

JOSHUA ABELOW

RELAX

RELAX



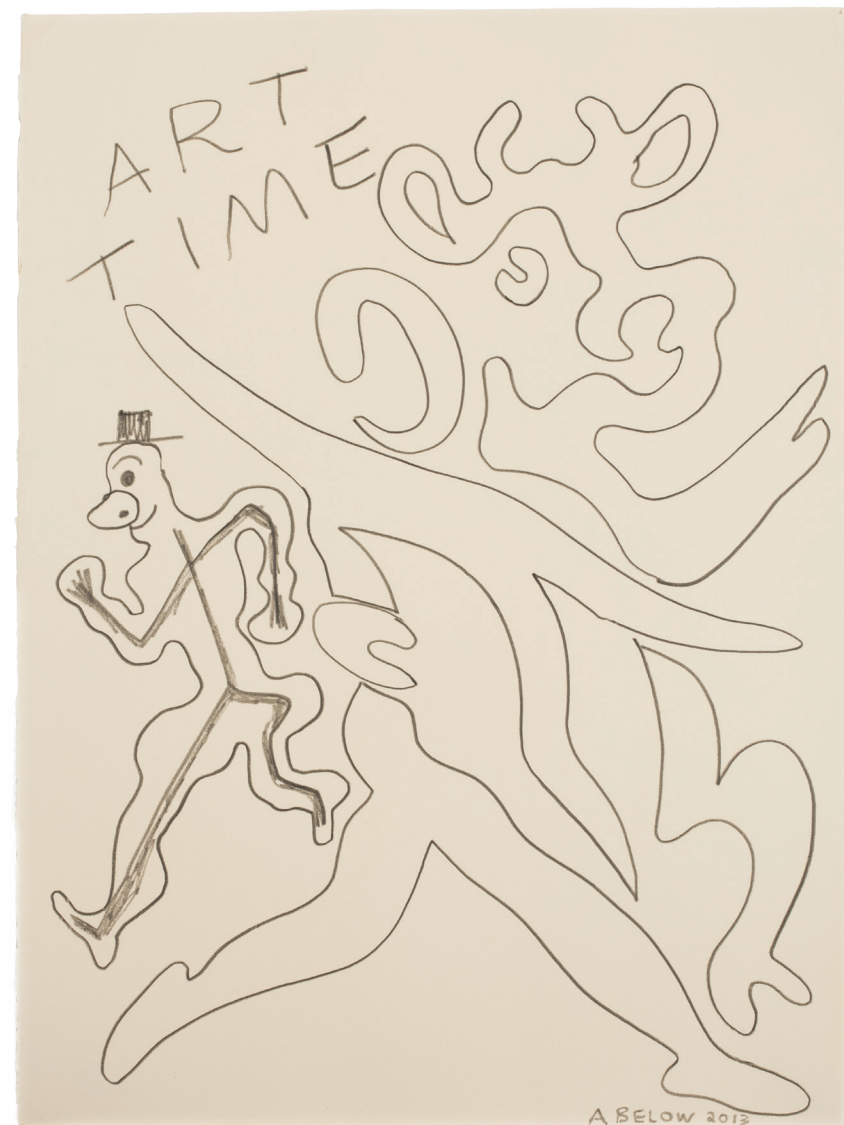
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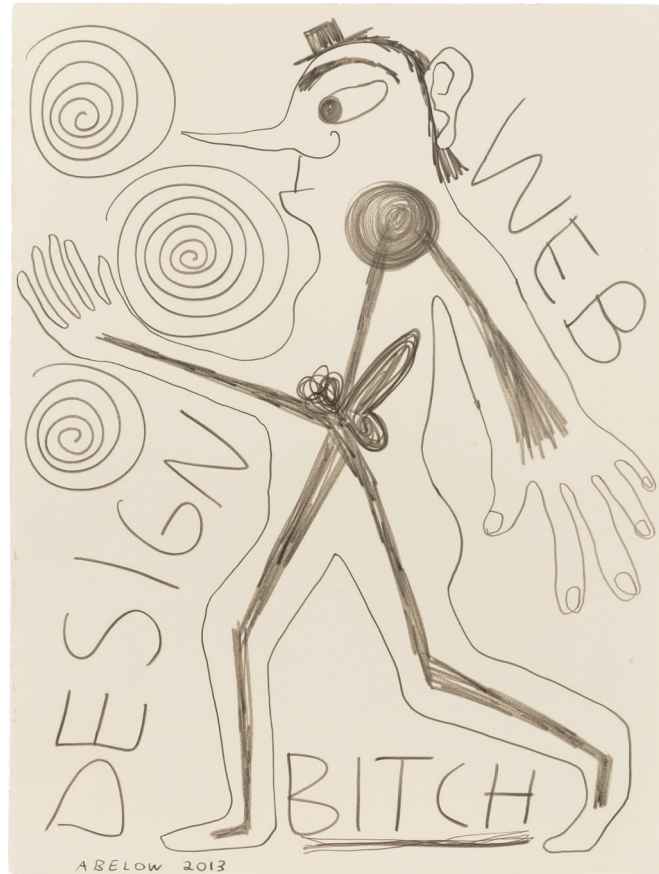


JOSHUA ABELOW

weird room

there's
nothing
half
normal
or
even
one
quarter
normal
in
your
weird
room





talent

thinking
of New York
doesn't make me
want to poke
out my eyes
anymore

many nights
in different places
in different cities
in different countries
with different people
has done some
good

this afternoon
I rode my bike
around the path
in the park
several times
admiring
the girl in an orange
tank top
Hula Hooping

