

ARNOLD SAPER: RECENT WORKS

S241





Gymnast — Pencil 22 cms x 30.5 cms

Front Cover: "A" — Intaglio 9 cms x 7 cms



S 241

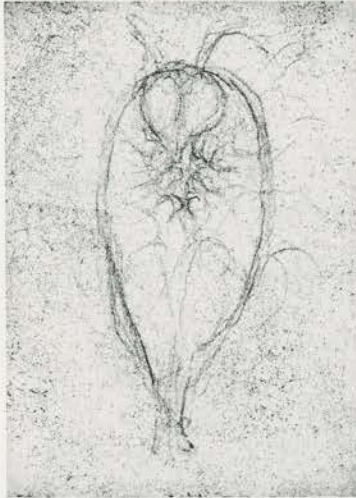
## I N T R O D U C T I O N

Saper's line moves in a tentative and probing way towards its distinctive formulations, formulations that convey a delight in images of a haunting grotesqueness or of a singular confrontation with movement and countenance, the point of departure being the subject uniquely perceived. The vision is imprinted with an integument that transmits a startlingly tactile sense. And the network of lines are resolved in the etchings into that tension of black and white which is the chief character of the print, imparting the textures of light and darkness themselves, evincing the reduction of the actual into a *seeing* which is never *seen* except by means of an etched contour, and through a graphically transmitted graduation of light and its positively felt absence.

So much for execution, one which derives from the aforesaid perception, transmuted via the imagination. The imagination is the dynamic of living energy behind a work of art, the execution being the vestment of the underlying naked body, Adam's "body of light." This Kabbalistic notion was suggested by my noting the name 'Blake' scrawled in a margin of a Saper drawing. The depth which even the slightest sketch can show derives from *that* dynamic of human articulation: it is the imagination that, as Blake said, "Is the human existence itself," and it is the imagination that gives a distinctive life to the art of Arnold Saper.

— Arthur Adamson

## B I O G R A P H Y



Top — Grub — Intaglio 9 cms x 6.5 cms

Bottom — Imp — Intaglio 9 cms x 6.5 cms

Arnold Saper was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada in 1933. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and an Education Certificate from the University of Manitoba. After teaching for several years in secondary schools in Manitoba, he received in 1963 a Canada Council grant to study at the State University of Iowa with Mauricio Lasansky. He held the graduate teaching assistantship in Lasansky's studio for two and a half years, graduating with a Master of Arts degree in 1966. Since 1967, Arnold Saper has taught Printmaking and Drawing at the University of Manitoba and was appointed full professor in 1979.

Arnold Saper has participated in many group shows, local, national and international, the last being an international show in Madrid, Spain in 1986. 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 four editions and three drawings were purchased by the Art Bank. Many prints and drawings are in private collections.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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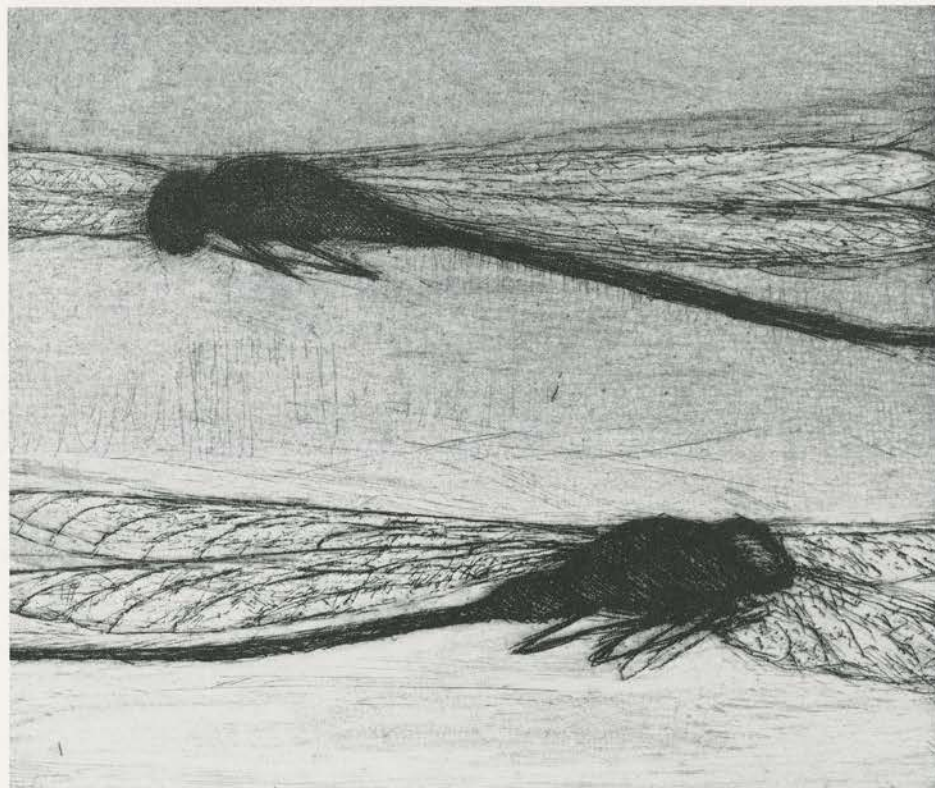
Dale Amundson, Director of Gallery 1.1.1.

