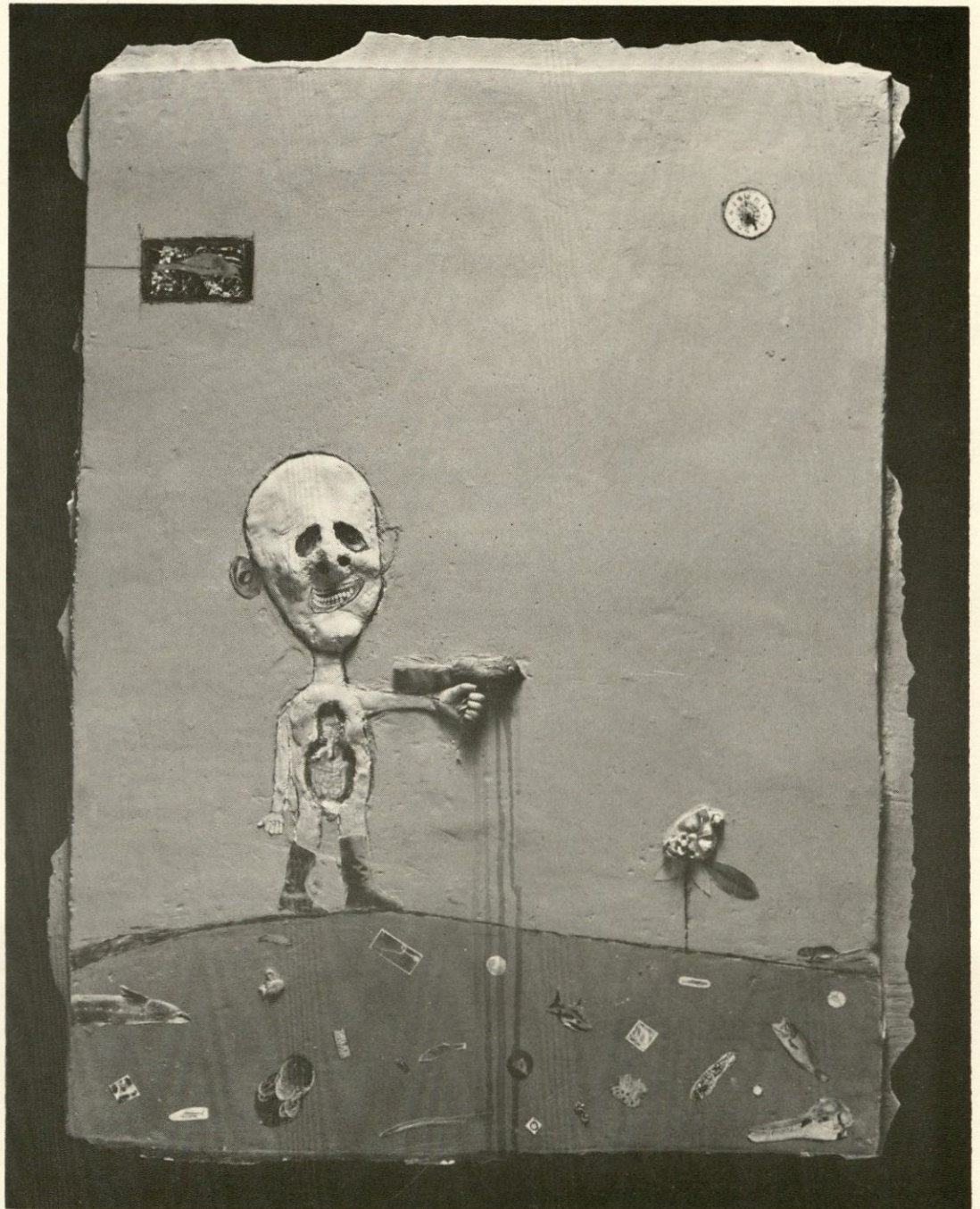


**RONALD GONZALEZ**

*"Relief Sculpture"*



*Cover, Red Bird, 1984 24"x20 1/2"*



"Relief Sculpture"

**RONALD GONZALEZ**

January 18 - February 15, 1985

University Art Gallery  
State University of  
New York at Binghamton

## A Consideration

Pope John Paul II; "I know where Binghamton is but what does it do?" Charles Manson; "It produces Ronald Gonzalez."