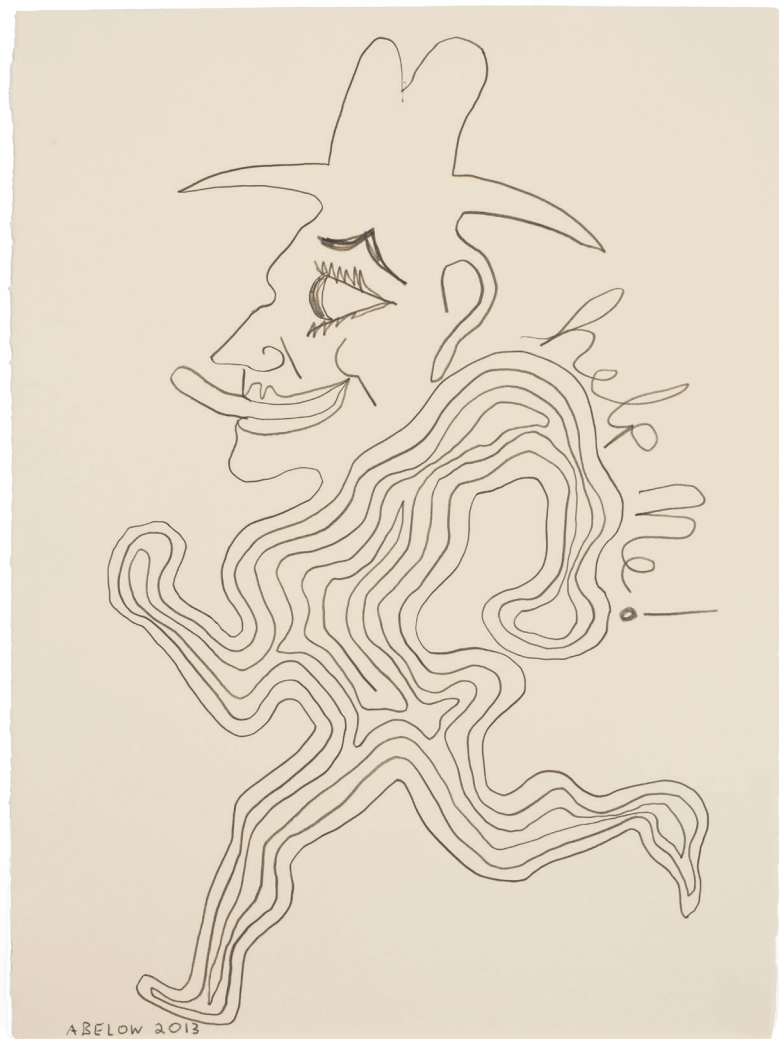


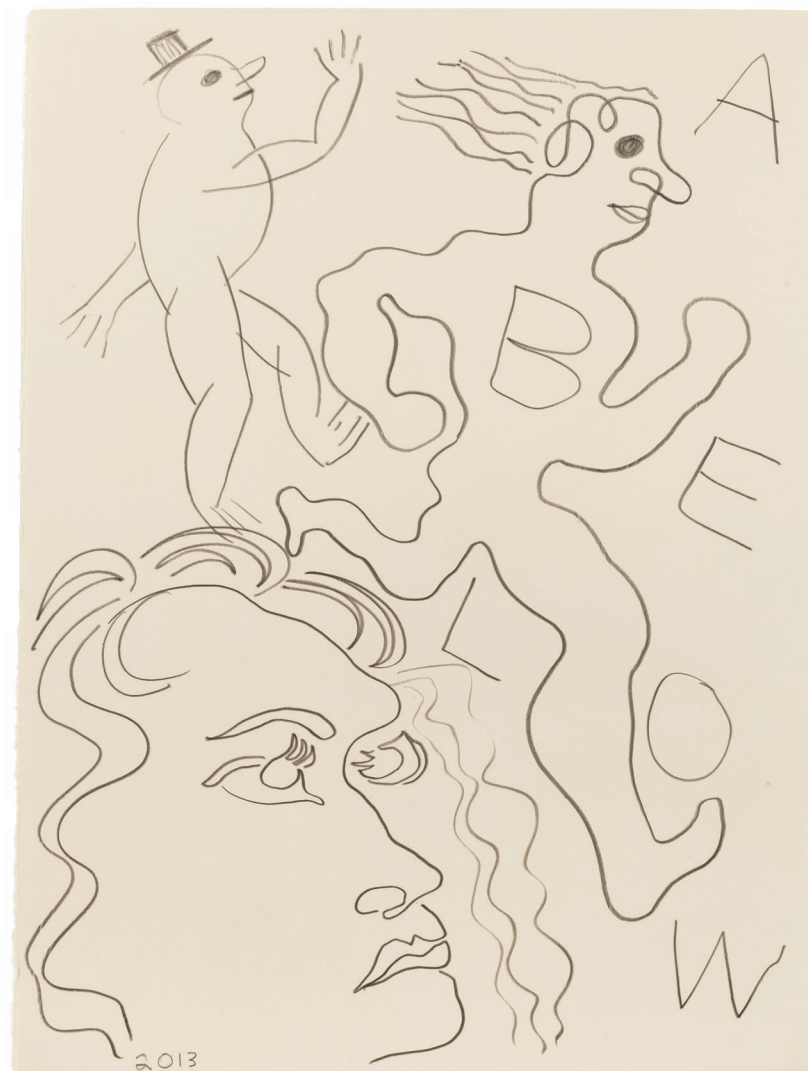
Flipper

Dakotah
flipped
the
bird
to
New York.

Then
she
went
to
Vermont
to
flip
burgers.

Now
she's
flipping
out.

