



**YOU'RE SOAKING IN IT**

**MELISSA STERN**

# You're Soaking In It

Assemblage

Melissa Stern

2017



## Notes on “You’re Soaking In It”

I’ve always thought of my sculptures as three-dimensional drawings and my drawings as two-dimensional sculptures. The drawings have always been thick with many layers of surface. My sculptures, full of found and fabricated objects, have always had drawn and painted surfaces. In this body of work I have combined drawing and sculpture into assemblage pieces that work in both two and three dimensions. It’s fun and fun is good.

The title of the series “You’re Soaking In It” works on several levels. You can decide how you’d like to think of it. I mean, aren’t we all “soaking in it”?

## Notes on “Other Stuff”

I work like a handyman cobbling together drawings and sculptures from elements found, borrowed, imagined and stolen. I use a wide range of materials from encaustic to clay, pastel to steel. The drawings and sculptures, often made in tandem, resonate between one another, the ideas in one reinforcing the themes of the other.

All of my pieces share a thematic thread. Sexless and goofy my figures live in a dream world, cower in relationships or stand tall in the face of adversity. They are at once dark and funny, expressive of the absurd world around us. The work is rooted in childhood memory. These memories are both funny and scary, child-like but quite serious. We are shaped by childhood and these memories chase us throughout our lives.

Each work is a fragment of a story rather than its full text. I never “write” the endings; each viewer completes the script, bringing their own history, memories and feelings to finish the piece.

***Melissa Stern***





**You're Soaking In It**

Wood, clay, collage, objects, and resin, 29 x 19 x 15 inches, 2017



**Bifocal**

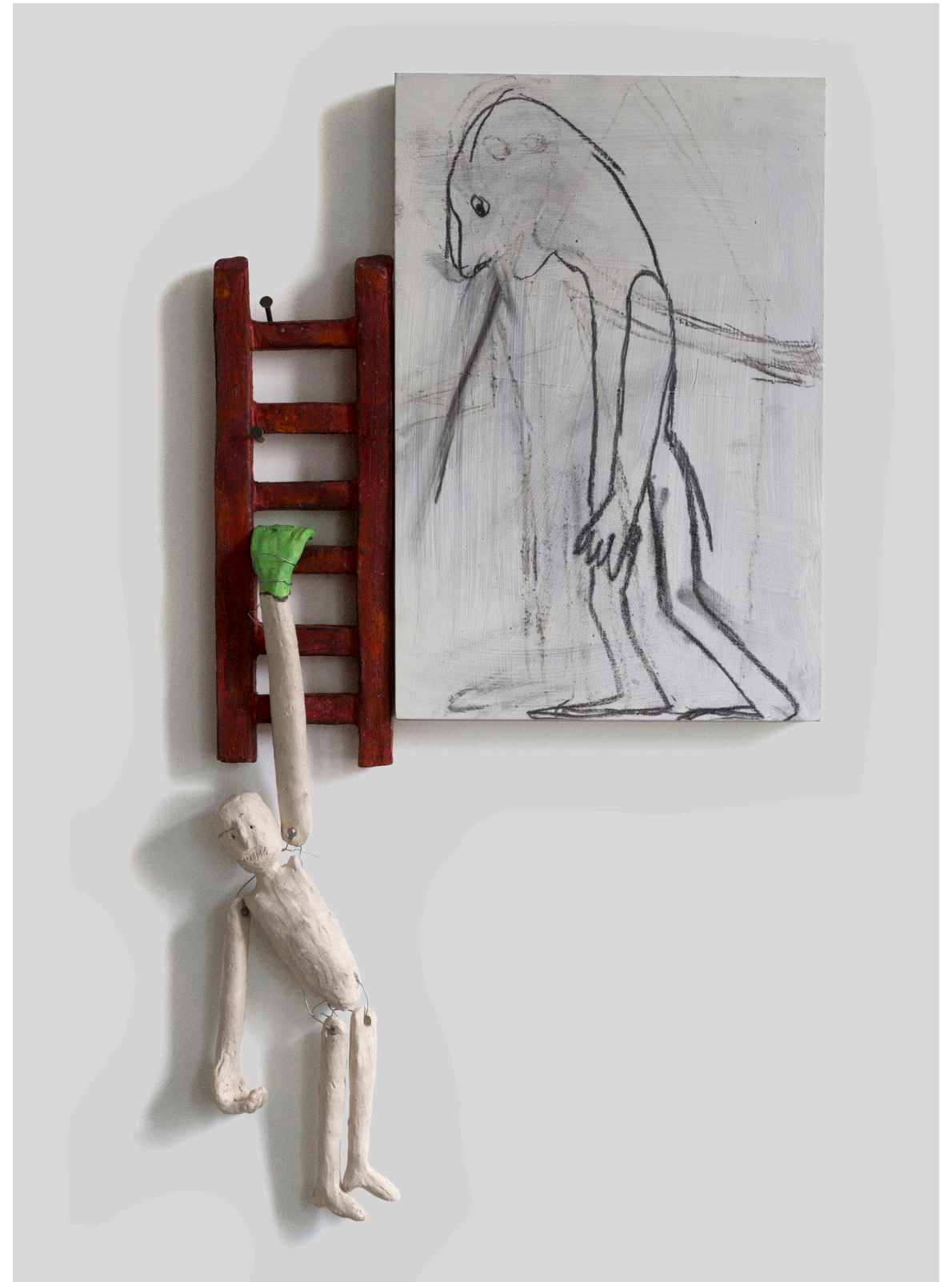
Wood, clay, oil paint, and charcoal, 16 x 15 x 2 inches, 2017