Thomas Wood, Gallery technician

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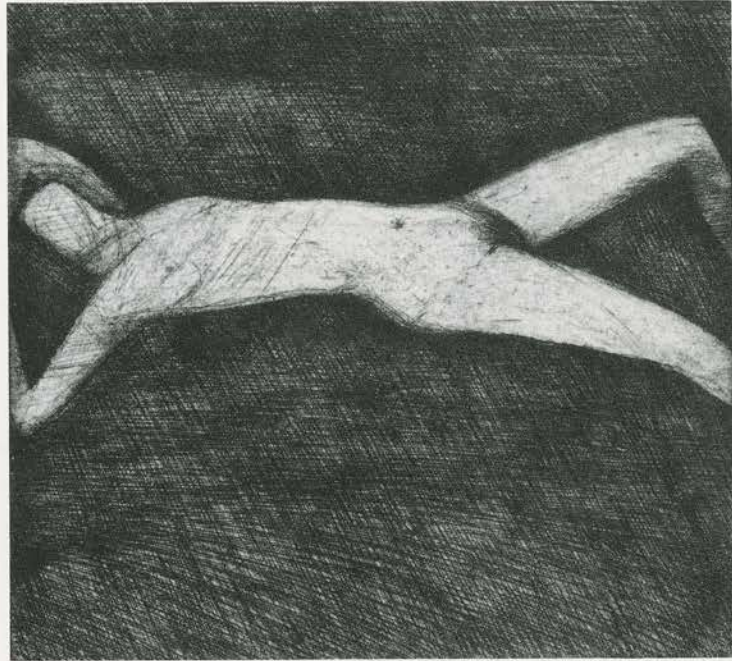