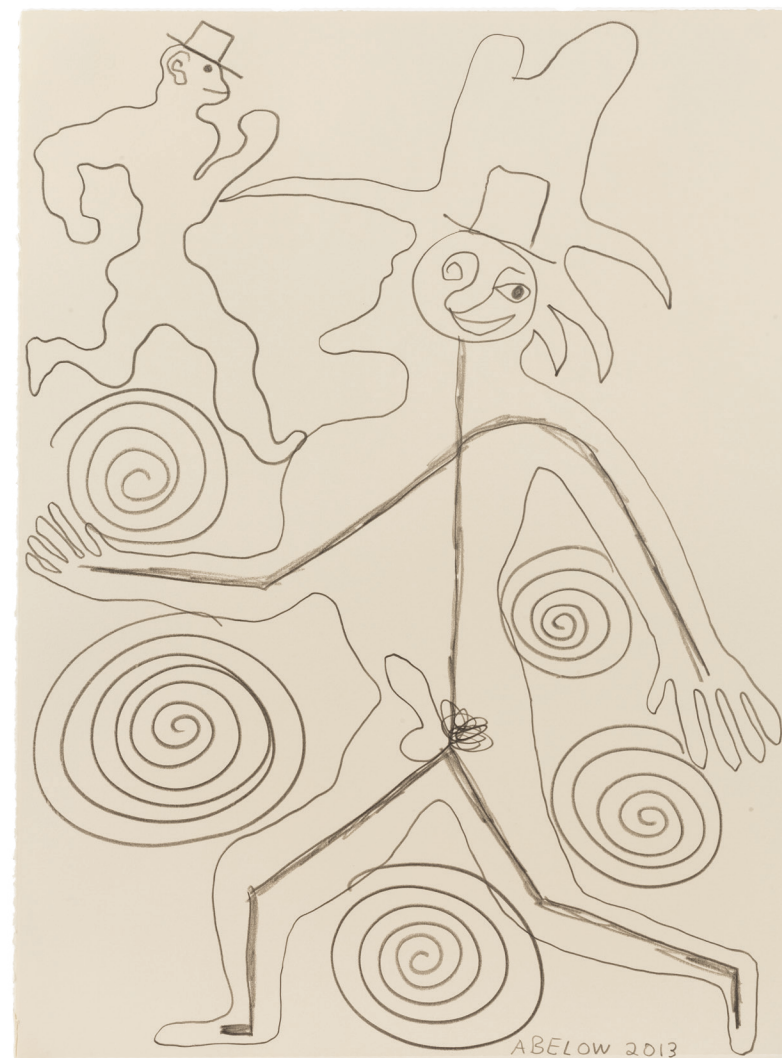


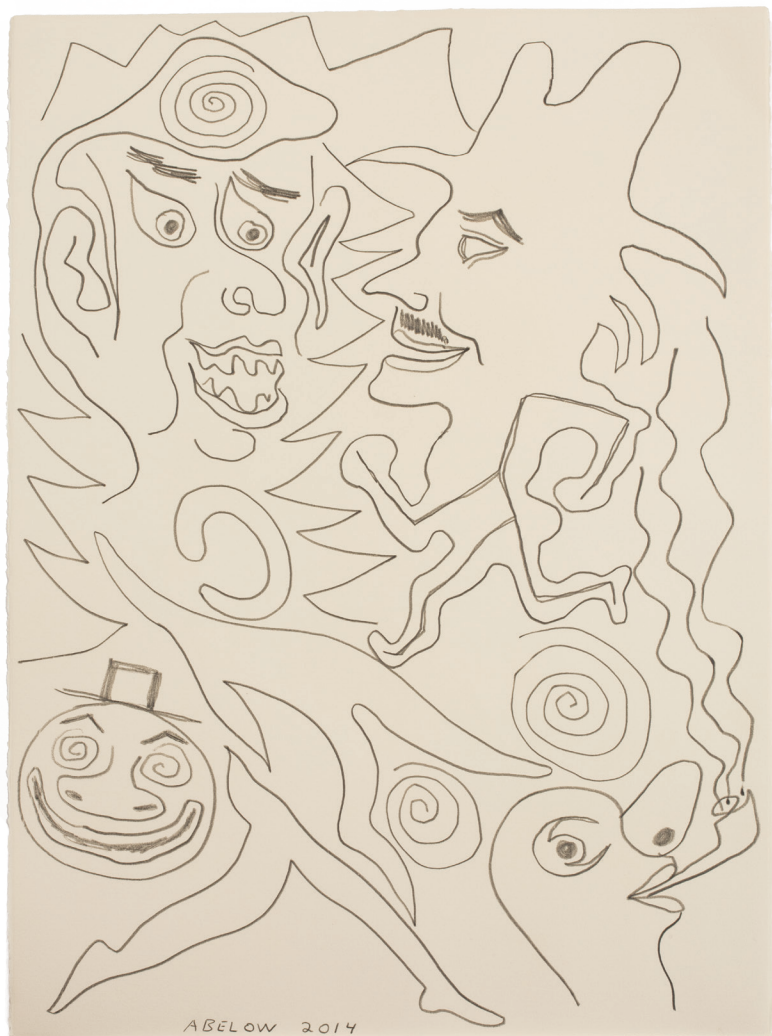


flashlight fingertips

it's dark in here, but
my fingertips are illuminated -

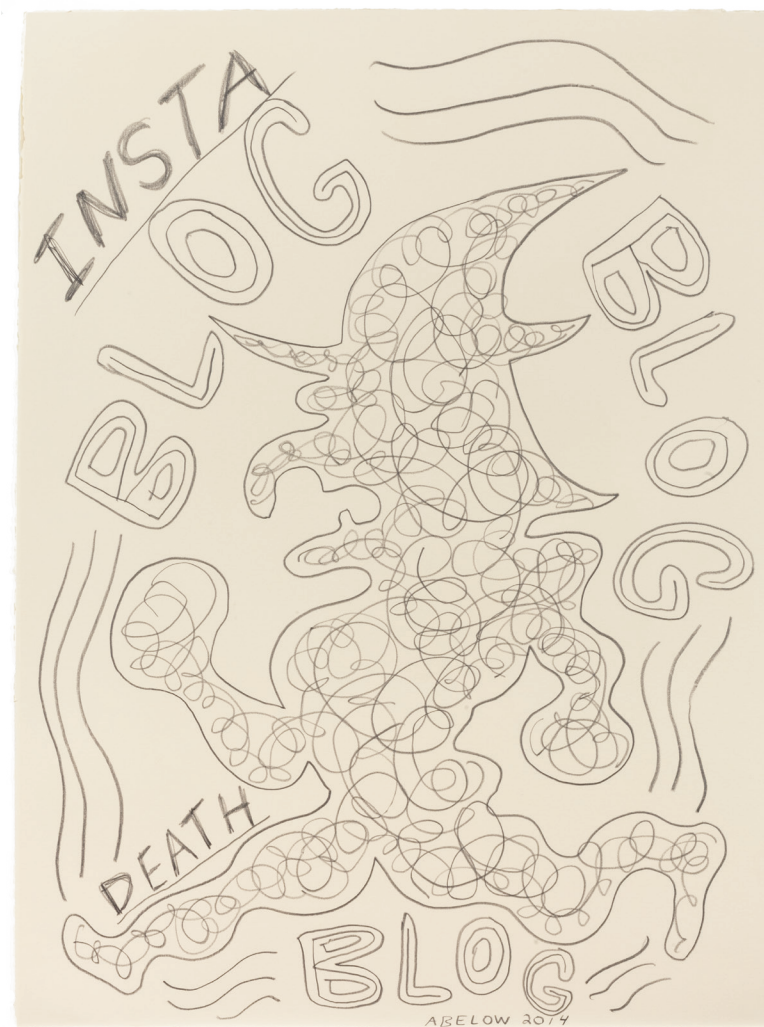
that's why my drawings are so good





sore winner

nothing
is
the
matter
but
I'm
still
going
to
kill
you



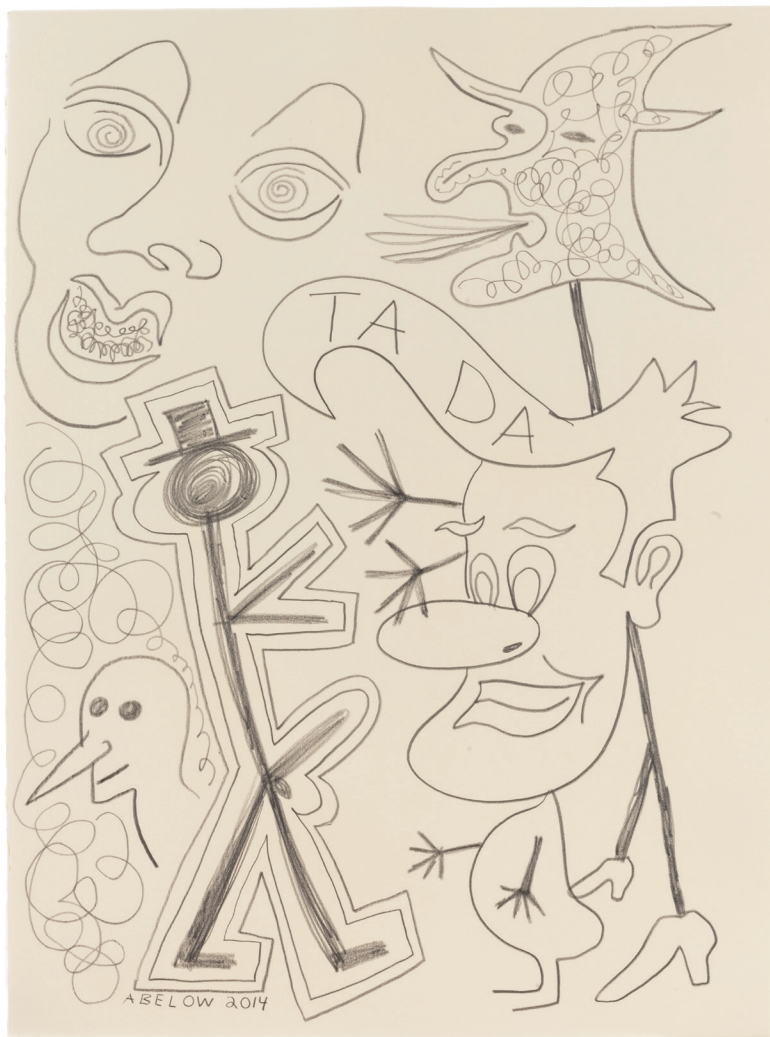
Thursday poem