**Souvenir**

Mixed materials and collage, 22 x 13 x 5 inches, 2017





**Green Hand**

Wood, charcoal, clay, and paint, 33 x 17 x 1.5 inches, 2015



**House Sitter**

Wood, clay, paint, charcoal, and pastel, 10 x 19 x 1.5 inches, 2015



**Aloha**

Wood, clay, paint, pastel, objects, and nails, 24 x 12 x 5 inches, 2015





**Yakity Yak**

Wood, clay, oil stick, paint, stone, and graphite, 36.75 x 25 x 2.5 inches, 2015



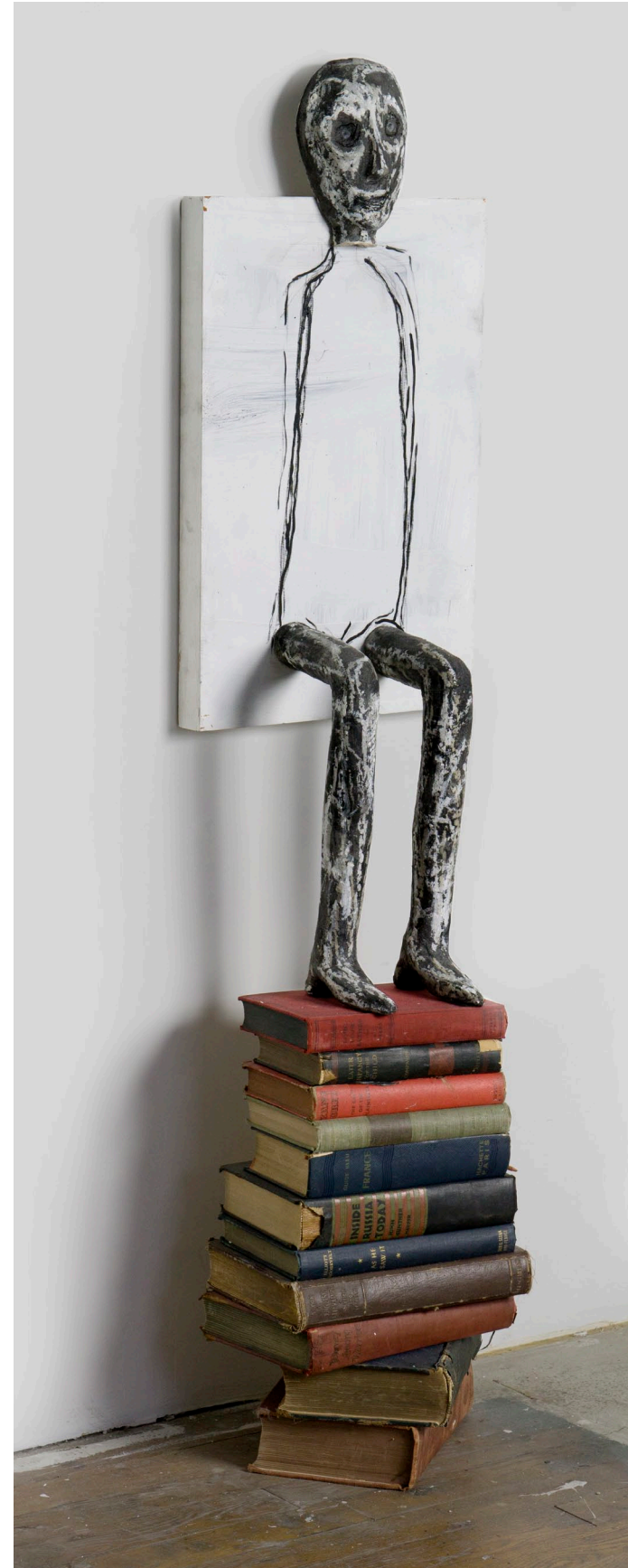


**Half Life**

Wood, clay, oil stick, paper, and paint, 13 x 13.5 x 3 inches, 2015

**Overdue**

Clay, book, wood, paint, and oil stick, 45 x 12 x 14 inches, 2015







**Modern Art**

Clay, wood, oil paint, and object, 38.5 x 19 x 9.5 inches, 2015



**Born This Way**

Clay, wood, copper, graphite, and paper, 36 x 6 x 3 inches, 2015