After President Reagan descended on IBM and appeared at the sports stadium, he pilgrimaged to the Gonzalez studio. There, amidst the plaster statues of pained creatures, he settled into a beat-up easy chair, saying, "Here I can let my hair down." Age commenced to come out all over his body. His bodyguards, breakers of arms and faces, interrogators trained to work wonders with a pair of testicles or what-have-you, scanned the neighborhood sandwich shop and edge-of-the-world auto repair joints for any loose Hinkleys.

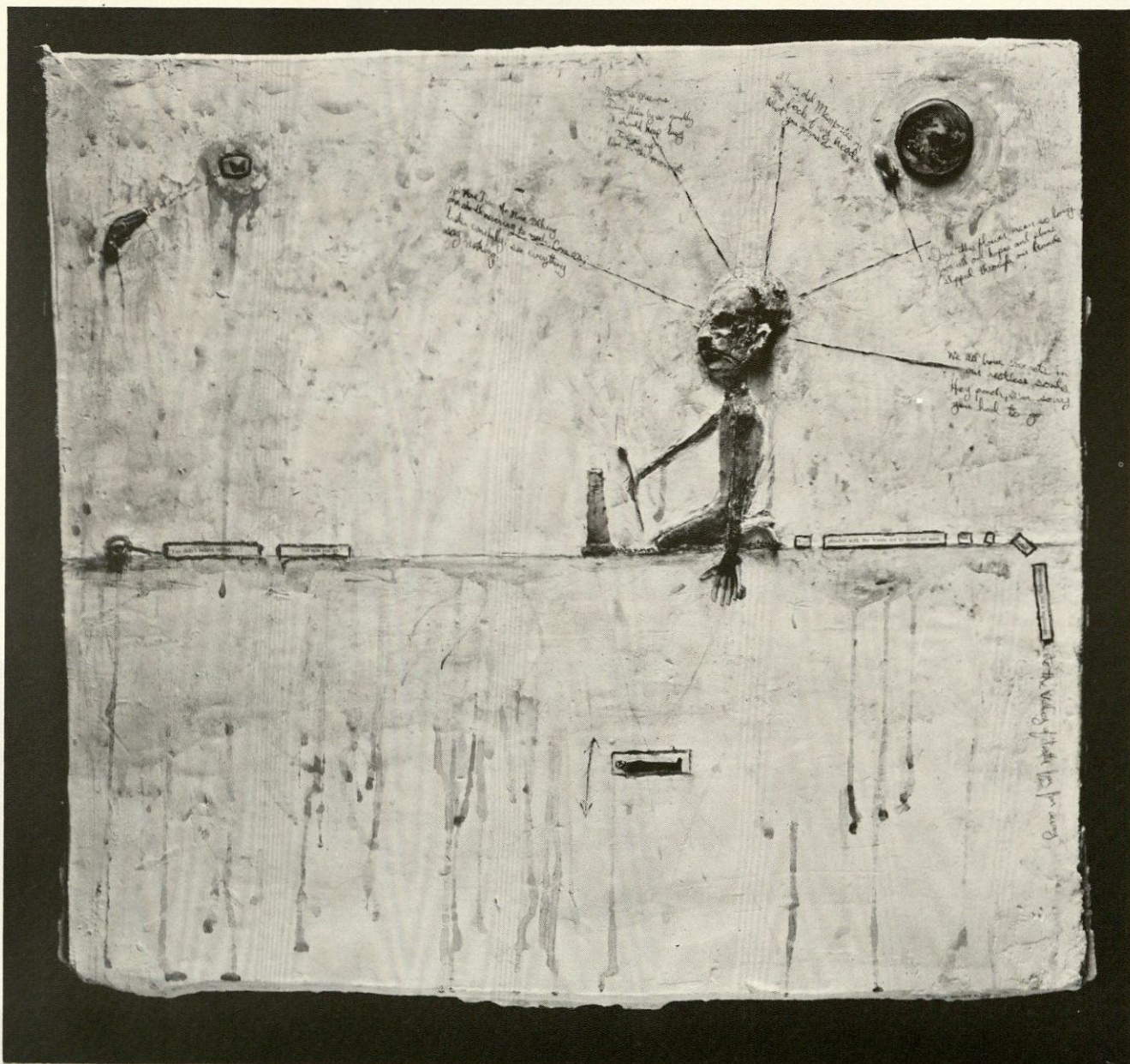
"After playing on a field of moronic faces, I love to wind down before a work of art." The Pope nods knowingly. "Say, this is an intense place. If I could release the energy packed in this little garage, it'd be quits for the world right now. Gonzalez," the enthroned Ronald calls to the Ronald shrinking next to a box of aborted pieces, "Wrap up these and those. Throw in the two with red paint streaming from their eye sockets. Décor for our little hideaway in the bowels of Iron Mountain, you know. And to keep us mindful of the sufferings on the surface (we've got hearts)." Charles Manson, representing, in this company, the spirit of compassion and restraint, chokes with feeling.