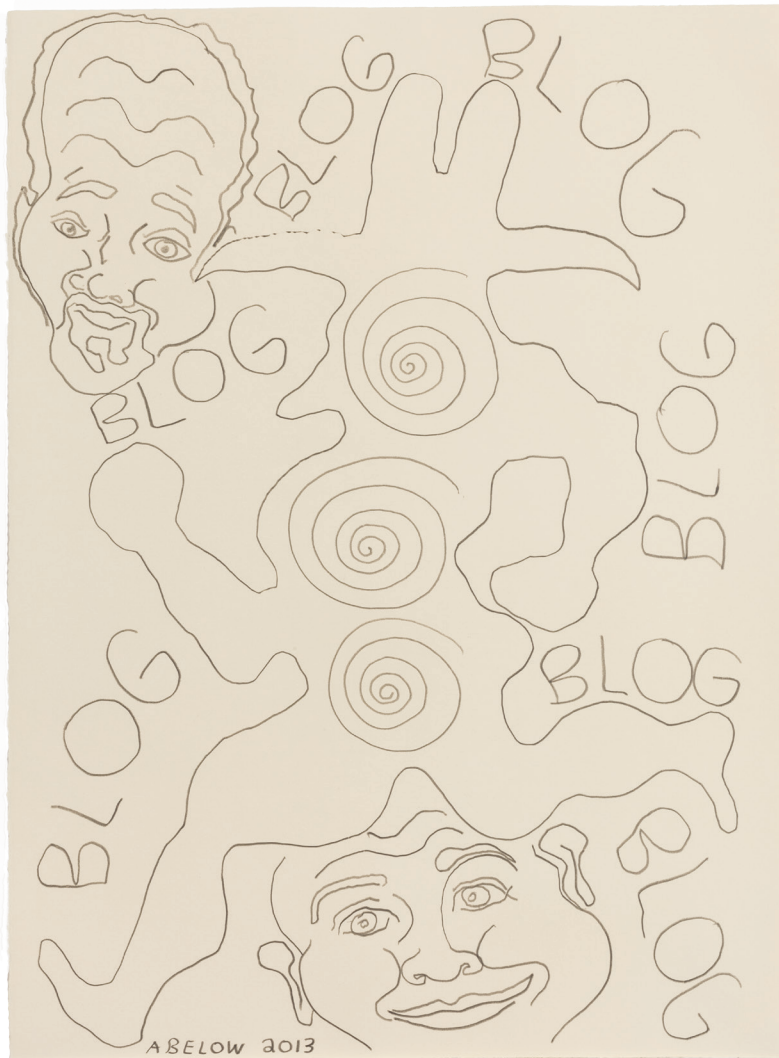
I sit alone
at the kitchen
table.

I sip
black coffee
from my favorite
red mug.

I am
reminded
of
girls
I've known
as I look
out the window
at the cold
day.

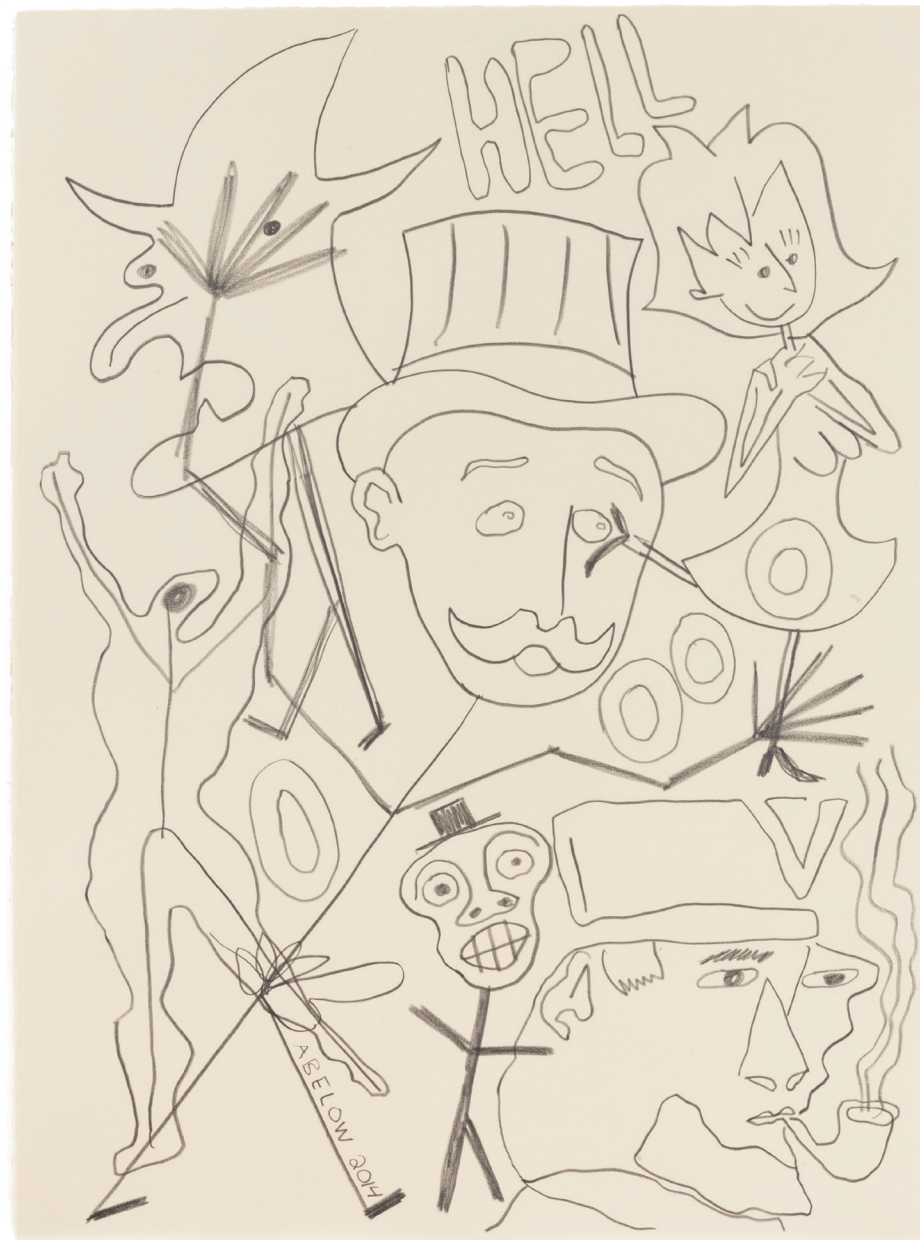
The day is
as cold as
all their
hands.





Big Mouth

Of
course
I can see
the mountain
and the
lake. They're
as big as
your
mouth.





