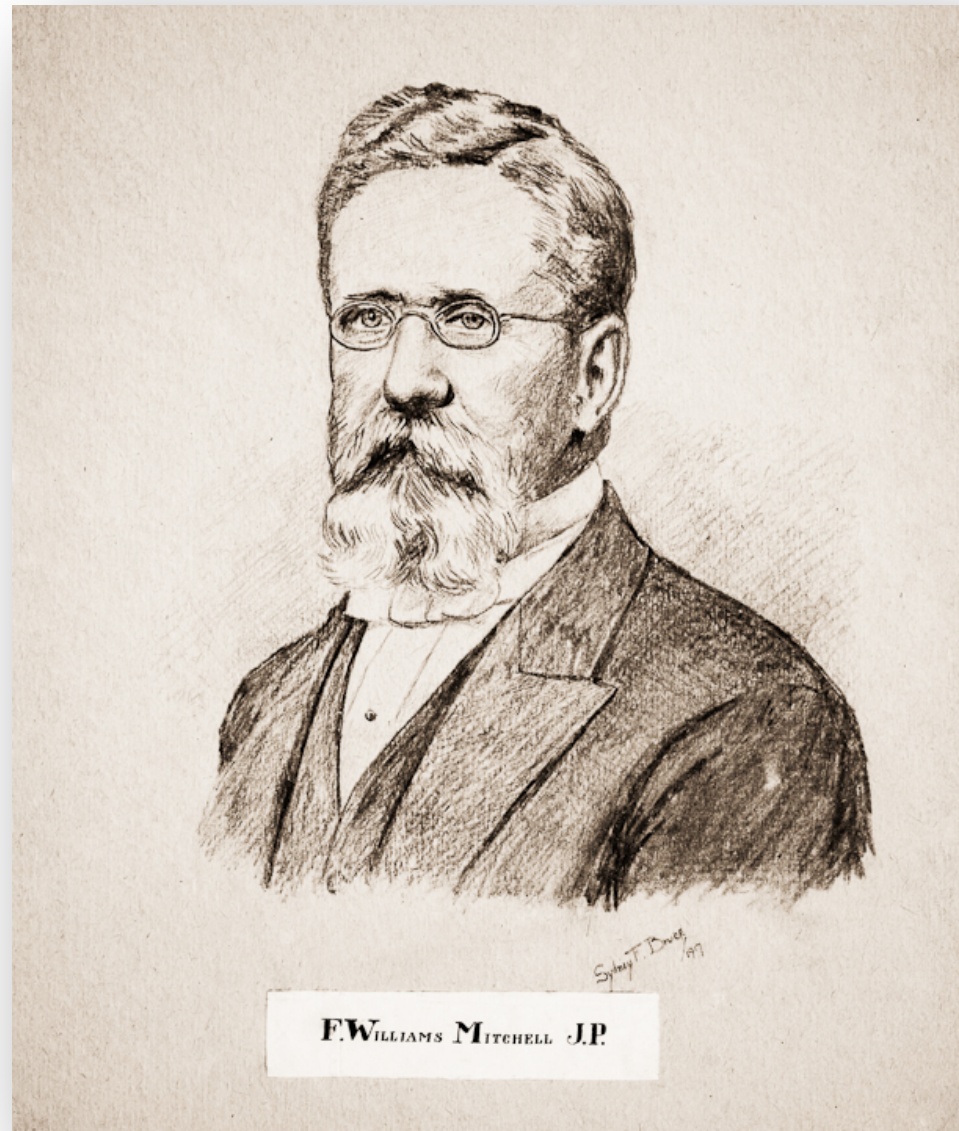


Horseshoe Bay, near Vancouver, BC



English Bay, Vancouver, BC





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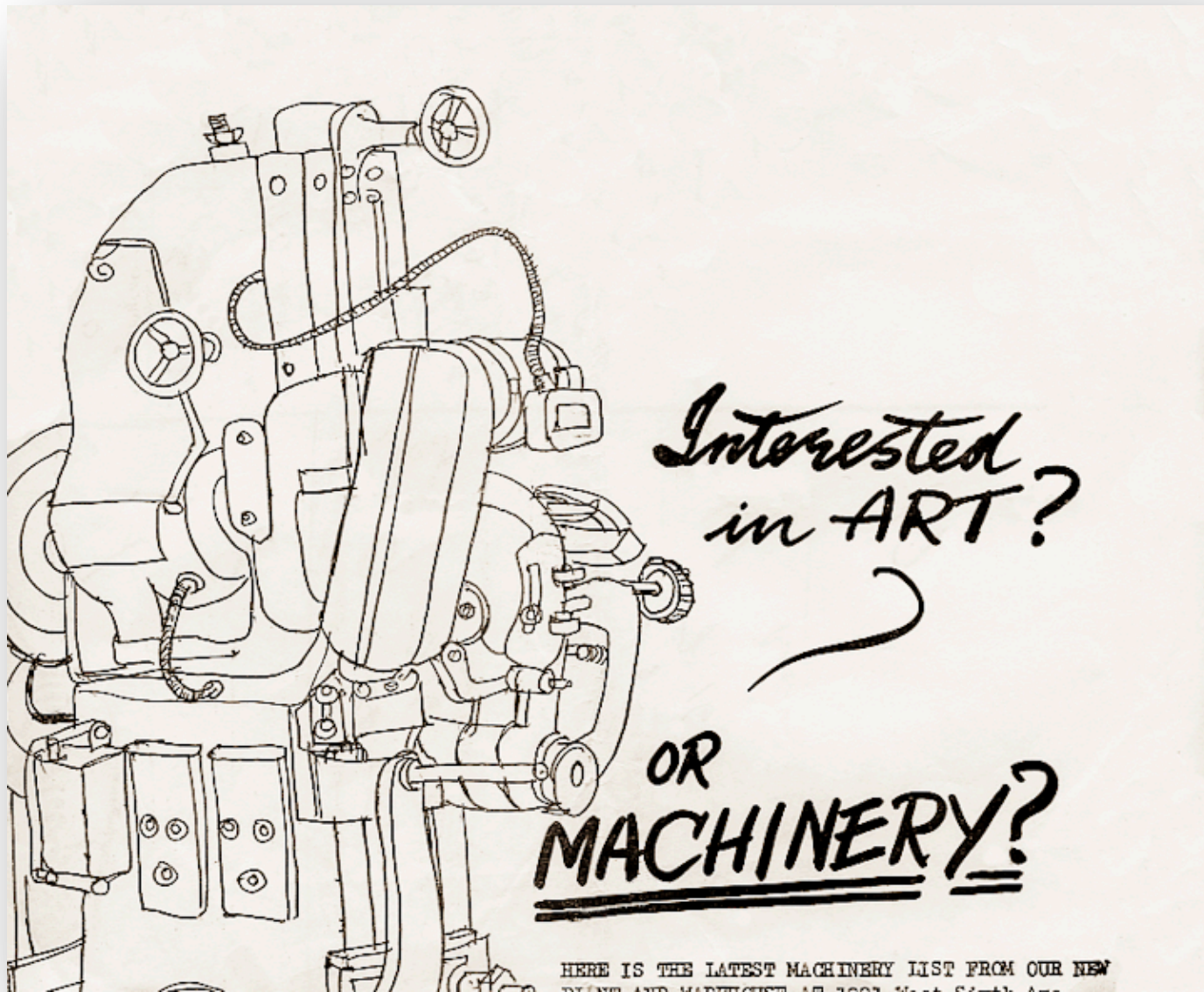
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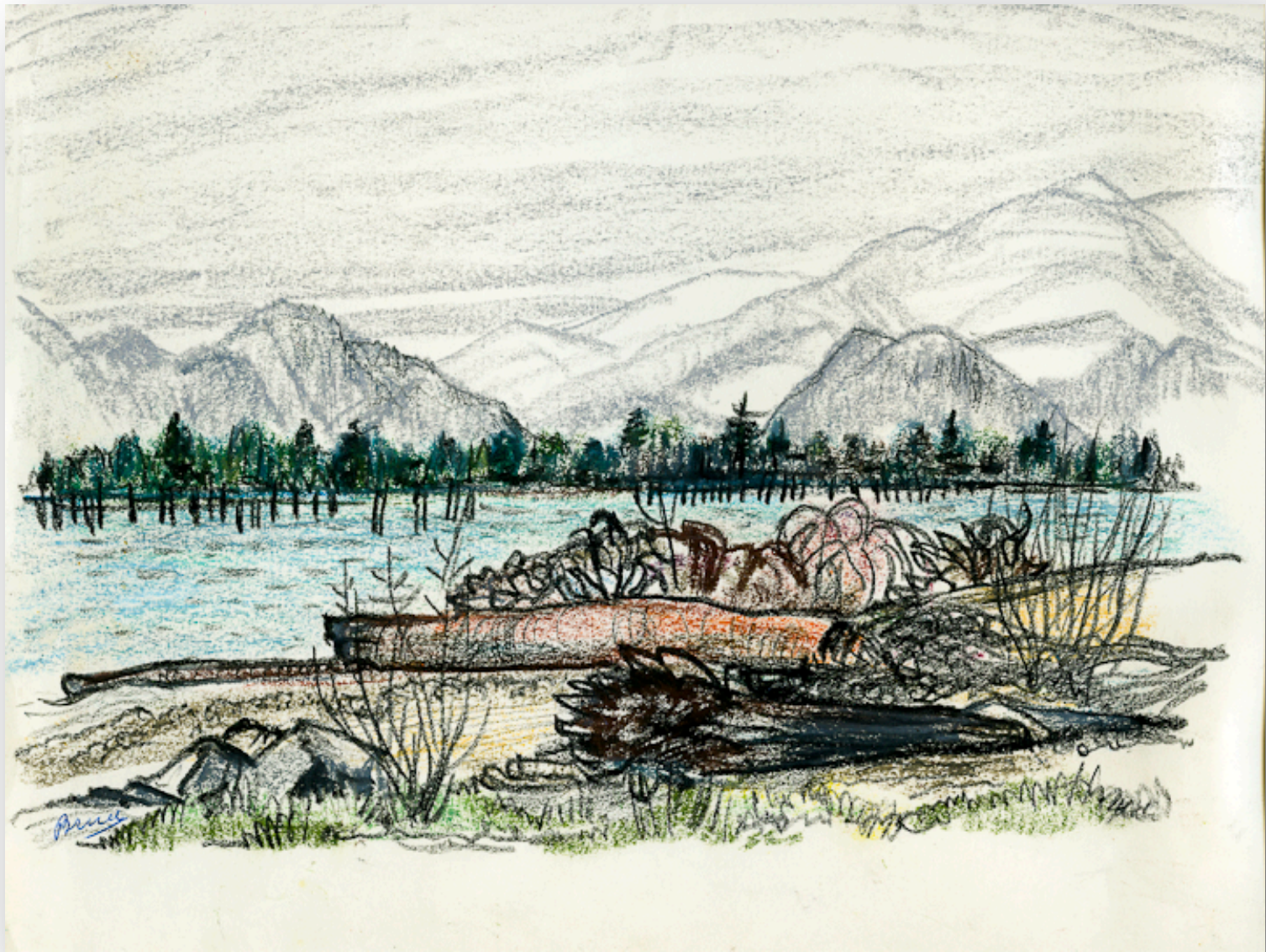
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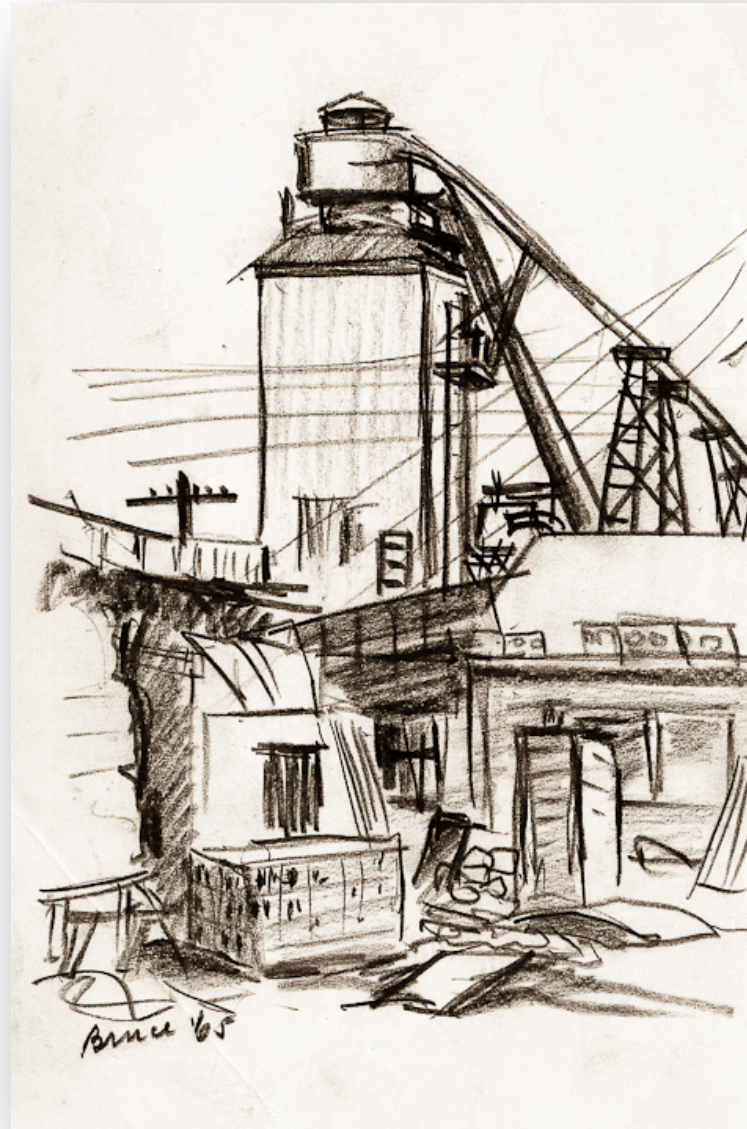