The blasted figures crowd around. "We are haunting you!" The President nods.

Times past drift through the used bargain stores of downtown Binghamton. Gonzalez sifts for the cheap, absurd, cast-off toys and household items he incorporates with a twisted love into his knickknack-shelf altars to dreariness. Anguished 1940's silver screen dreams come to rest here. "He was so afraid, as an altar boy, of dropping the Host," the Pope offers. "Yet perhaps this precious play with fragile matter is but another form of transubstantiation." "You mean," Manson asks, restraining his mirth, "these are Holy Ghosts of the Triple Cities?" "Kind of." It was at just this moment, out of nowhere, the thought struck the Pope to apologize for the Inquisition.

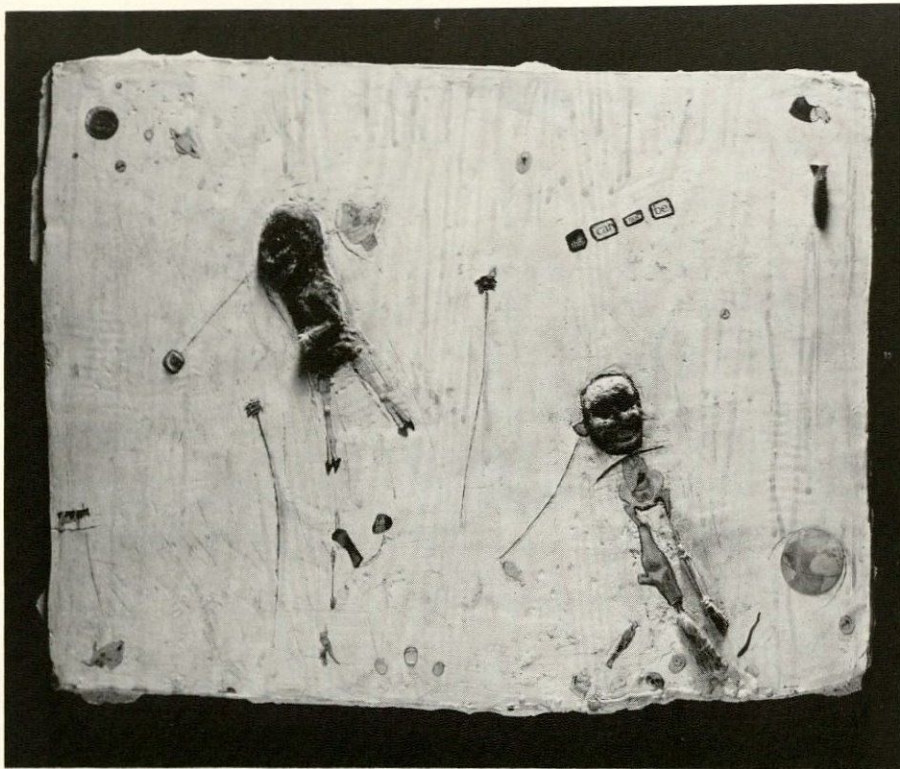
Ken Jacobs  
December 17, 1984





A Flower for My Father, 1984 24"x27"