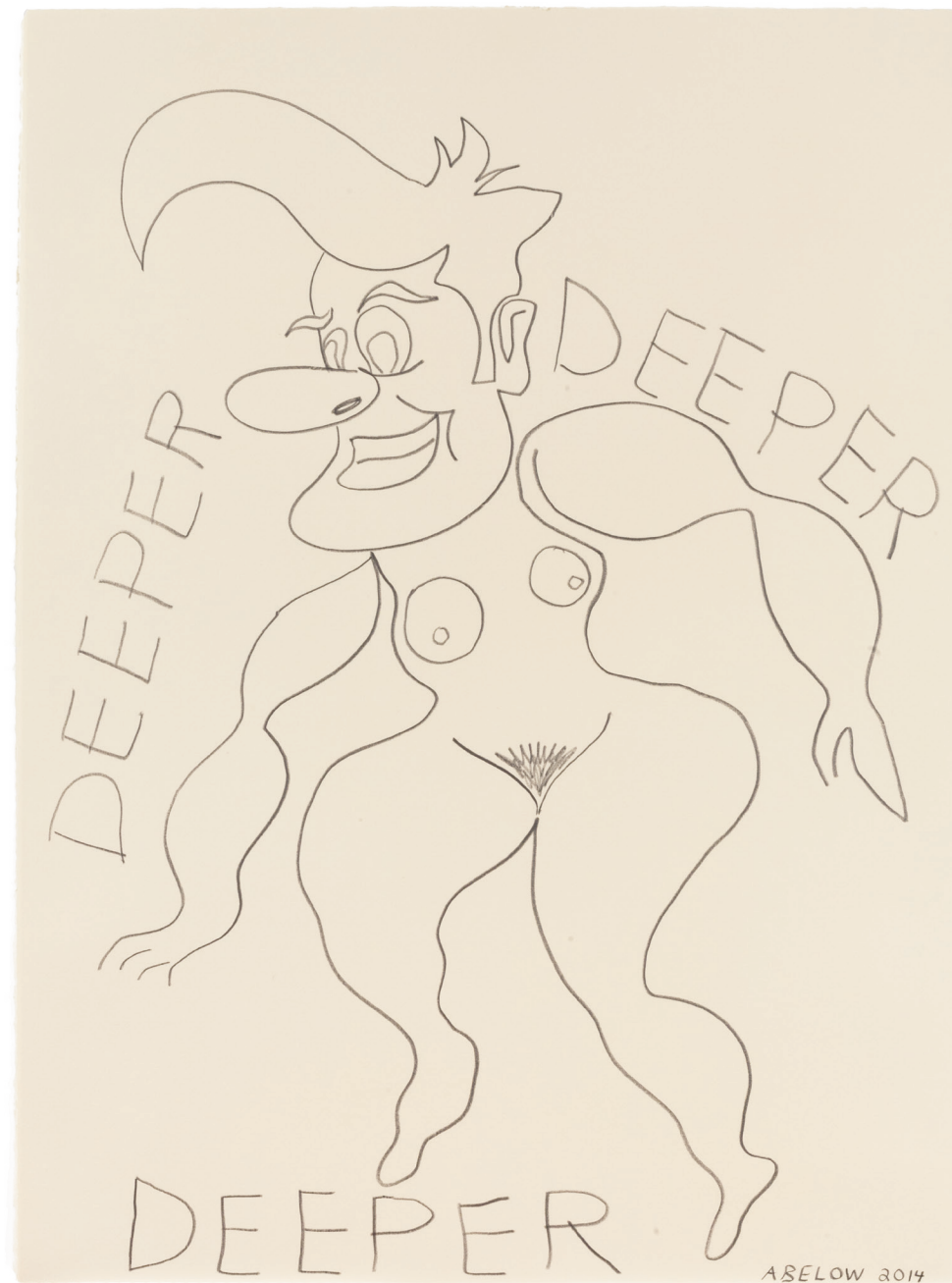
computer poem

it's
so great
sitting
here
at
my
desk-

it's
like
swimming

it's
like
napping
in
the
afternoon
sun

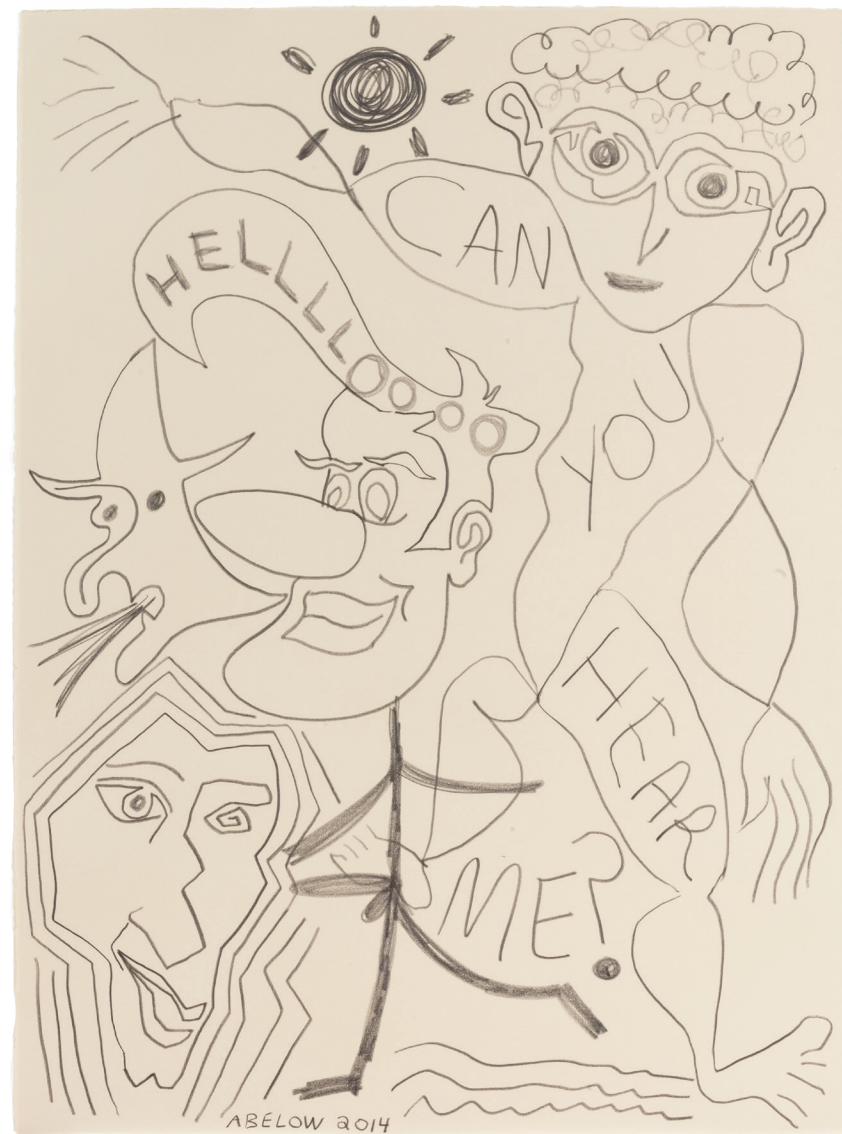
it's
like
throwing
a
stick
at
your
head



hot poem

It was very hot so
we went to the
water to
cool
off.