Duet — Intaglio 12.5 cms x 15 cms

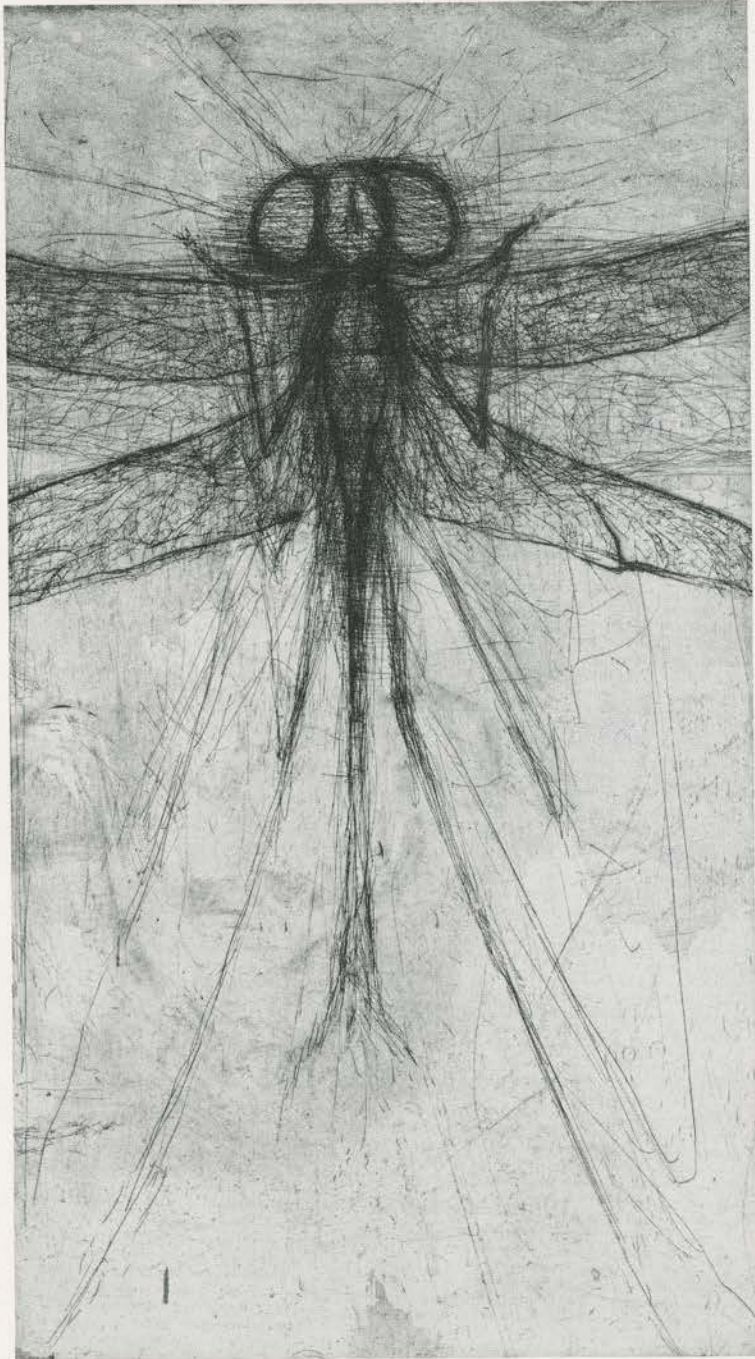


Harpy's Party — Intaglio 11 cms x 12.5 cms

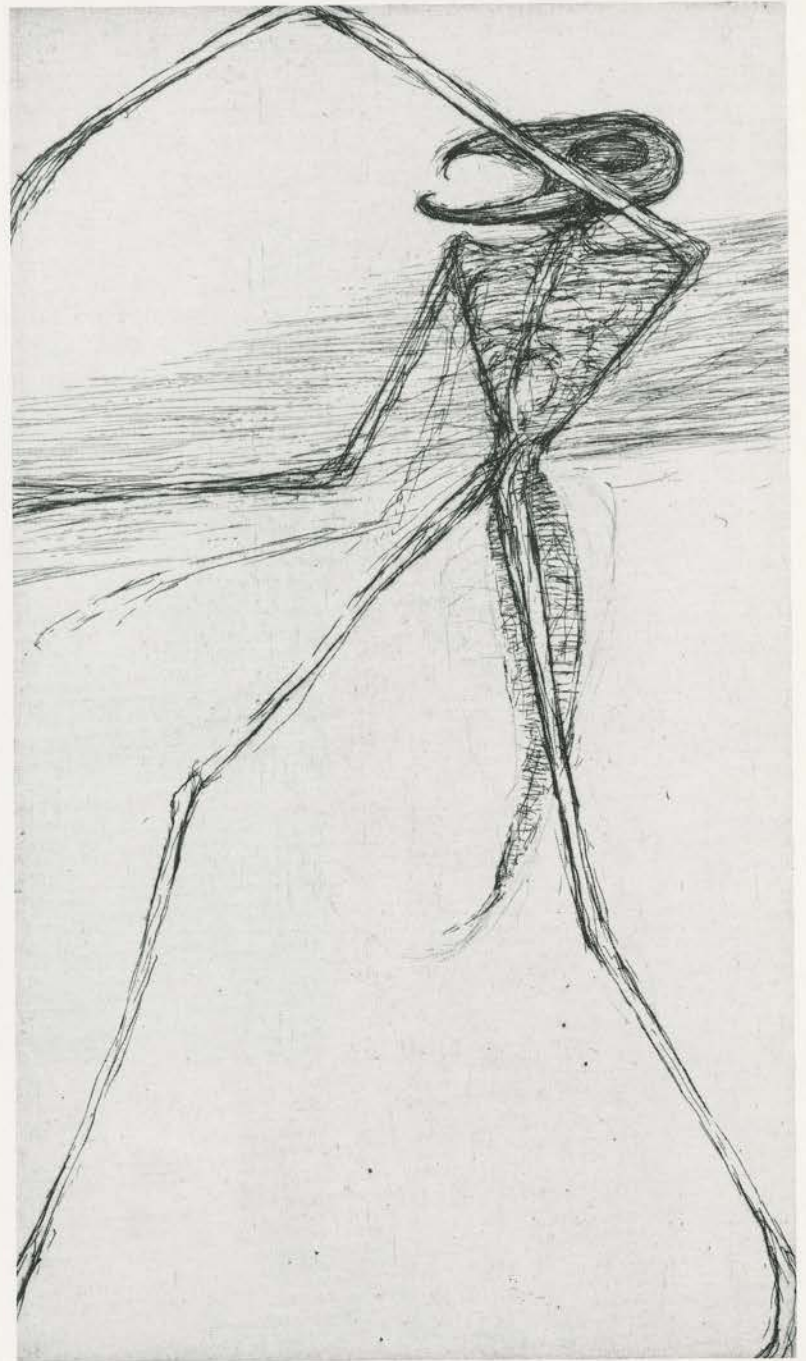


Reclining Nude — Intaglio 9 cms x 10 cms