*This Can Not Be, 1984 20"x20"*

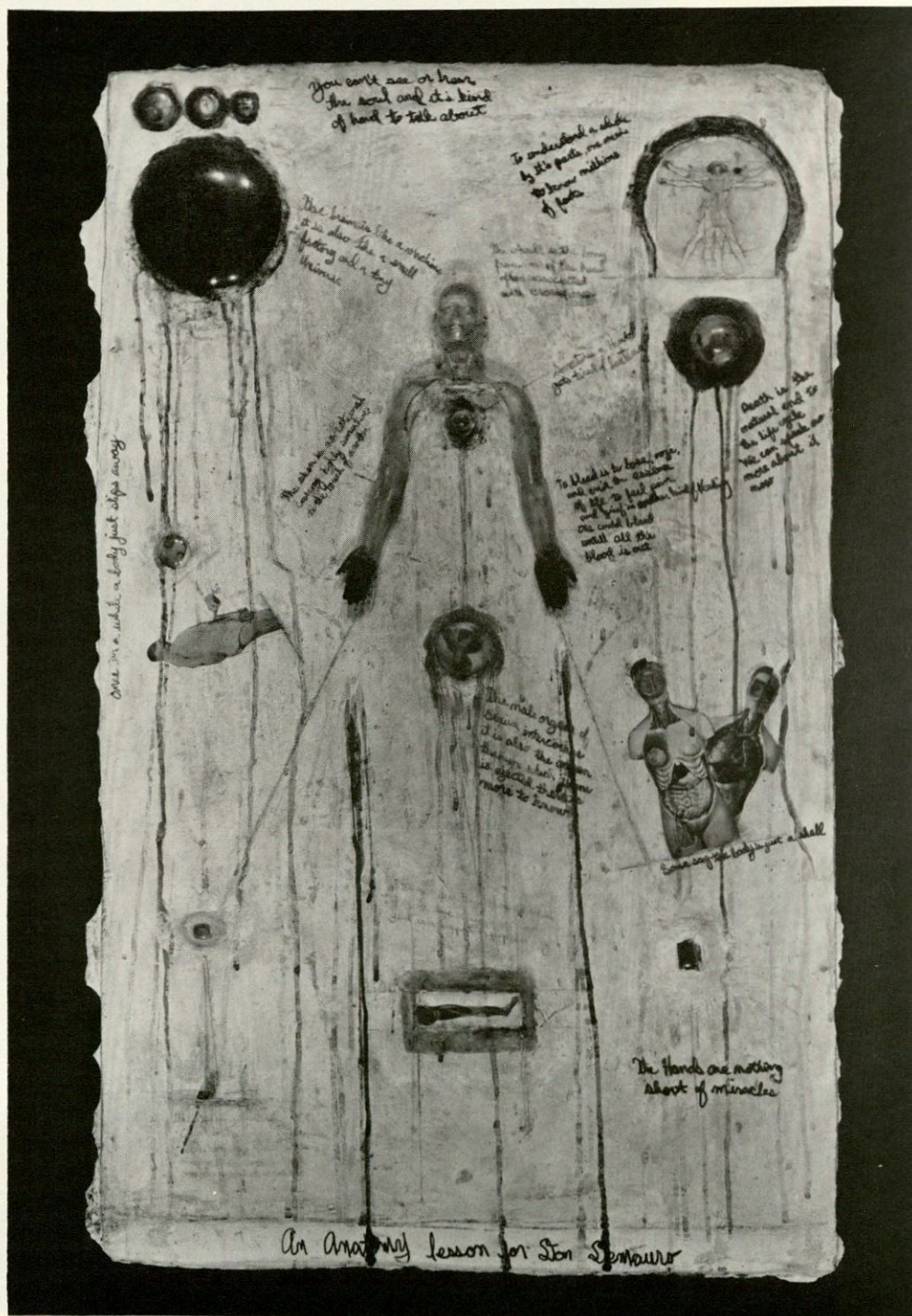


*Self Portrait - from A Dream, 1984 25 1/2"x24"*