**Little Friend**

Clay, wood, charcoal, object, and ink, 78.5 x 24 x 22 inches, 2015



**Curly Q**

Clay, wood, metal, ink, graphite, and paint, 10 x 10 x 1 inches, 2015





**Shelf Life**

Clay, paint, metal, wood, and rubber, 25 x 10 x 6 inches, 2015



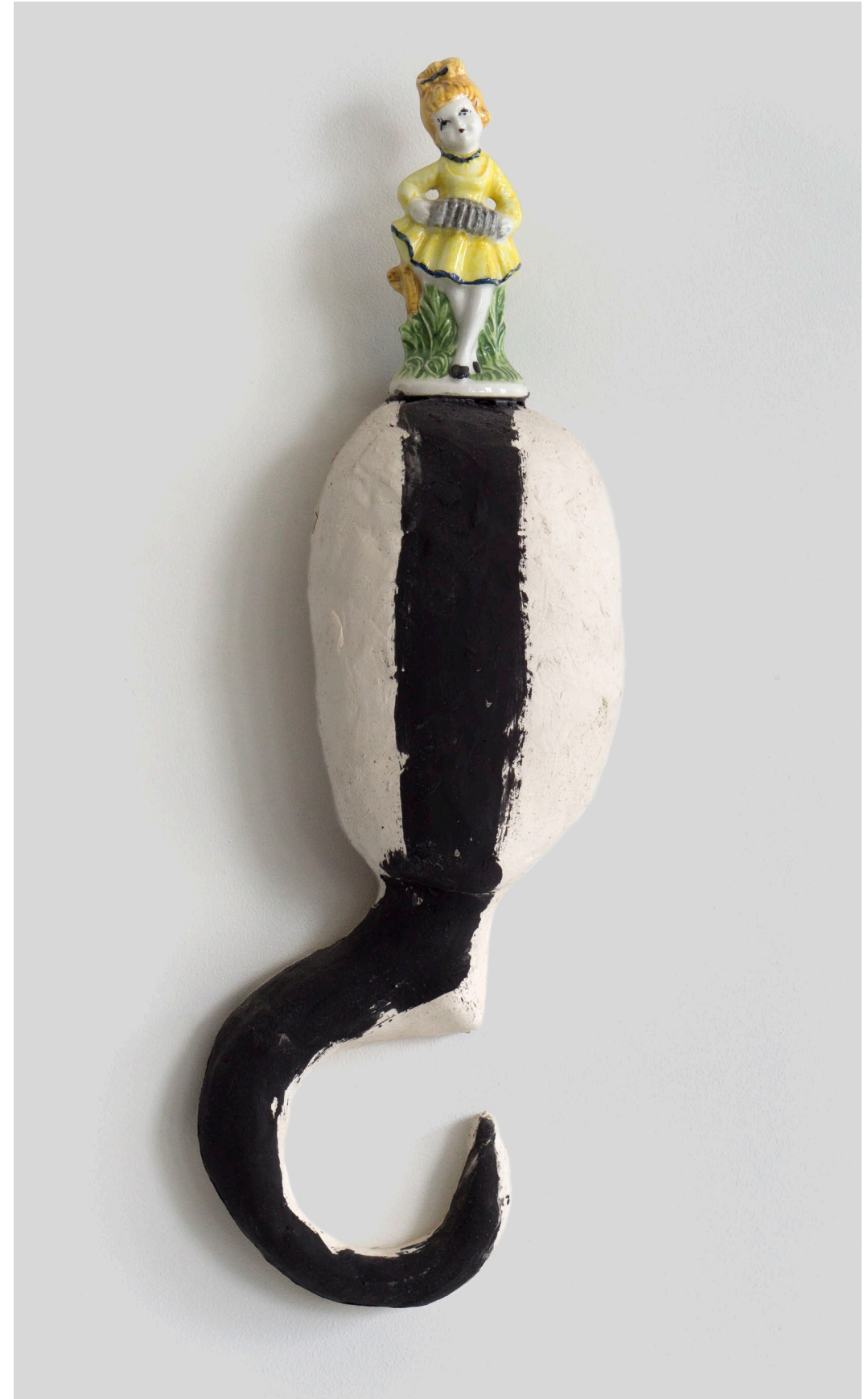
**Upstairs Downstairs**

Clay, wood, and mixed materials, 27 x 12 x 9 inches, 2015



**Vienna**

Clay, paint, and object, 21 x 7 x 3.5 inches, 2014





## Anthropology

Clay, mixed materials, and collage, 24 x 19 x 4 inches, 2016





**Thought-Full**

Clay, pastel, charcoal, and wood, 19 x 13 x 3.5 inches, 2016





**My Family**

Clay, wood, paint, collage, and objects, 21 x 12 x 3.5 inches, 2016





**Concentric**

Clay, ink, found objects, and glass, 13.75 x 10 x 4 inches, 2017





# Thought-Less

Clay, oil paint, encuastic, graphite, and paper, 16 x 16 x 4 inches, 2016





### Enjoy the Holidays

Clay, wood, plaster, paper, and paint, 19 x 18 x 7 inches, 2016



**Two Men, Looking Left**

Clay, wood, oil paint, oil stick, and object, 34 x 33 x 3 inches, 2015





# First Position

Clay, wood, and collage drawings, 16 x 9.5 x 7.25 inches, 2015



**Sit**

Clay, wood, ink, charcoal, oil paint, and oil stick, 73.5 x 24 x 22 inches, 2015





# Broken Toys

Clay, wood, oil paint, graphite, charcoal, and object, 33 x 28 x 8 inches, 2015



[www.melissa-stern.com](http://www.melissa-stern.com)

[www.thetalkingcureproject.com](http://www.thetalkingcureproject.com)

[www.speakingintongues.melissa-stern.com](http://www.speakingintongues.melissa-stern.com)



Loose lips, sink ships.