Demon Fly — Intaglio Print 44.5 cms X 25.5 cms

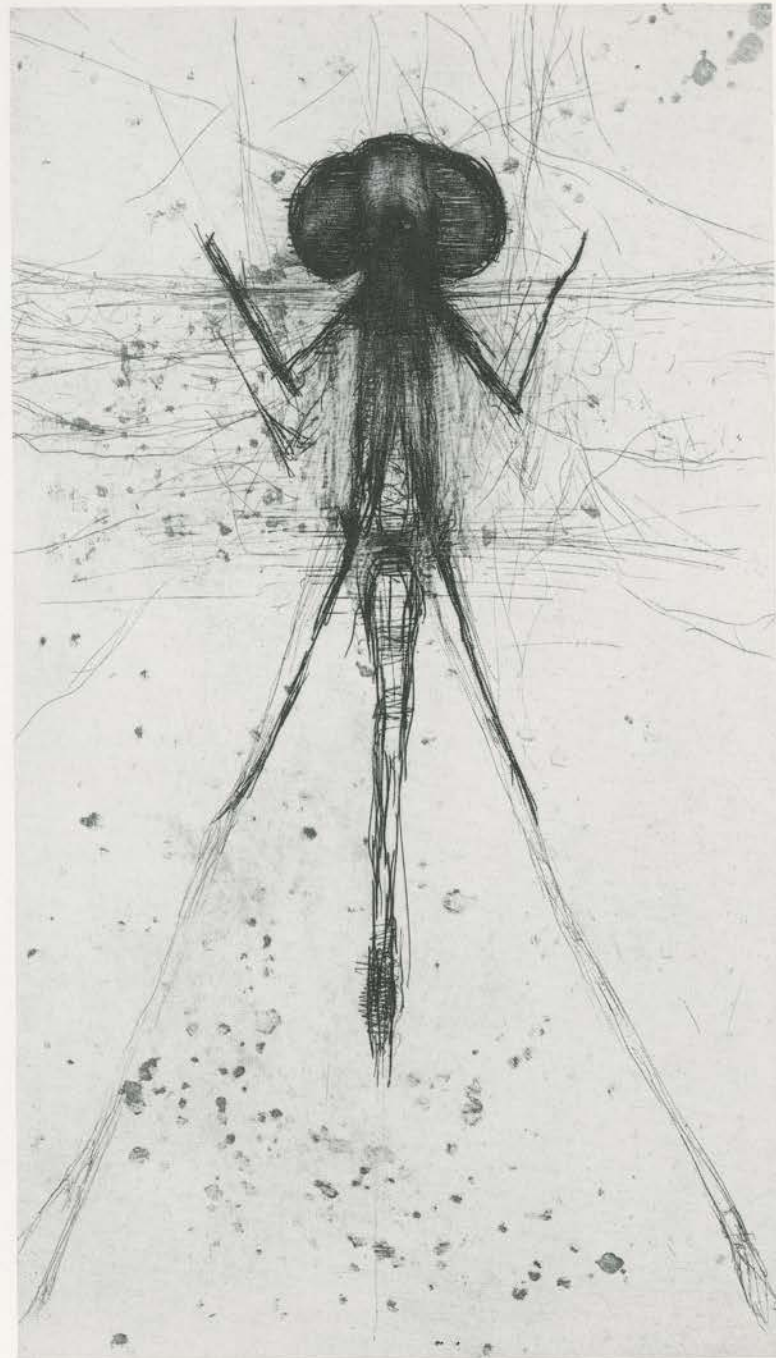


Insect Figure — Intaglio 25.5 cms x 15 cms



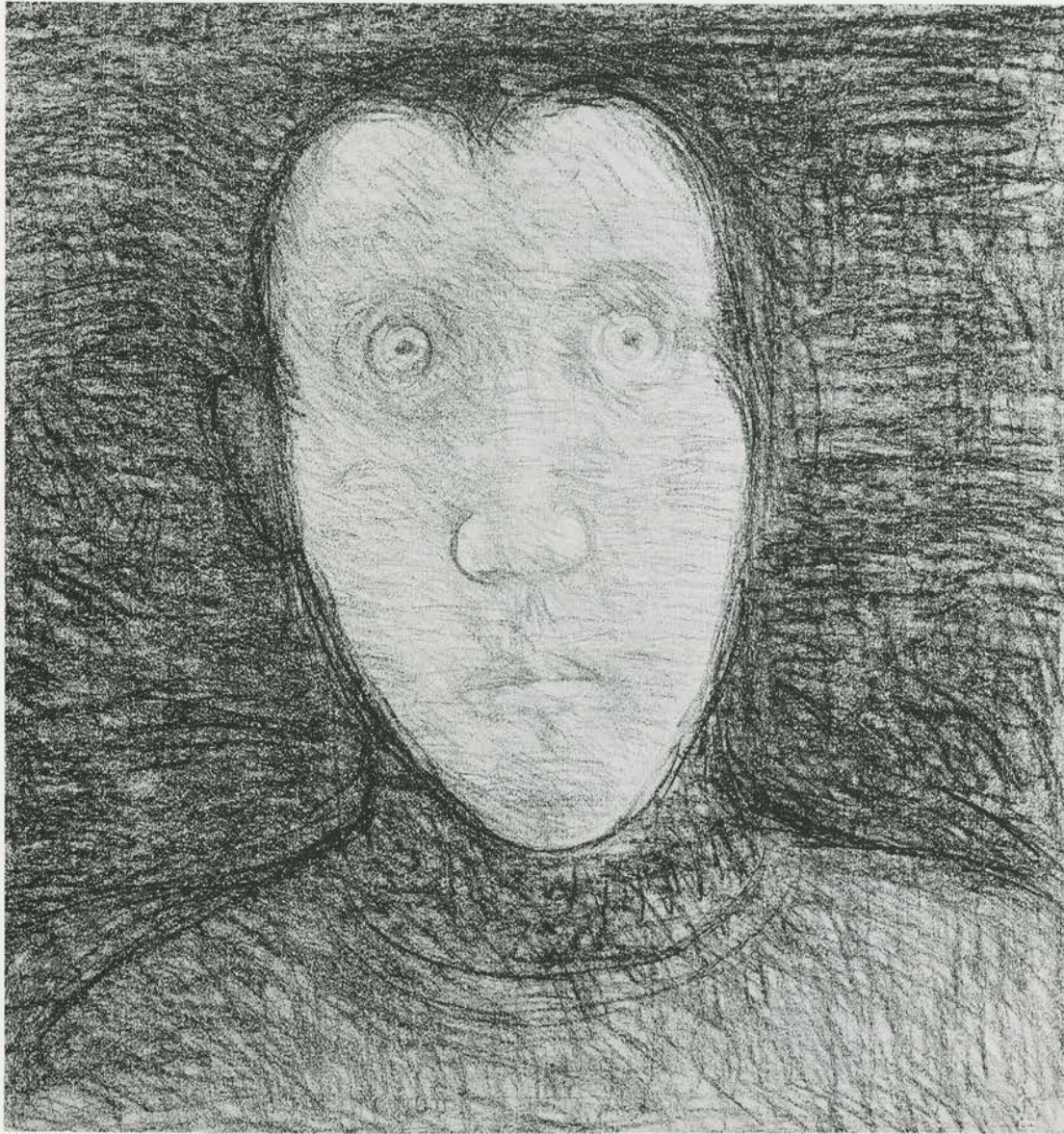


Nymph — Pencil 46 cms x 25 cms



Demon Fly II — Intaglio 44.5 cms x 25.5 cms





ON ARNOLD SAPER'S PORTRAITS  
AND SELF-PORTRAITS

everyday familiar and alien  
features may retreat  
like stars into space

a deepening maelstrom  
crawls like a spider to paper  
faces overlap other faces