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After unfinished  
Painting  
by Ceyanne

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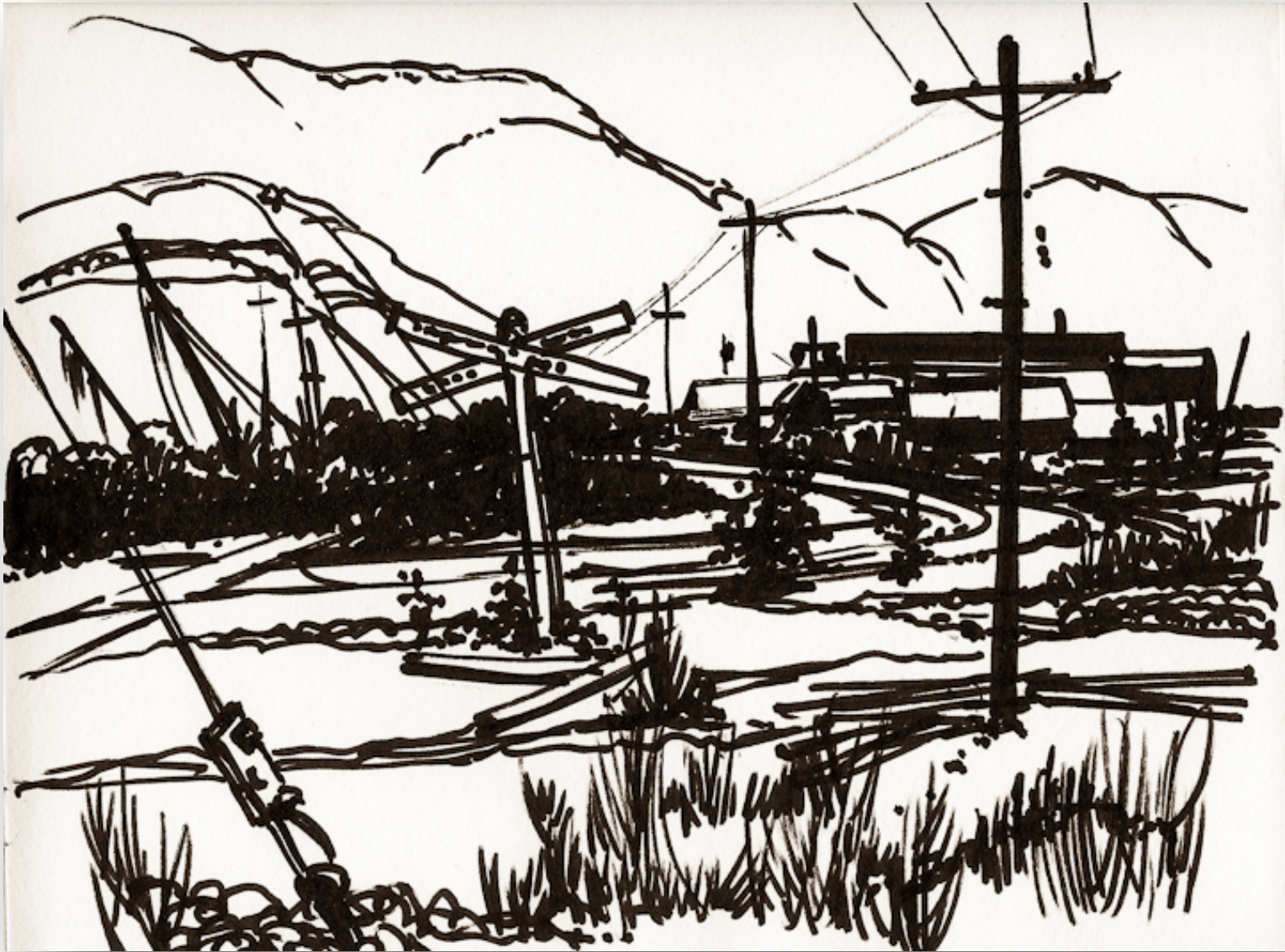