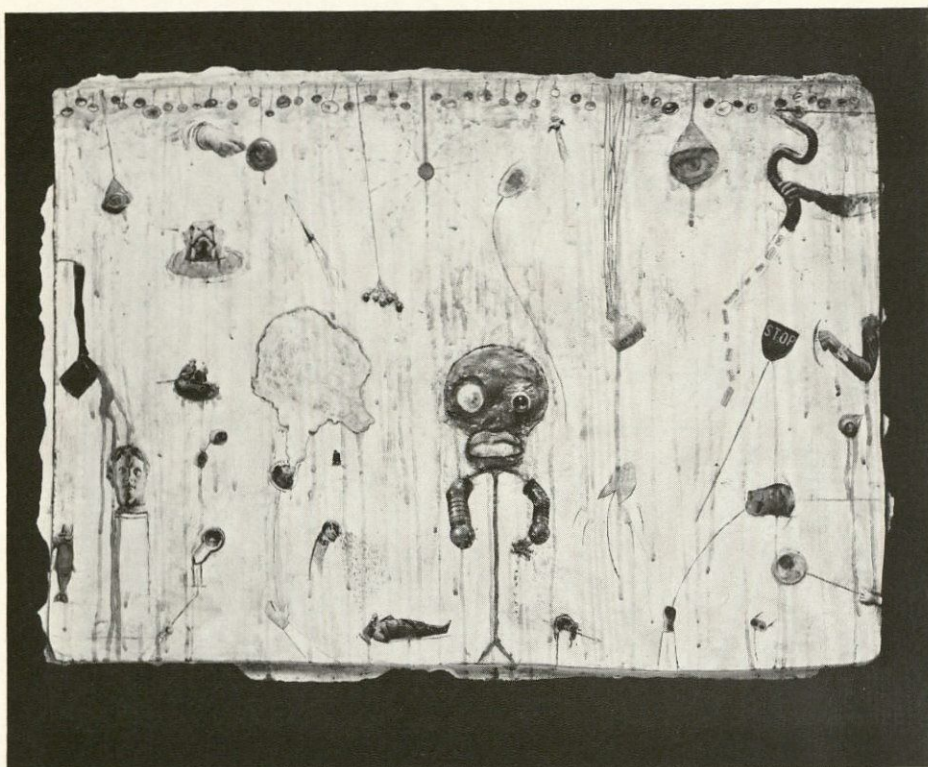




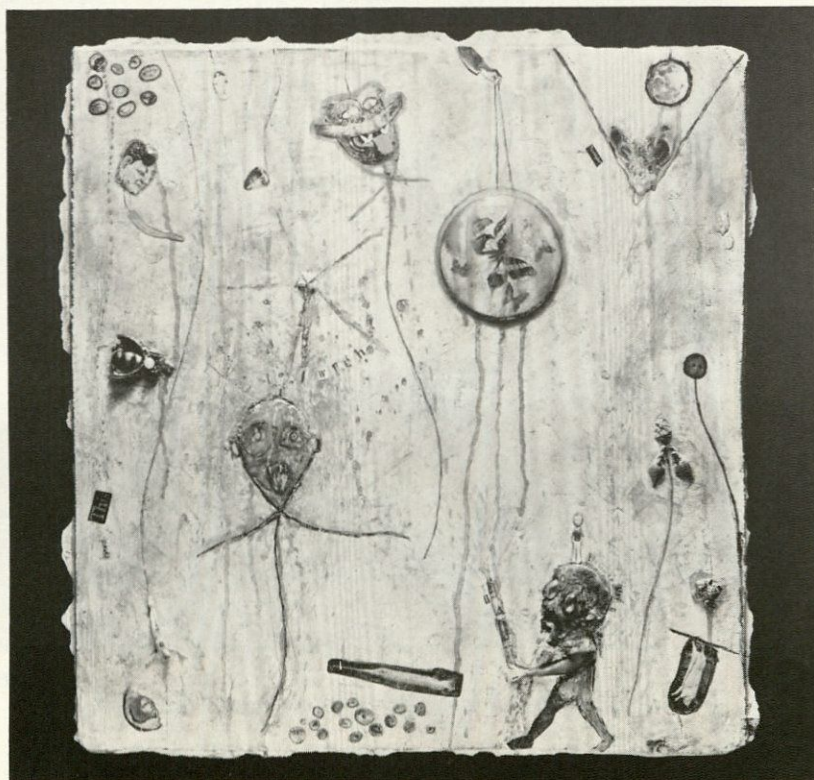