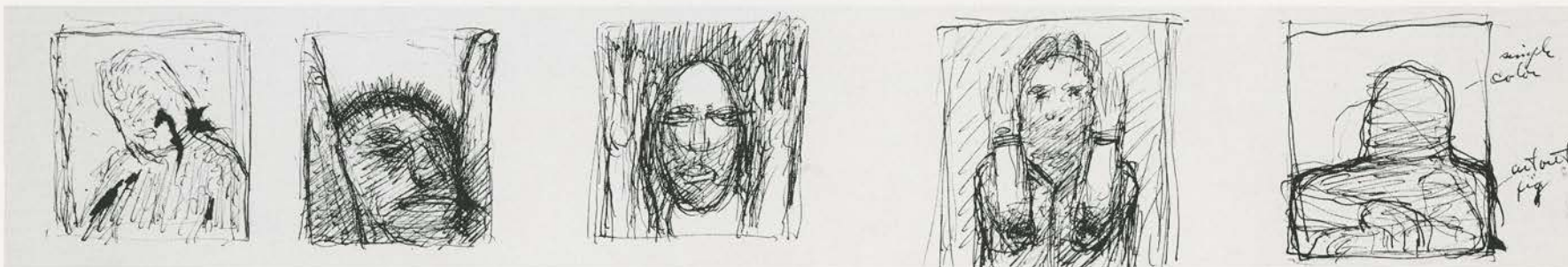
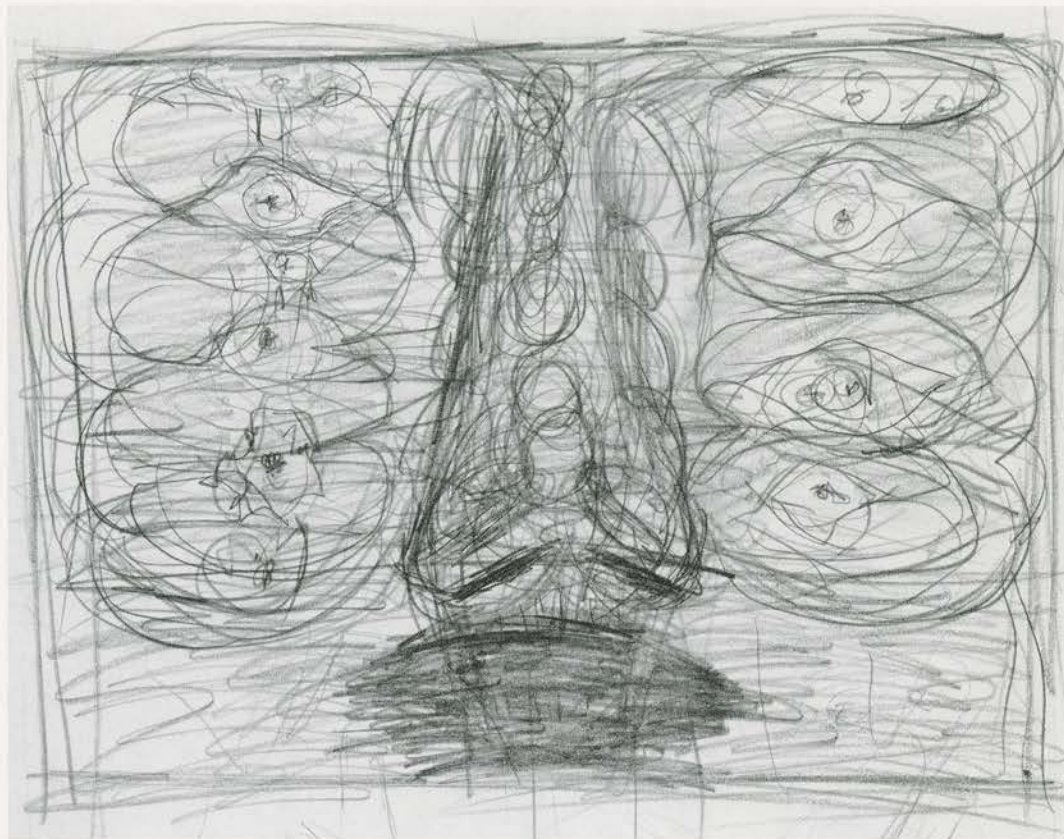
a fluctuating network of lines  
clears to unravel a man's  
cocoon the unwinding of wings

or to put it another way  
acid incisions track

misconceptions  
connections  
uncertainties  
and love

— Arthur Adamson





Portrait Studies — Pencil, Ink    top 31 cms x 41 cms    bottom 8 cms x 7 cms each