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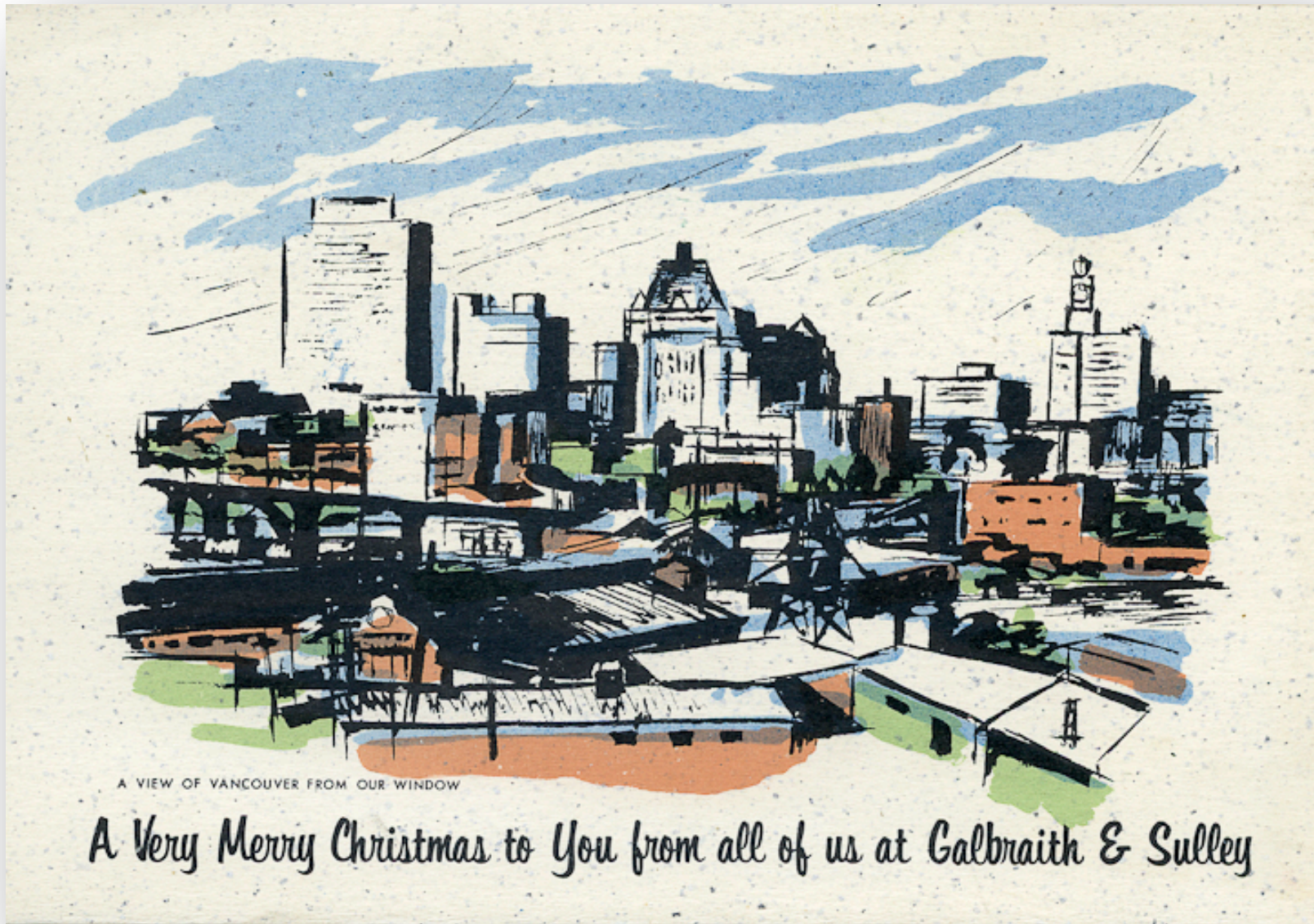
MINE NEAR GOLDEN, B.C.

S. FRANK BRUCE  
32

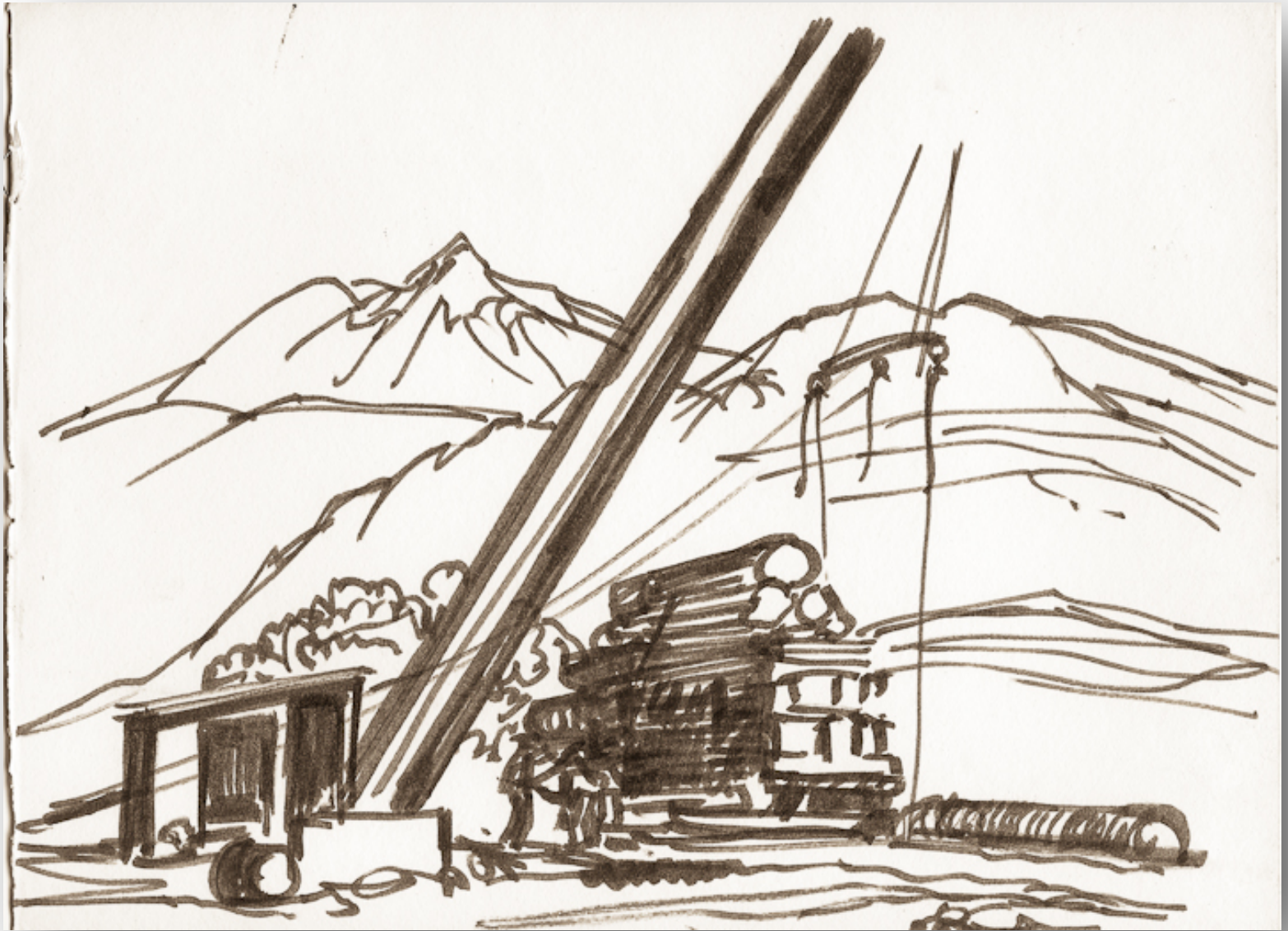
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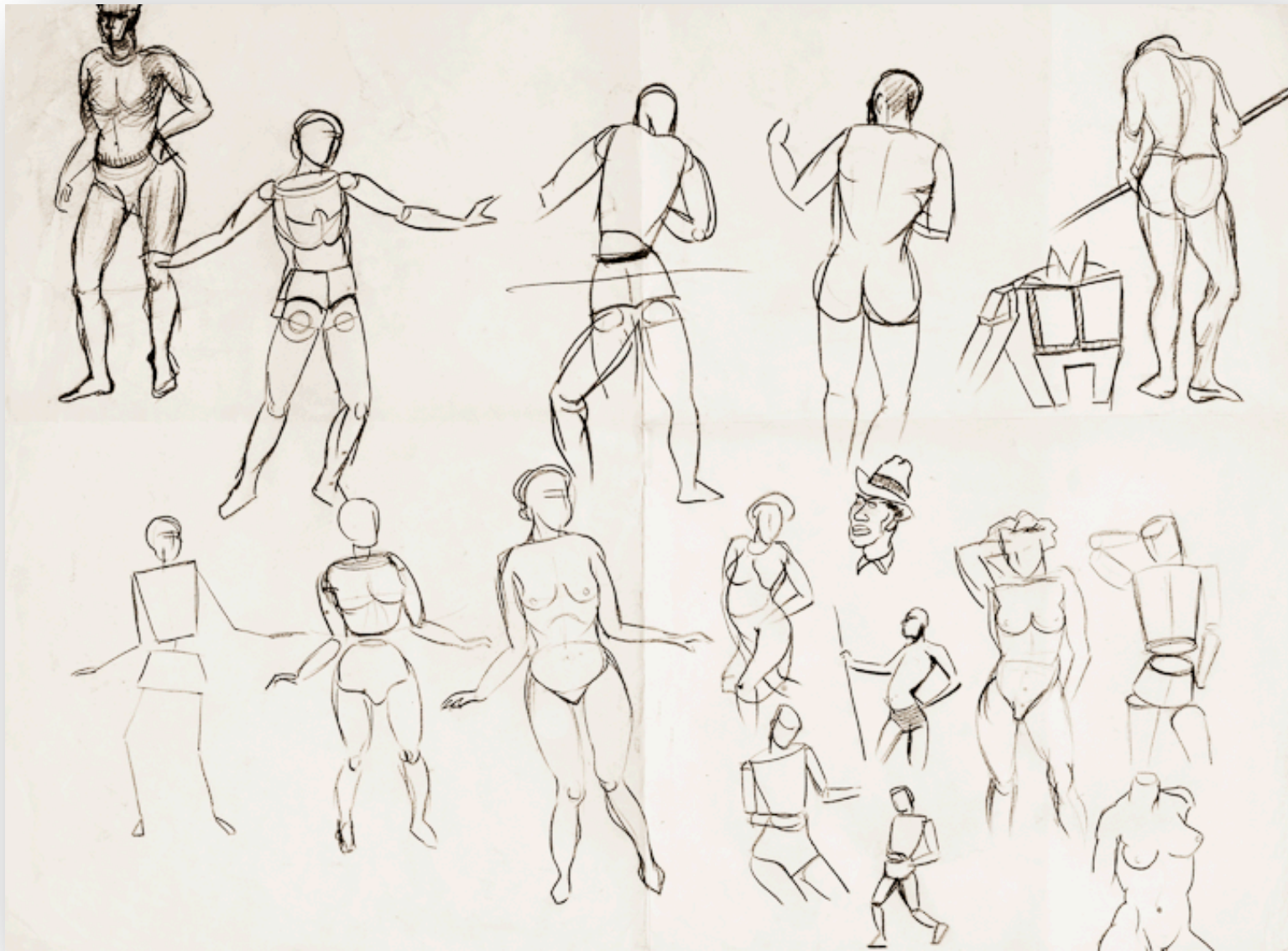