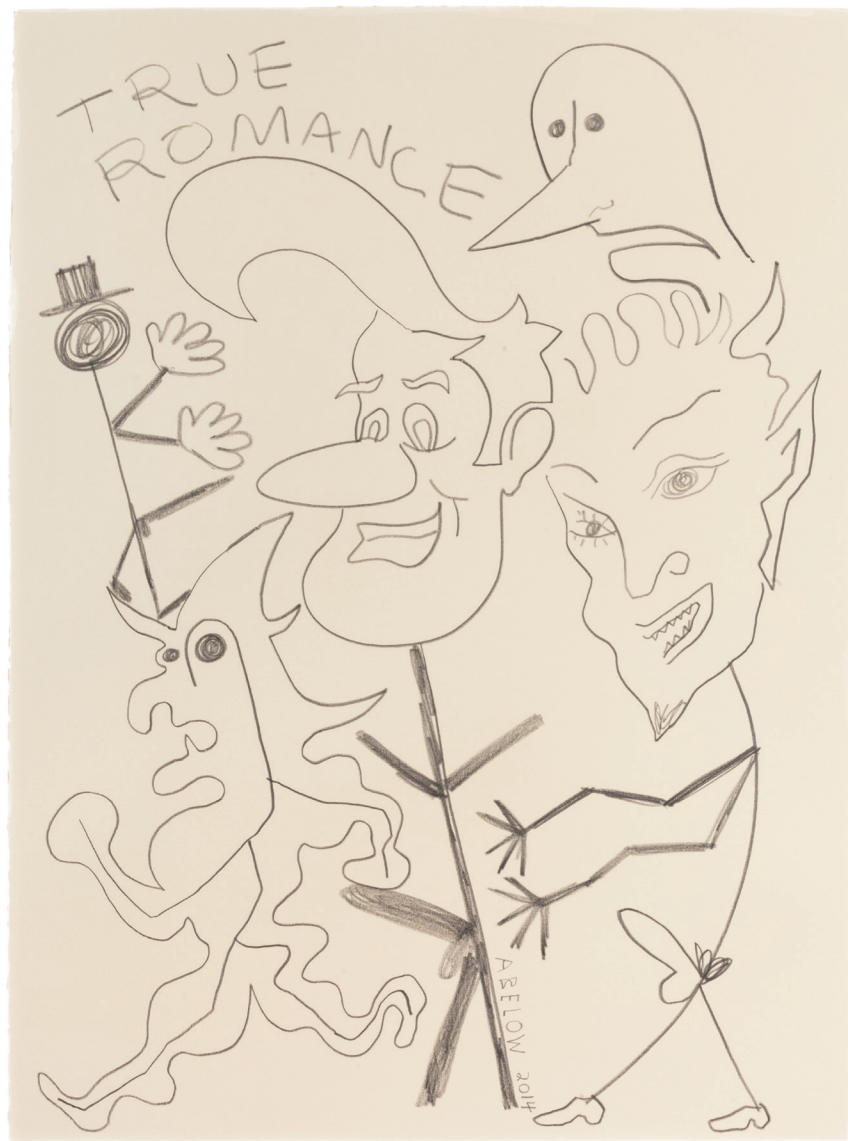
Afterward,
we lay down in the
sun like two fish
washed up
on shore
to die.



frog

I like her gold
shoes
because I know
she's in there sleeping
when
the shoes
are on my rug.

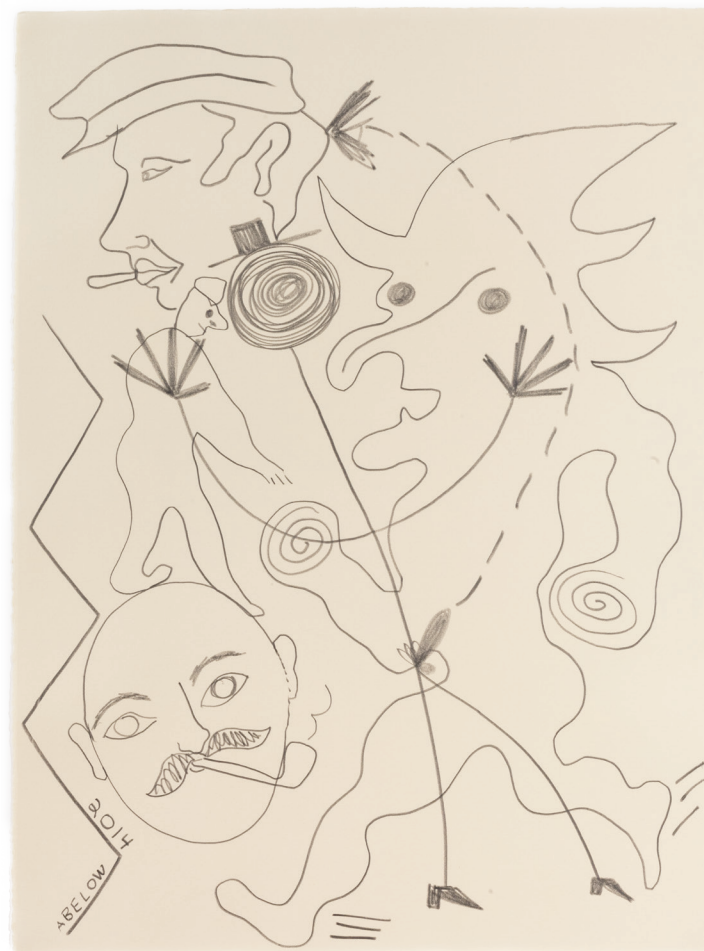
she looks
like a princess
when she's
sleeping
and I look
just like
a frog.



she's out

I am in her bed and
it is so very, very quiet --

I hear nothing but
the sound
of one car going by
in the distance
over and
over.