Opposite — "M" — Crayon 59 cms X 56 cms





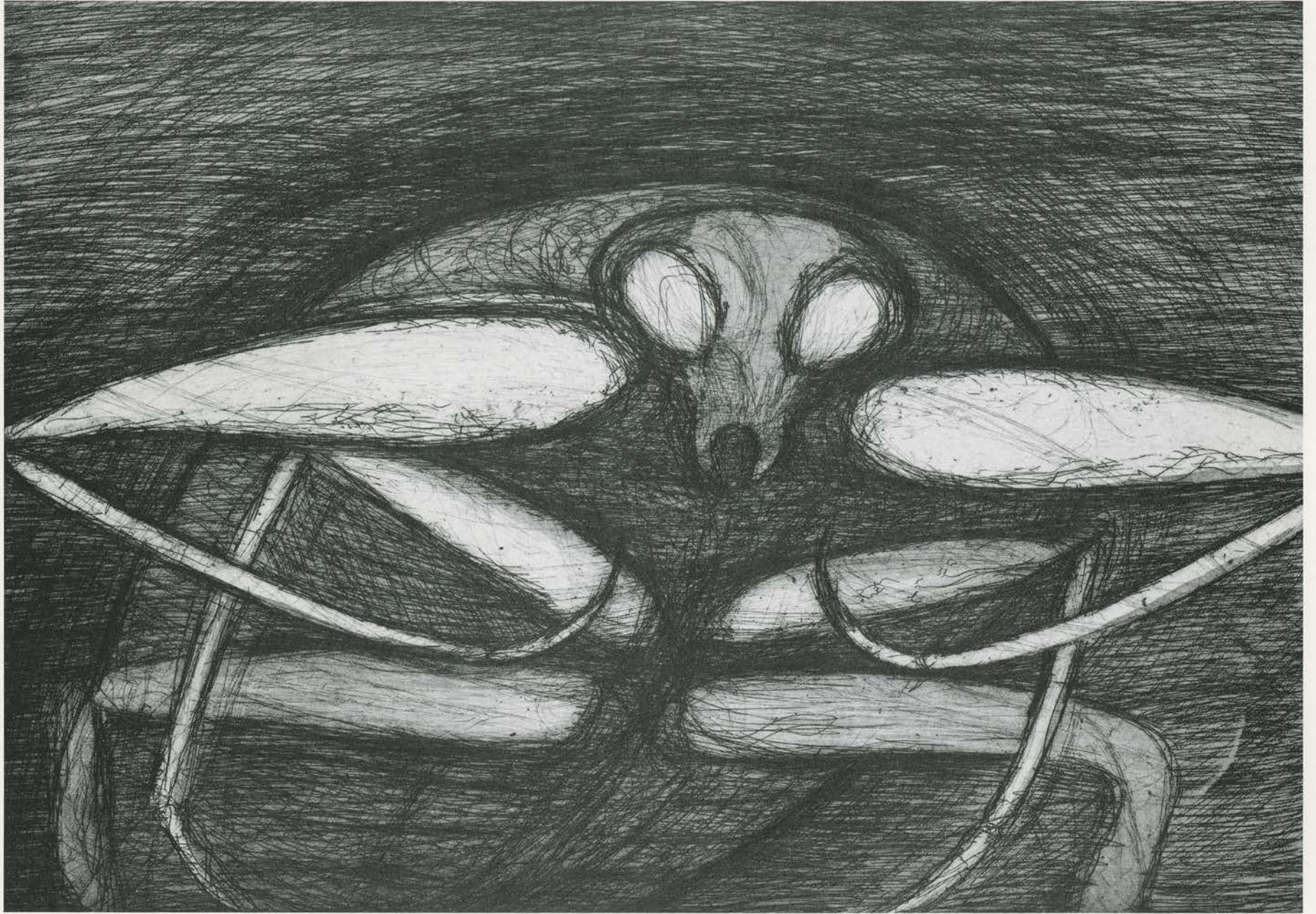
Study for Harpy's Party — Pencil 56 cms x 76 cms





Study for Harpy's Party — Pencil 56 cms x 71 cms





Beetle — Intaglio 59.5 cms x 41 cms





Gymnast II — Pencil 22 cms x 30 cms

Back Cover — Grin — ink 14 cms x 11 cms