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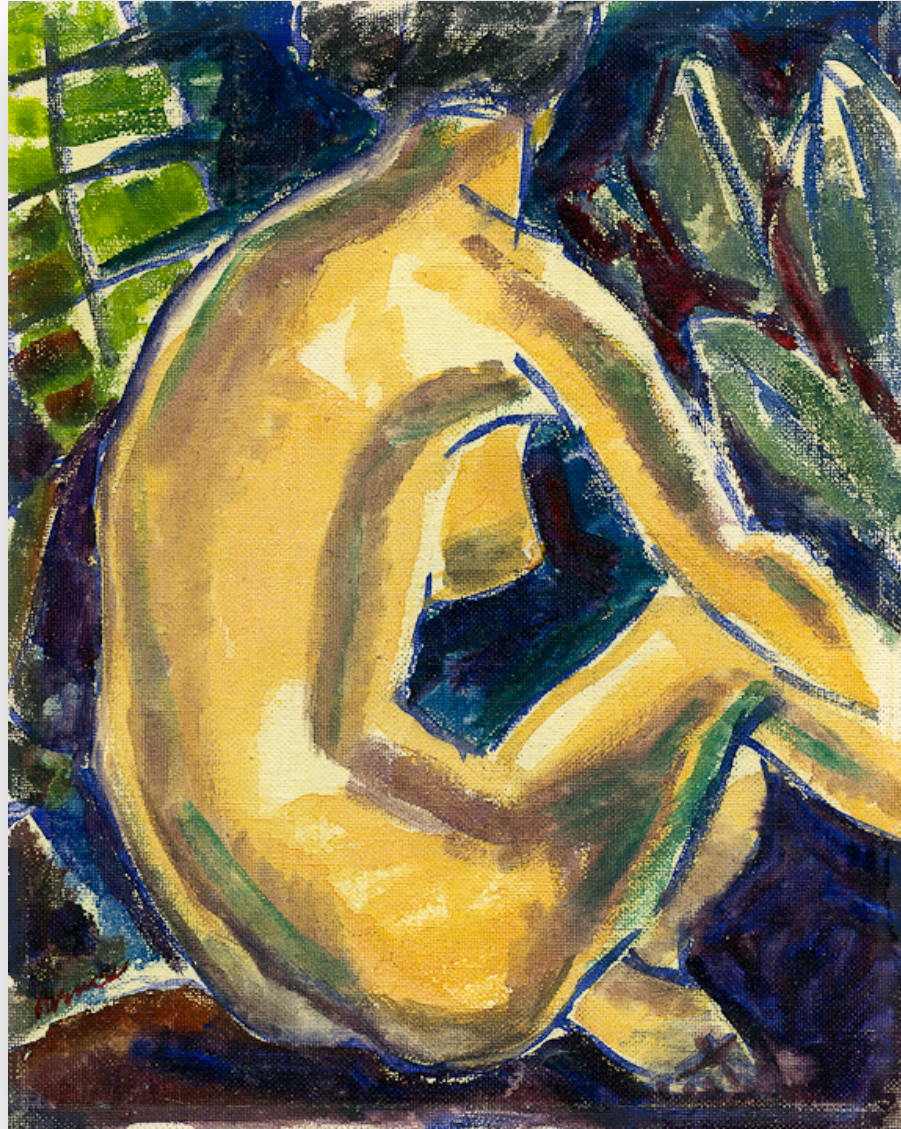