Little Eyes Are Seeing, 1983 28"x27"



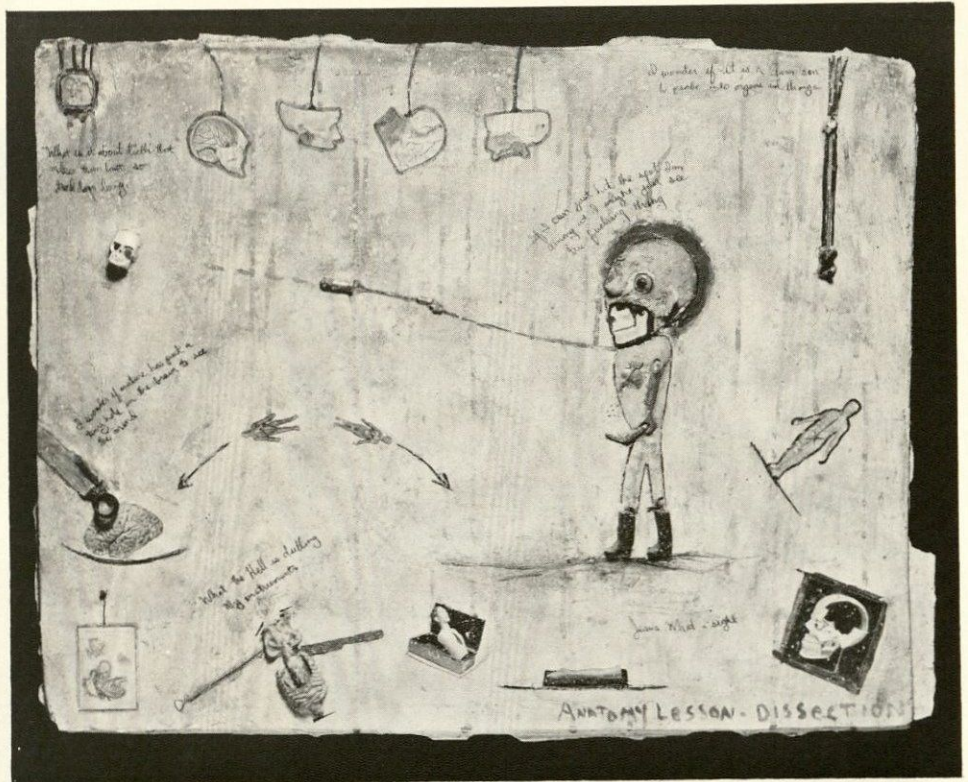


*They Must Have Seen Something,*  
1984 22"x32"