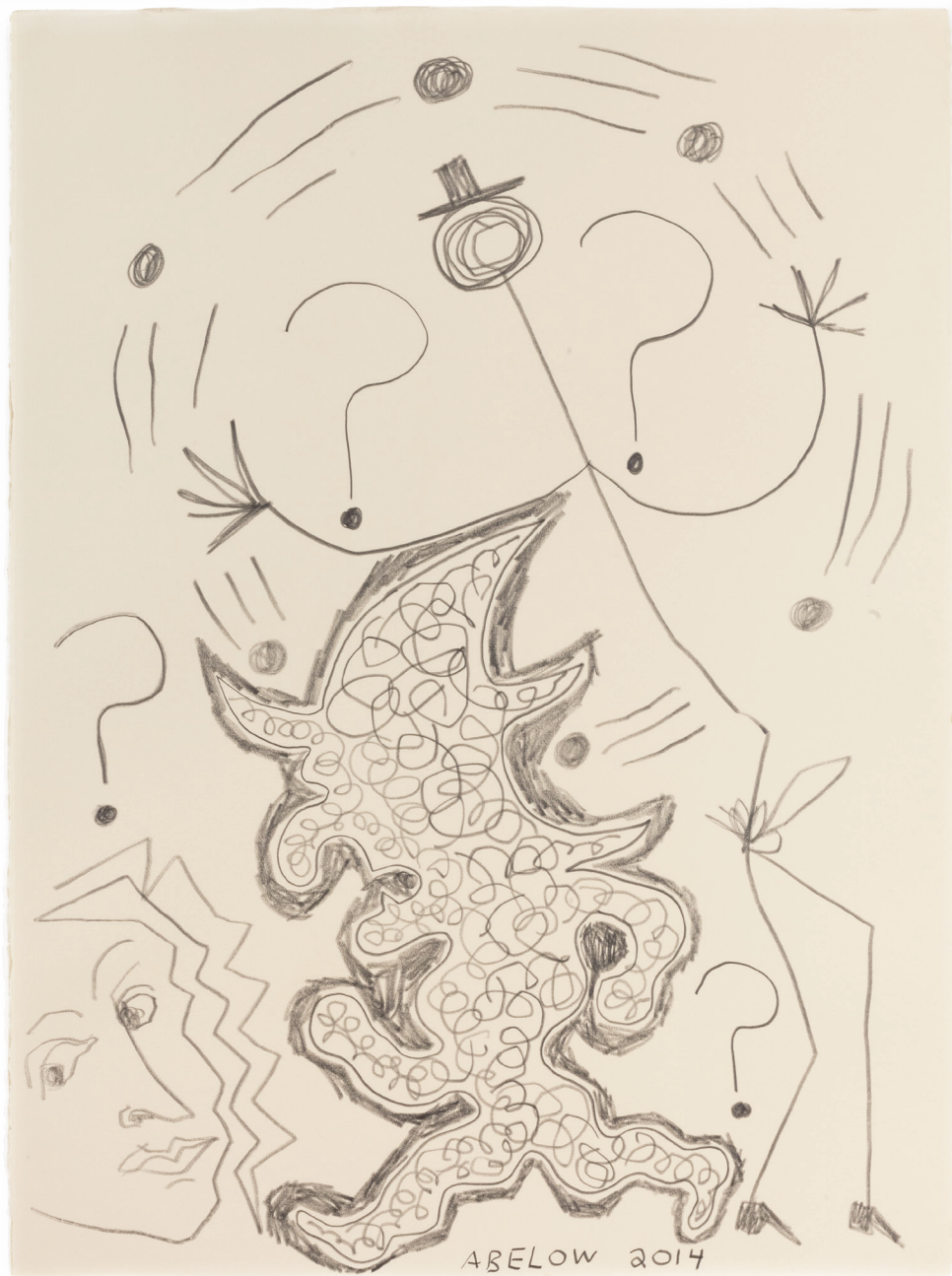


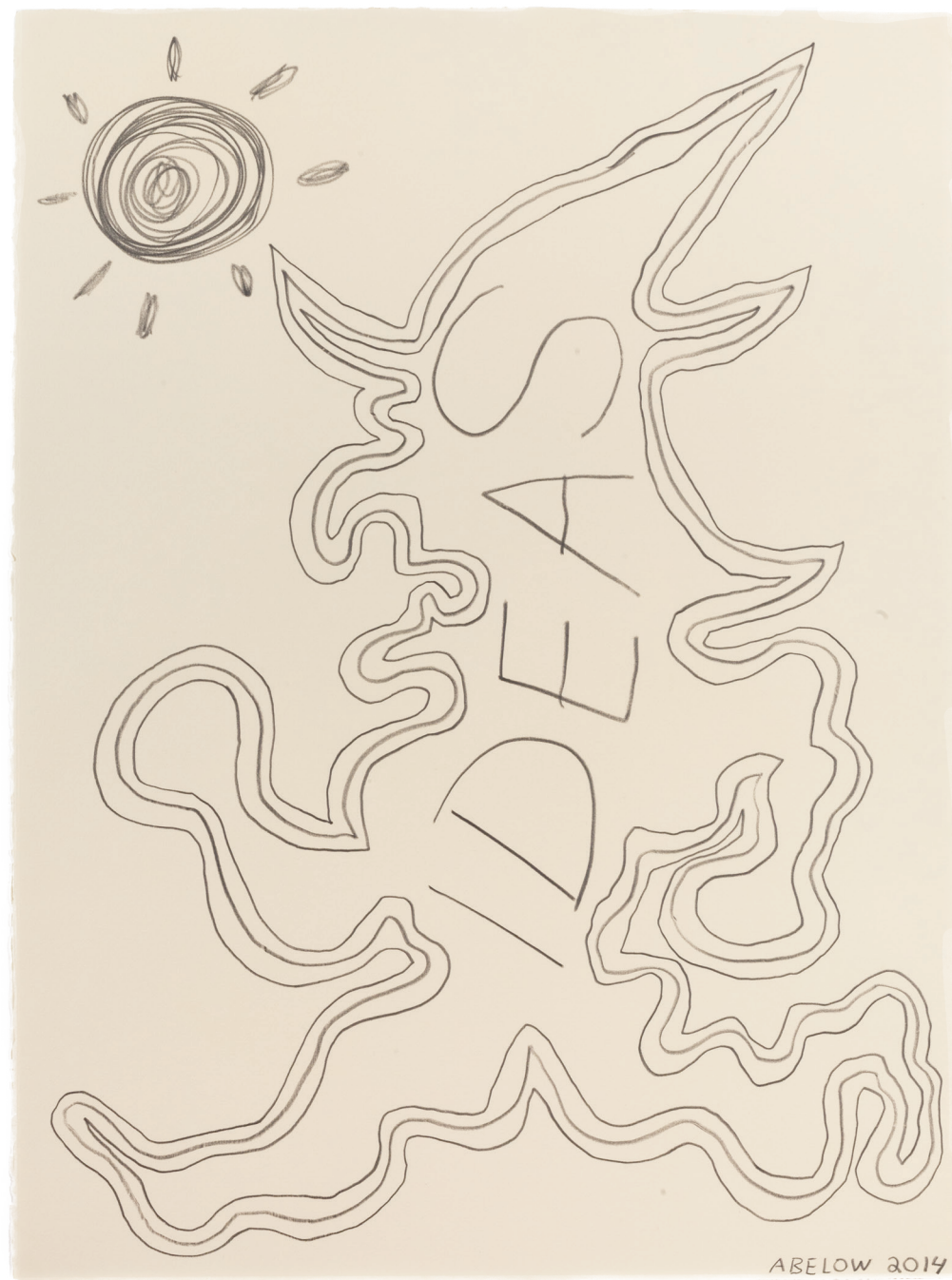
running man

run
toward the sun
into its
squiggly rays
you
go

run
into the black
iridescent
sun

stay in there
as time
goes
by





small waves

the traffic
outside
our tiny room on
Allen St.
sounds like
small waves
crashing

we lay
in bed
pretending
to be
at the beach

and
sometimes
we are

I remember when we went to Coney Island a few years ago
after we had known
each other
only
a very short time