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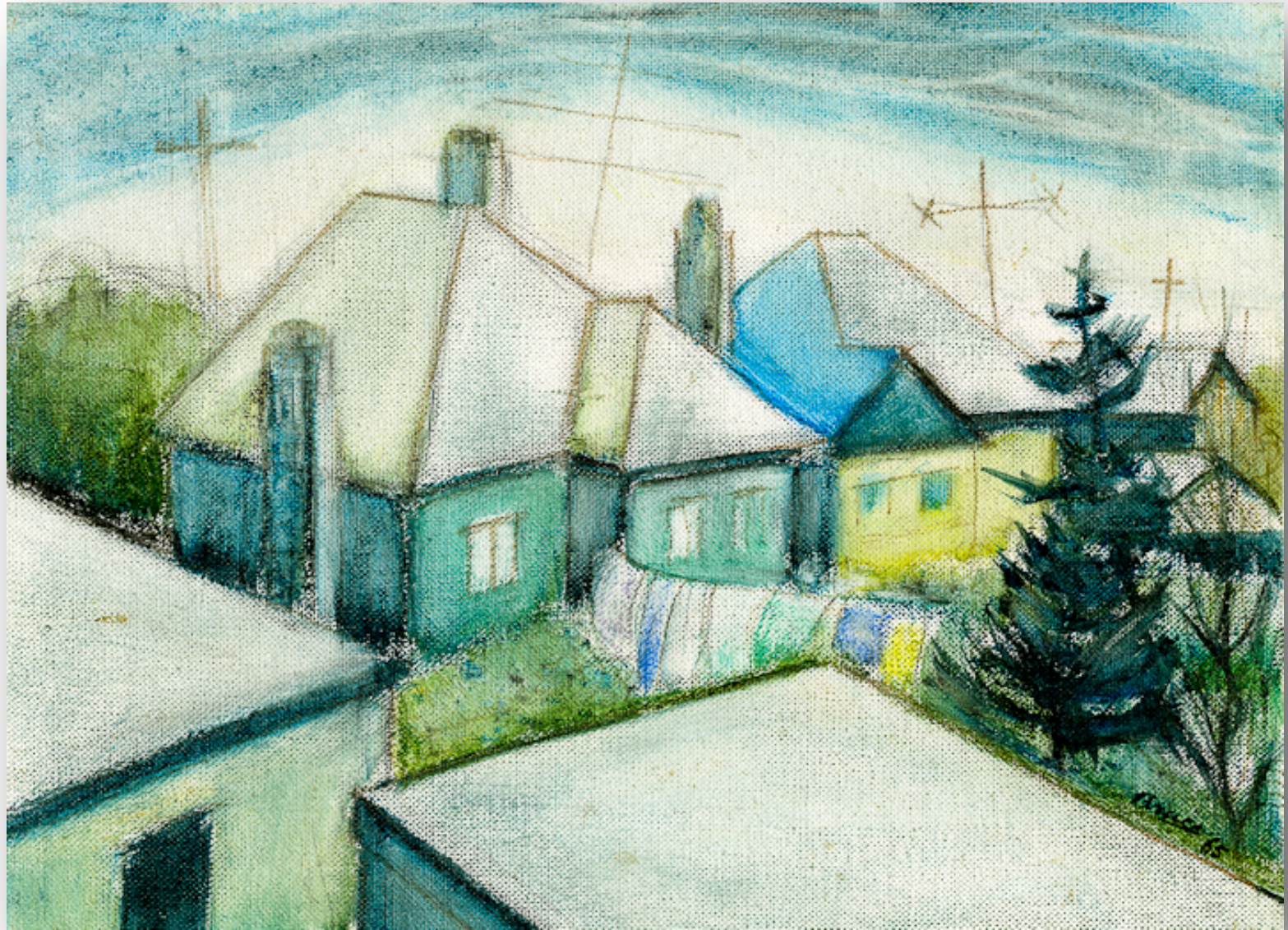
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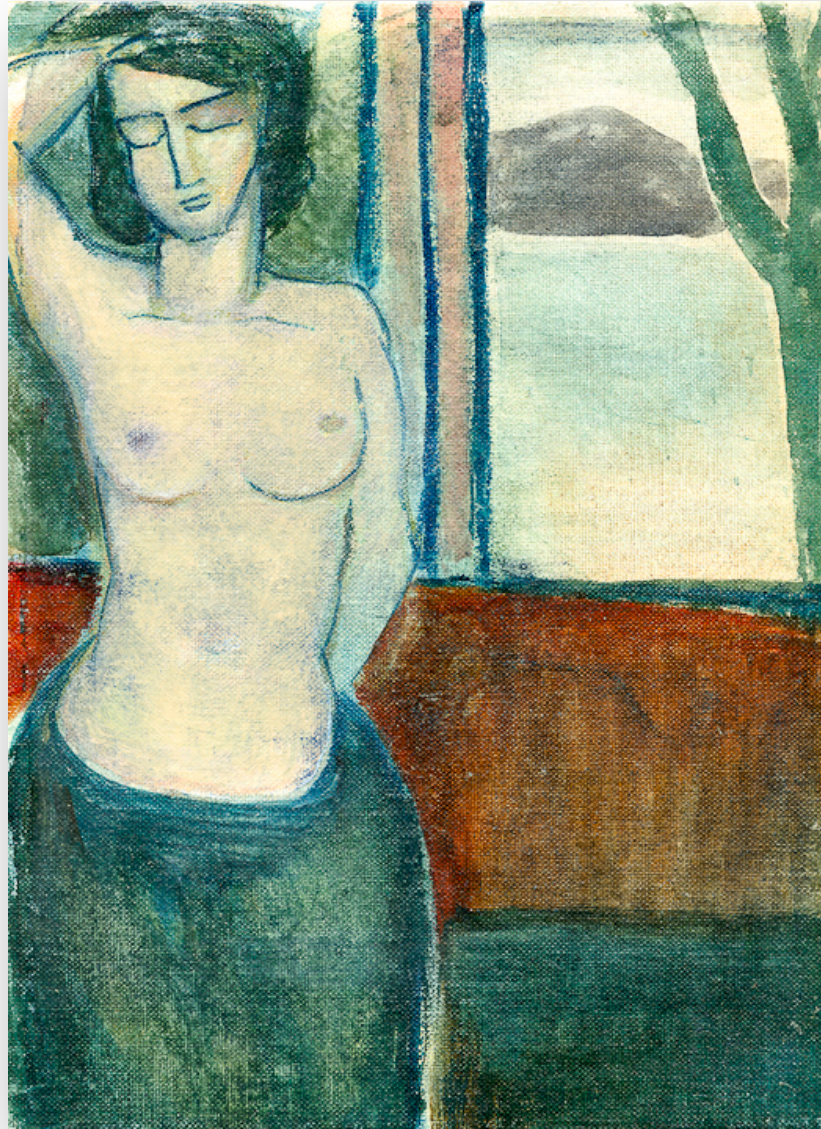
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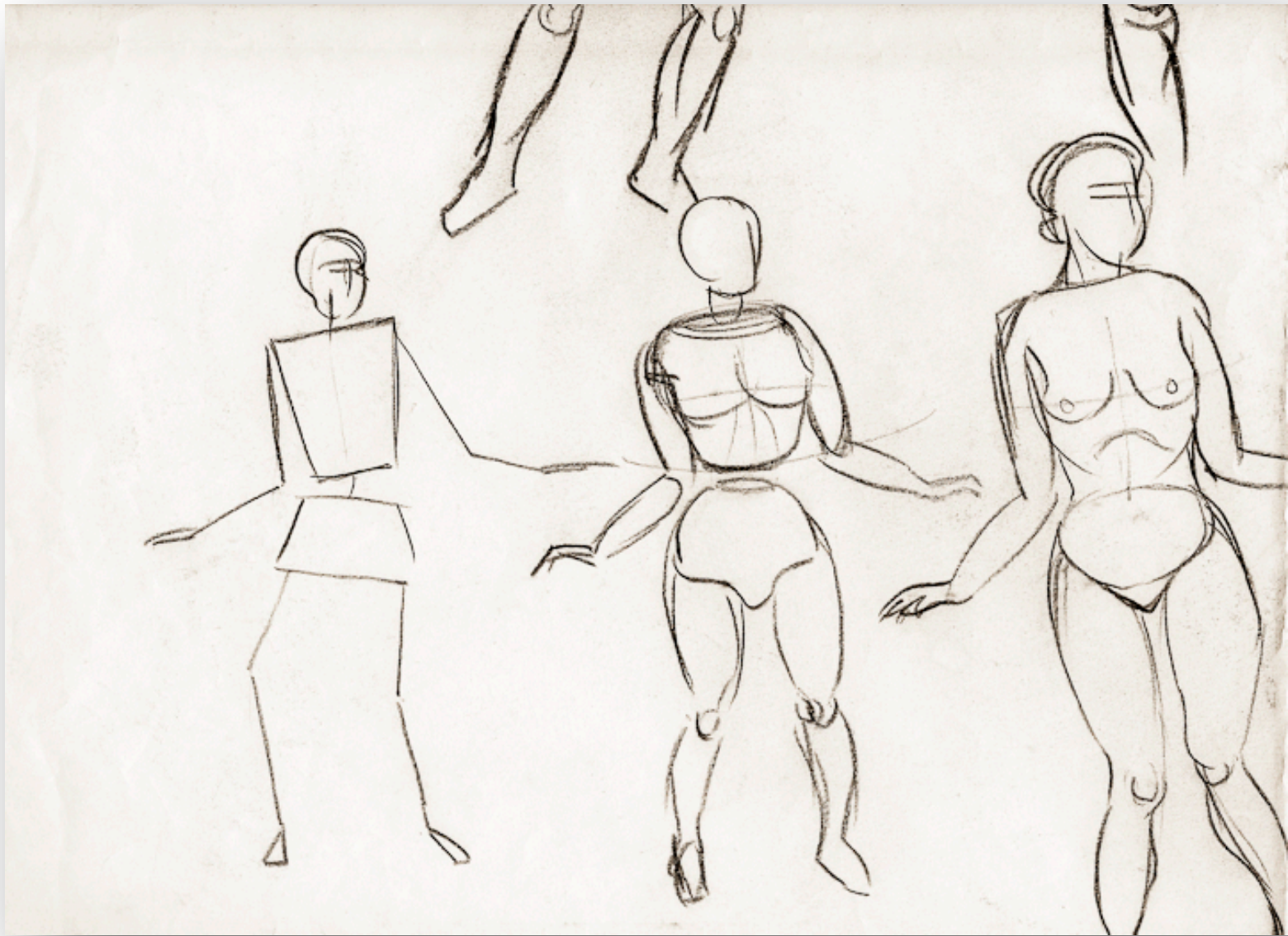


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From my office window, Pioneer, B.C.

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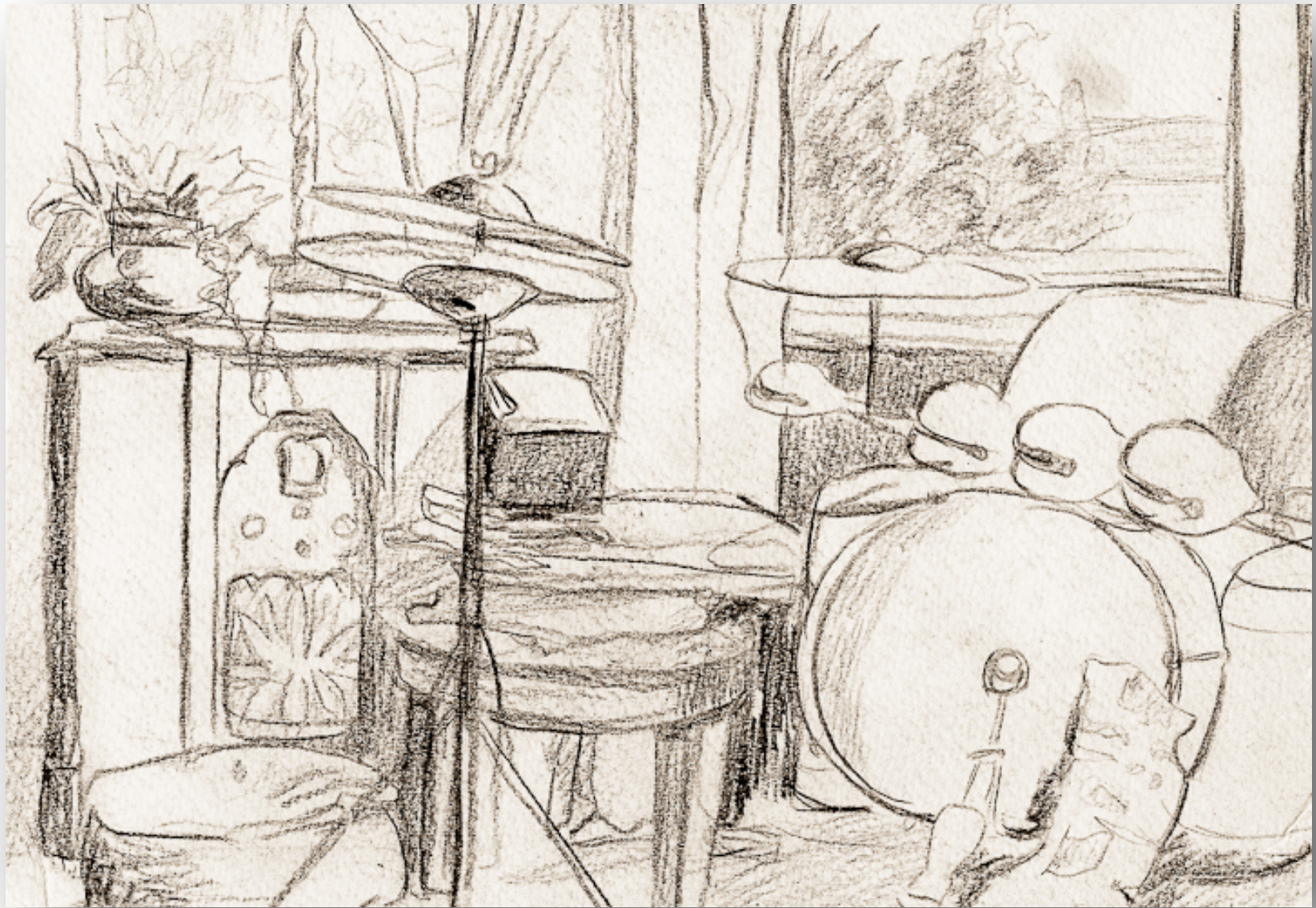