*I Wish, 1984 23"x23"*



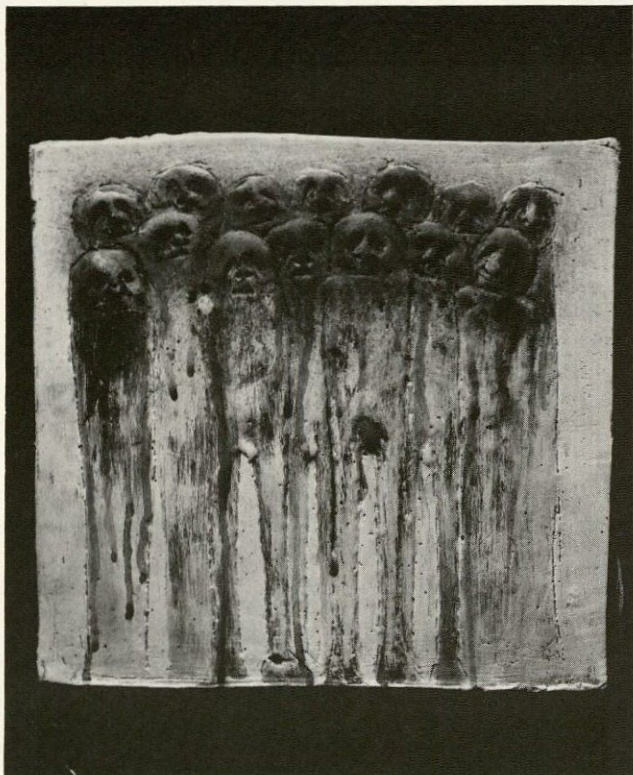


*Anatomy Lesson, Dissection,*  
1984 19 1/2"x26"