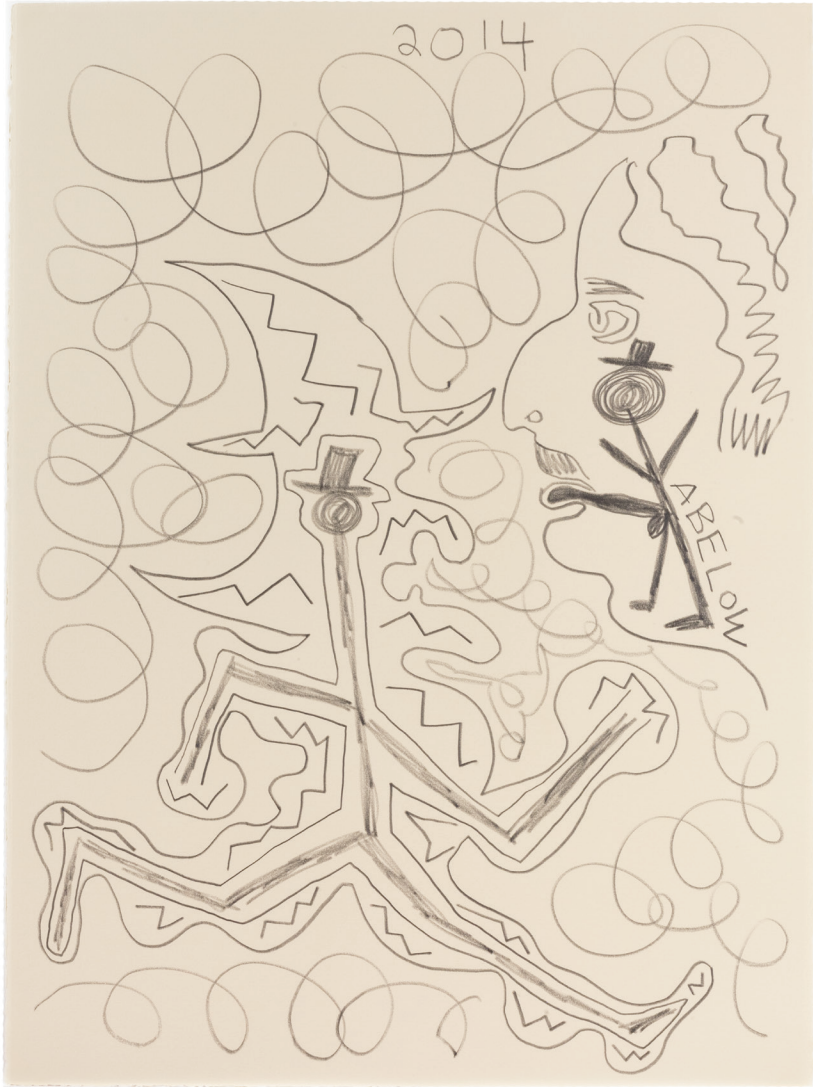
we ate hot dogs and rode The Wonder Wheel and walked around

then we got in a fight
and almost broke up



New York

It's hard to live
in a shopping mall.
They ask me when I'm coming back.
Some day soon I guess,
but only because
cute girls like
to shop.



doomed relationship

it's
just
the
noise
of
a
train
in
the
night
going
someplace
we
are
not





nap

You go away
but you always
come back.

You go to California and
then you go to
Europe.

You read books in the bathtub all day.

Now
I see you in the sky
because you're in a tower
at the top of a
mountain.

You have a nap
and then I see you climb
back down.



necklace

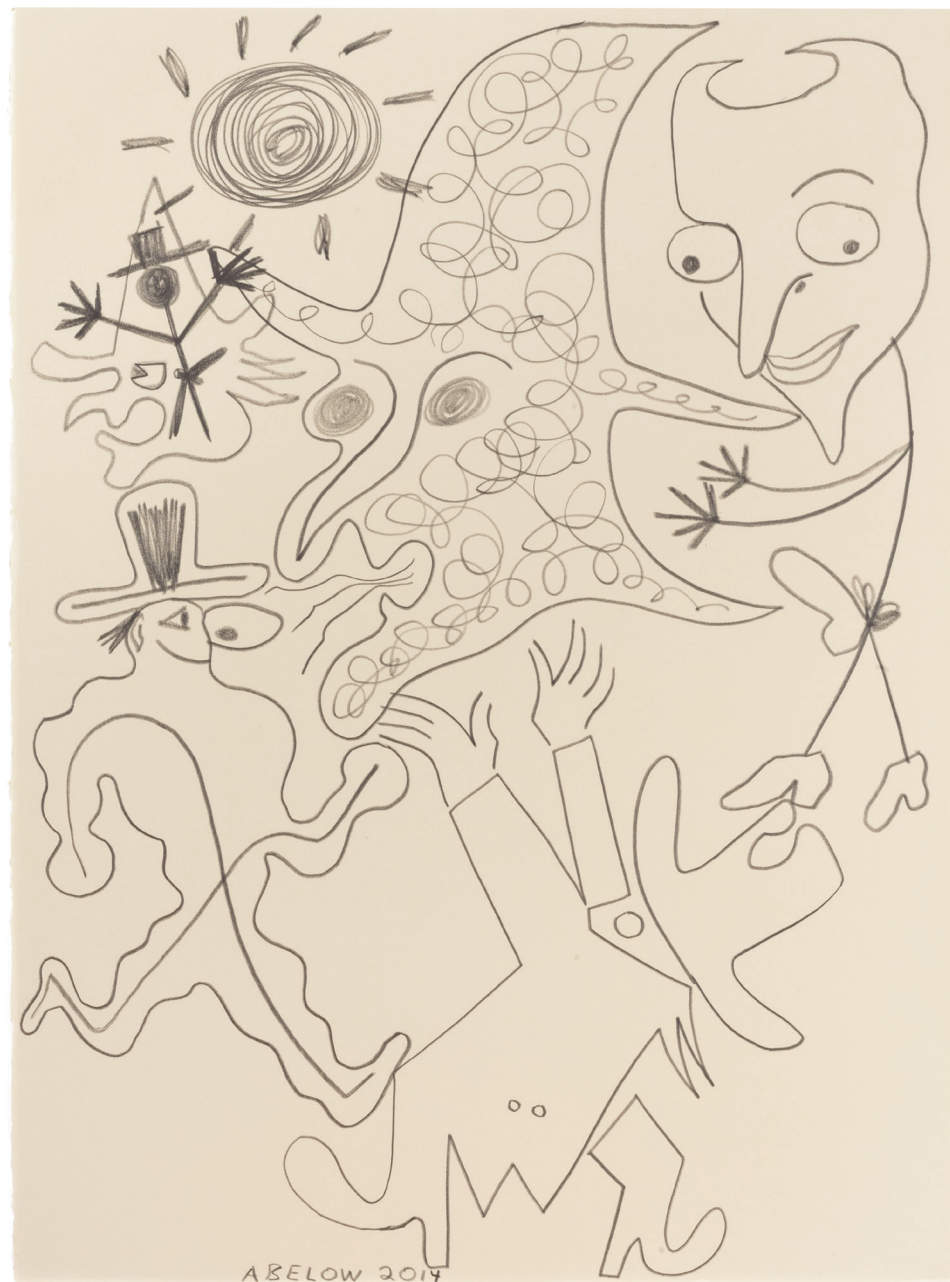
see these words?

these words are mine.

but, I'm feeling generous
so I gift them to you.

these words are yours.

these words are
a necklace
to go with your
pretty summer
dress.



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Joshua Abelow
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Published by
Arts+Leisure, New York
1571 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10029

on the occasion
of the exhibition:
RELAX
May 10 - July 19, 2014

Edition of 100

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Artwork photographed by
Jason Mandella
Photography

All images and text appear
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New York