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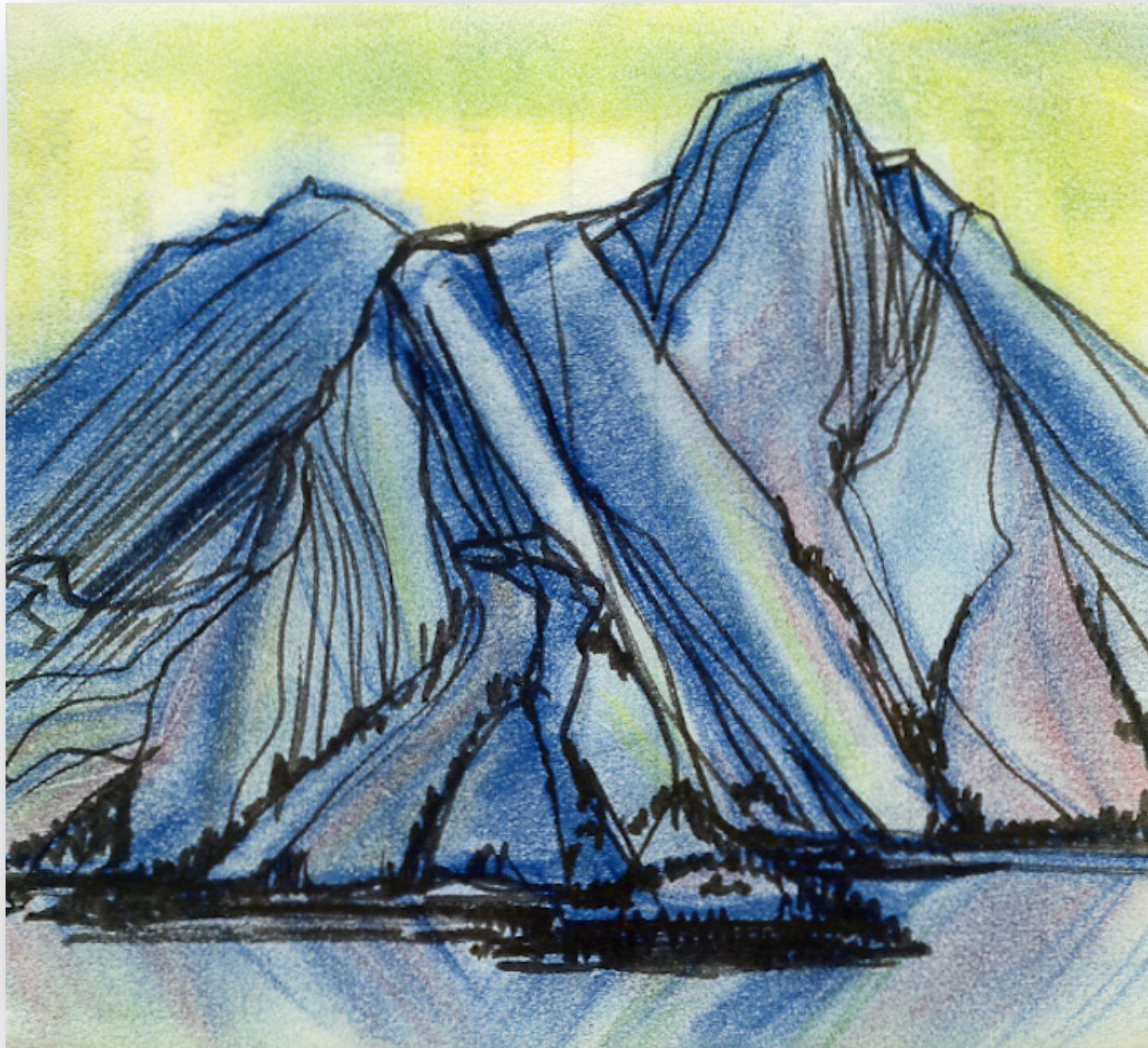
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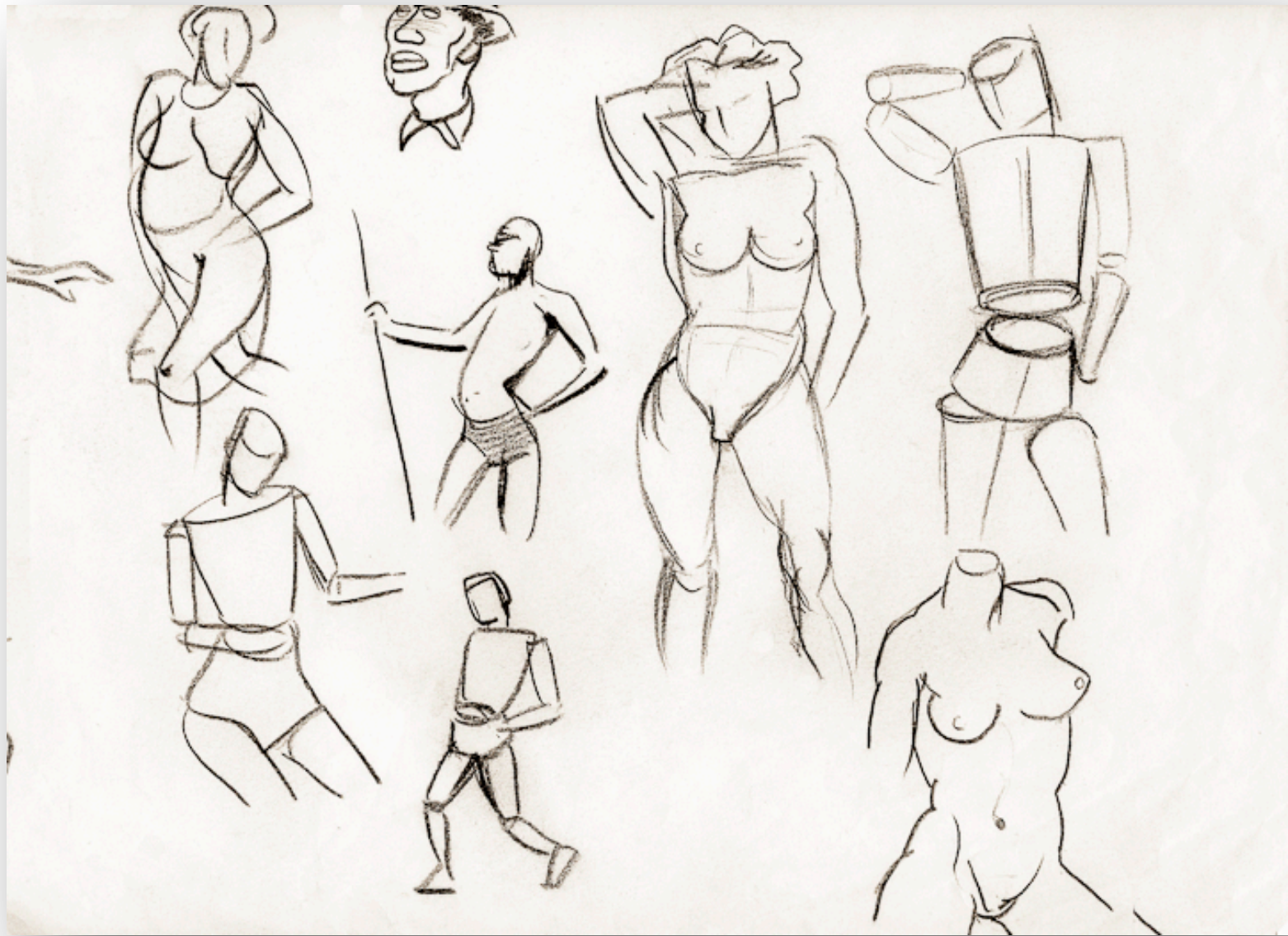