*To see and touch so that we might believe,*  
1984 22x19 1/2



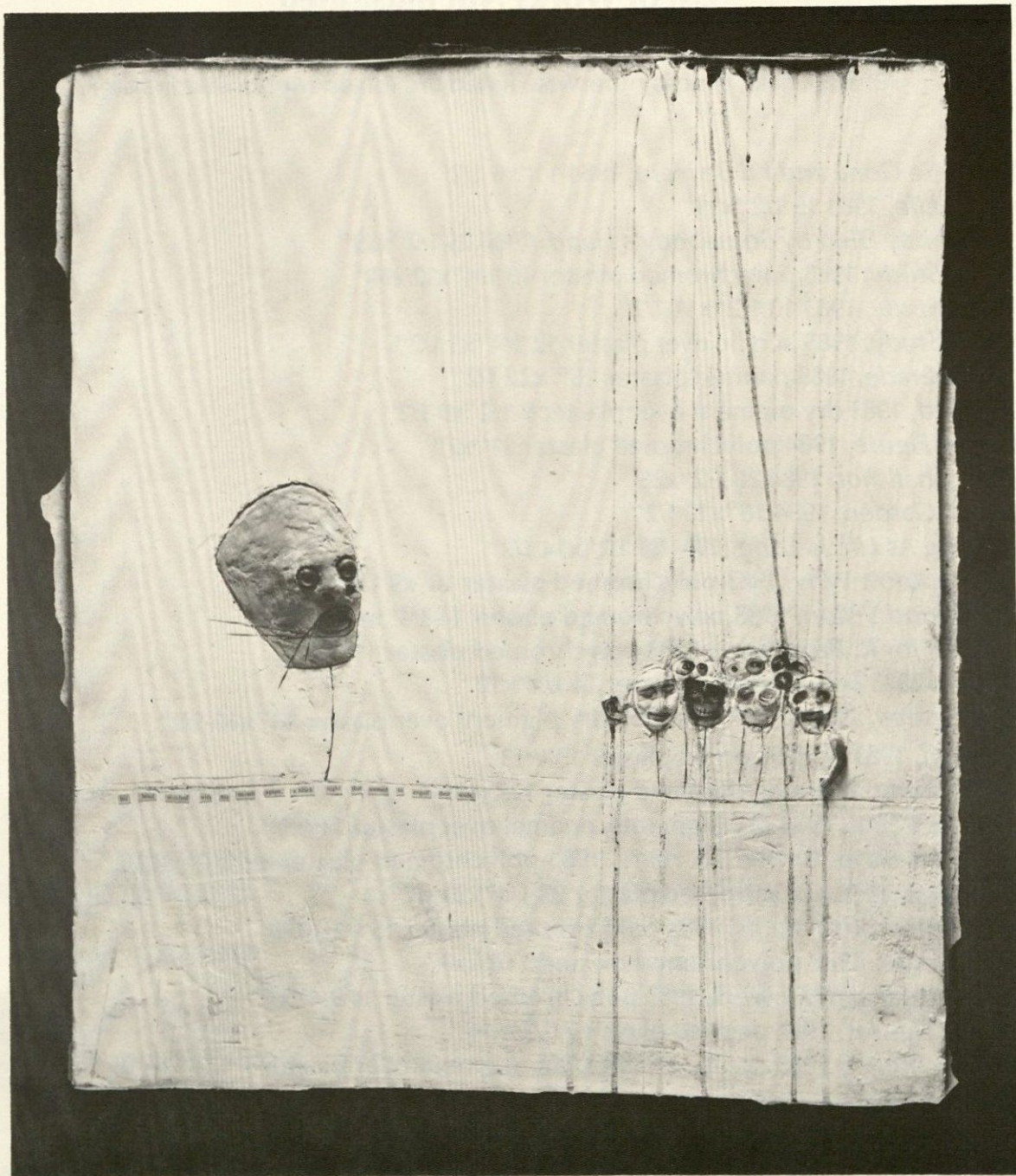


*Crowd*, 1983 Polychromed Plaster 11 1/2"x11 1/2"



*The Red Hand*, 1983 13"x13"





*Big Head Watched, 1984 24"x20 1/2"*



## List of Works Not Illustrated

All materials, unless otherwise listed are mixed media over plaster.

- You'll Be Gone and I'll Be Here*, 1984 11"x6 1/2"  
*Act of Life*, 1983 15 1/2"x11"  
*Somebody Died by Somebody's Hand*, 1984 25 1/2"x29"  
*Relief Study*, 1983 polychromed plaster 10 1/4"x12 1/4"  
*Relief Study*, 1983 10 1/2"x11 1/2"  
*Relief Study*, 1983 acrylic over plaster 12 1/4"x5 1/2"  
*Masquerade*, 1983 painted plaster 15" x22 1/2"  
*Untitled*, 1983 dry pigment over plaster 9 1/2"x9 1/2"  
*Crying Figure*, 1984 polychromed plaster 11"x7"  
*Thou Shall Not*, 1984 20 1/2"x25"  
*Secret Garden*, 1984 18"x20 1/2"  
*As Long As Life Is Long*, 1984 25 1/2"x14 1/2"  
*I Don't Know Why*, 1983 polychromed plaster 16"x9 1/4"  
*Childhood Vision*, 1983 polychromed plaster 14 3/4"x15 1/2"  
*A Relief for R. Broderson*, 1983 polychromed plaster 11"x15"  
*Dream*, 1983 polychromed plaster 14 1/2"x10  
*Red Figures*, 1983 acrylic, enamel, dry pigment over plaster 13"x10 1/2"  
*Untitled*, 1983 polychromed plaster 13"x13"  
*Relief Study*, 1983 polychromed plaster 12"x10"  
*3 Figure Relief*, 1983 dry pigments, enamel over plaster 11"x9"  
*The Days Have Turned To Years*, 1983 polychromed plaster 19 1/2"x8 1/2"  
*Goodbye*, 1983 polychromed plaster 23 1/2"x23 1/2"  
*Self Portrait with Skulls*, 1983 polychromed plaster 15"x10 1/4"  
*Self Portrait*, 1983 polychromed plaster 8 1/2"x9"  
*Self Portrait with Flowers*, 1983 polychromed plaster 14 3/4"x7"  
*Crying Figures*, 1984 painted plaster 7 1/2"x19"  
*3 Figure Relief*, 1983 acrylic, enamel, dry pigment over plaster 7 1/2"x8"  
*Untitled*, 1984 painted plaster 7"x10"  
*3 Figure Relief*, 1983 acrylic, enamel, dry pigment over plaster 11 1/2"x8"  
*3 Figure Relief*, 1983 acrylic, enamel, dry pigment over plaster 10 1/2"x9 3/4"



## Acknowledgements

University Art Gallery Staff

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