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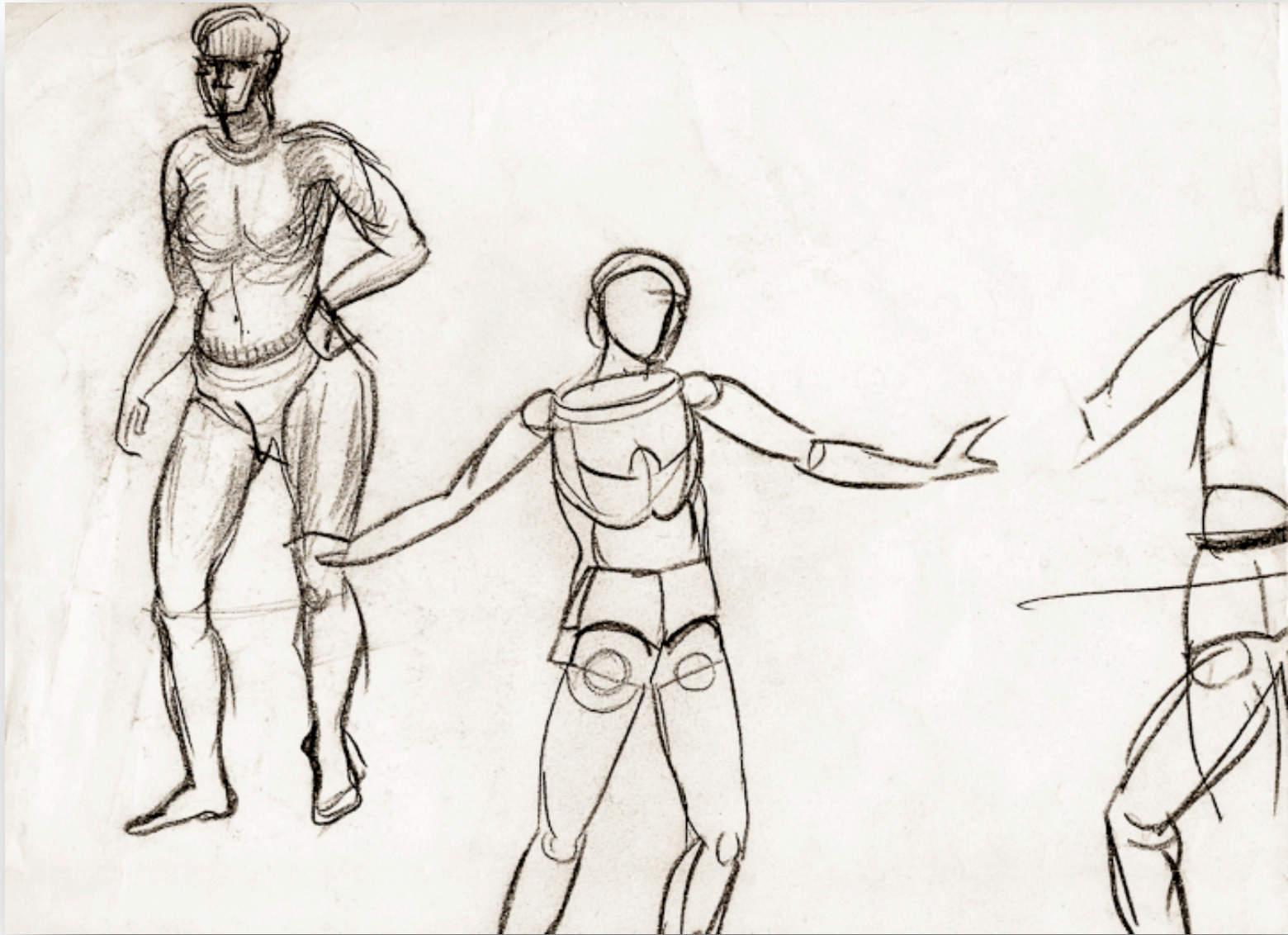
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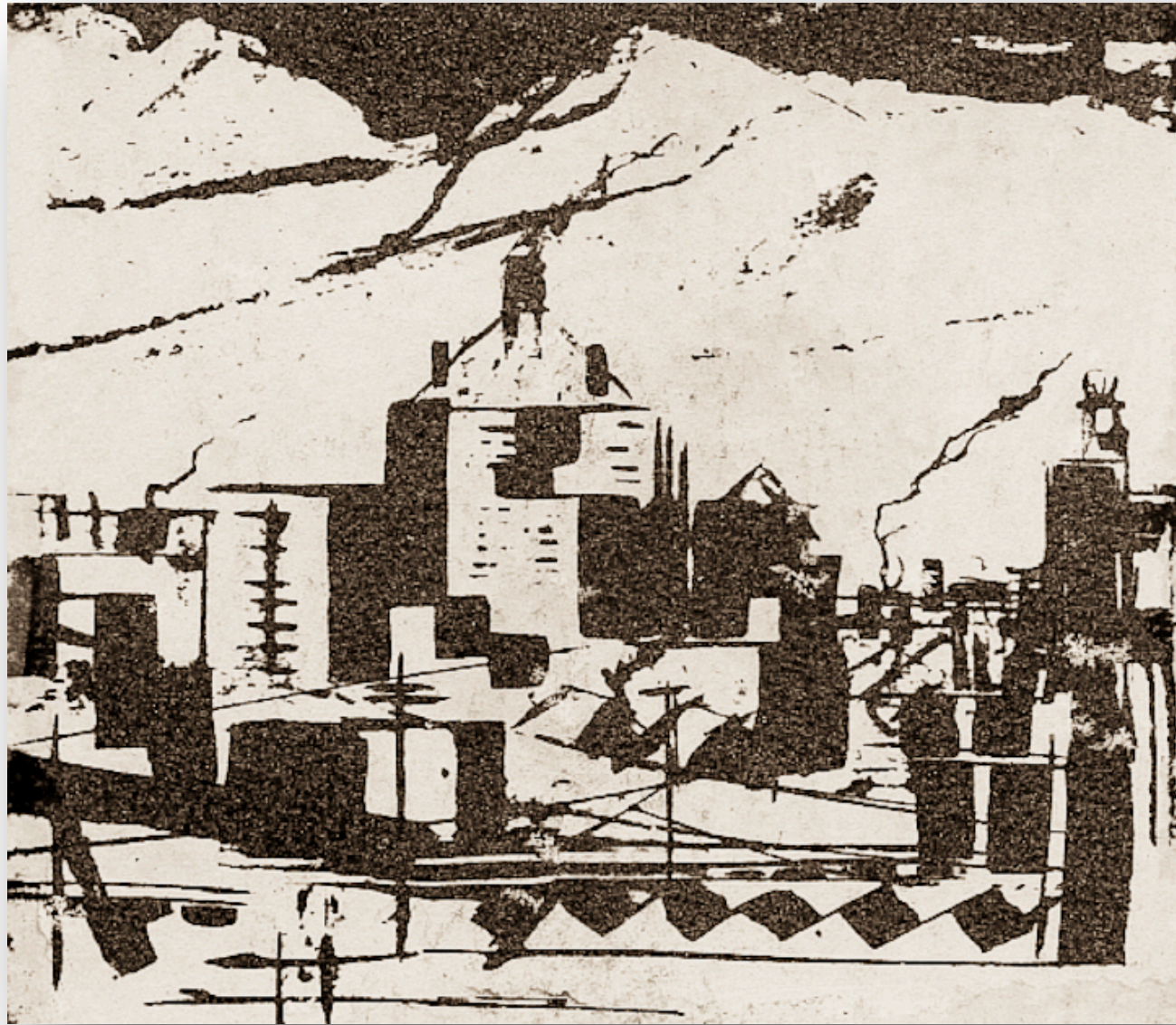


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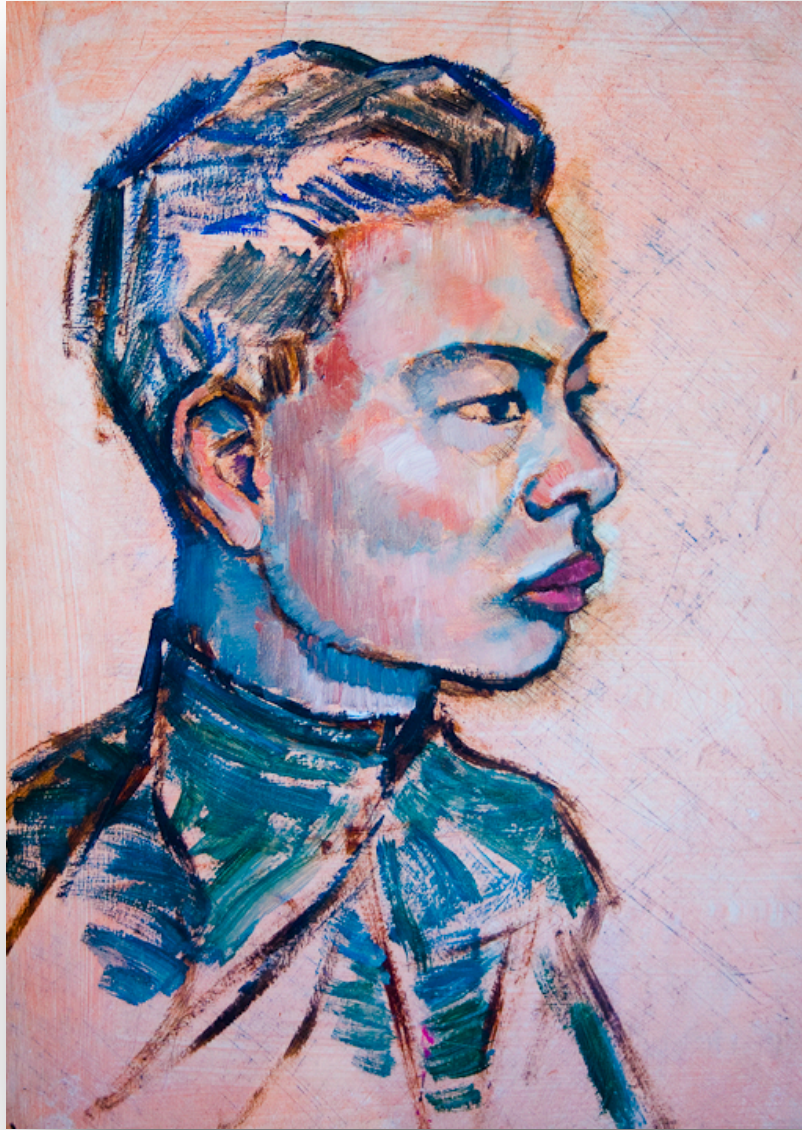
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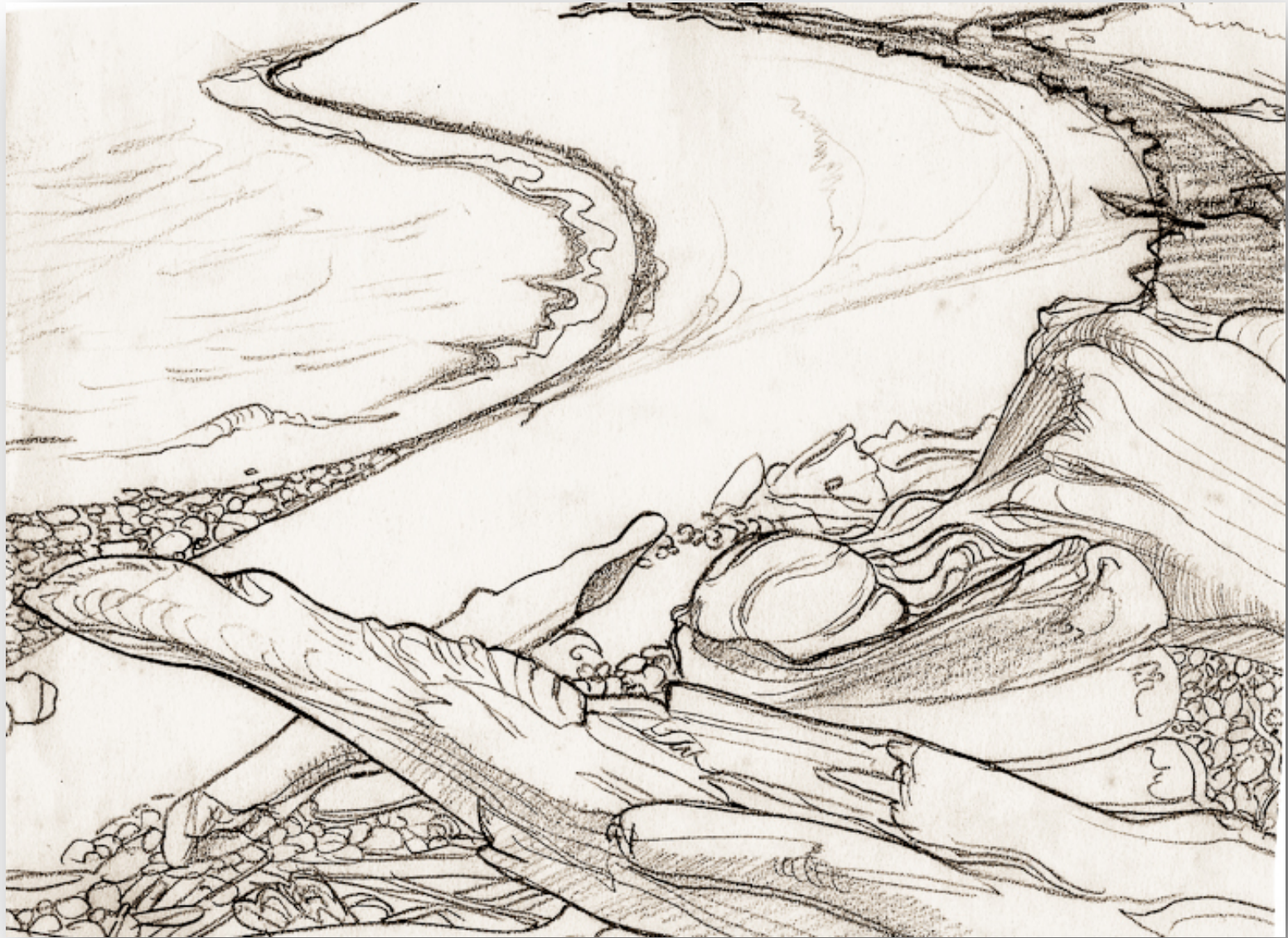
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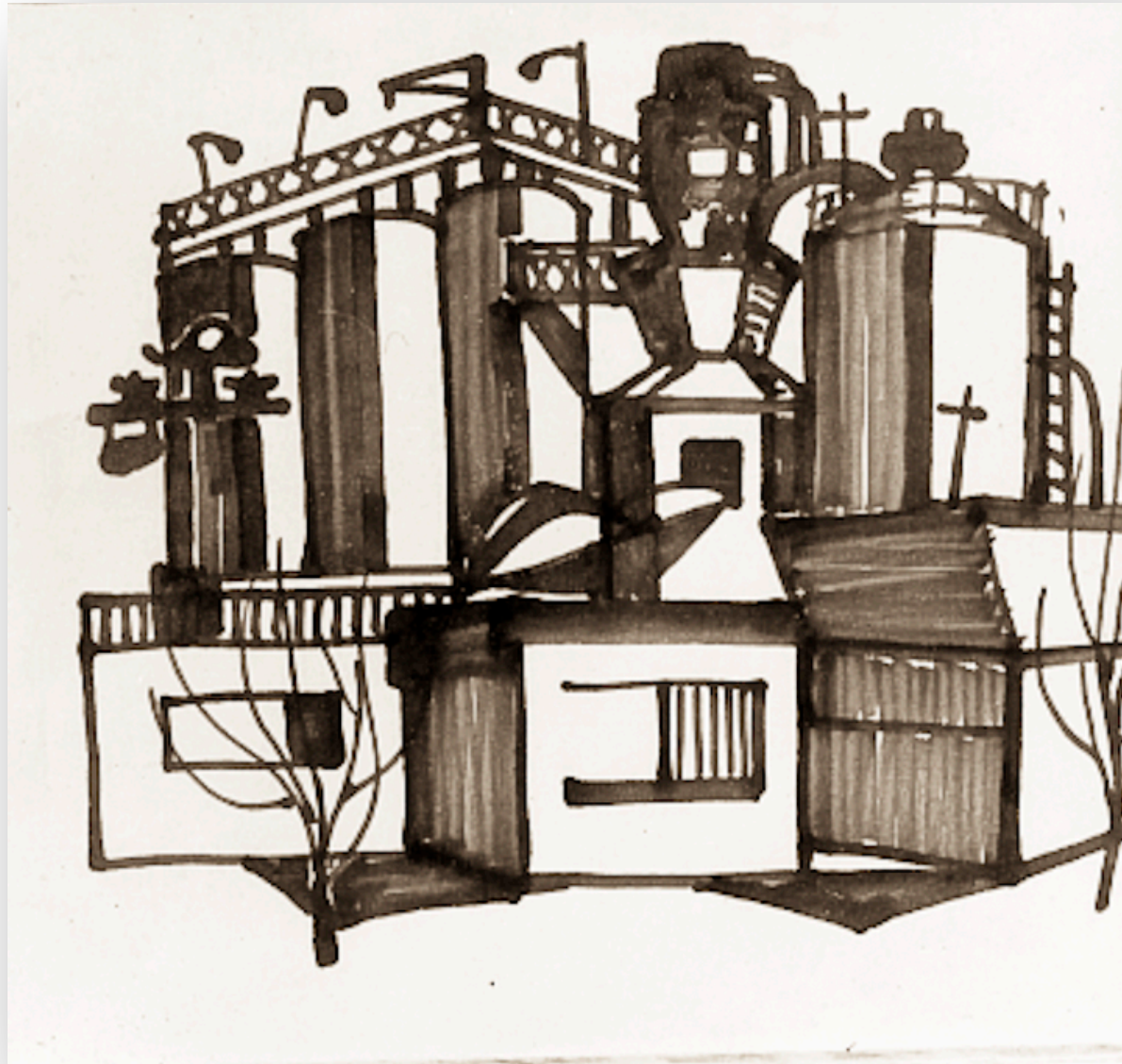


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# A New Earth Media Production

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