

# UC Davis

## Streetnotes

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City Sketches (2018-2021)

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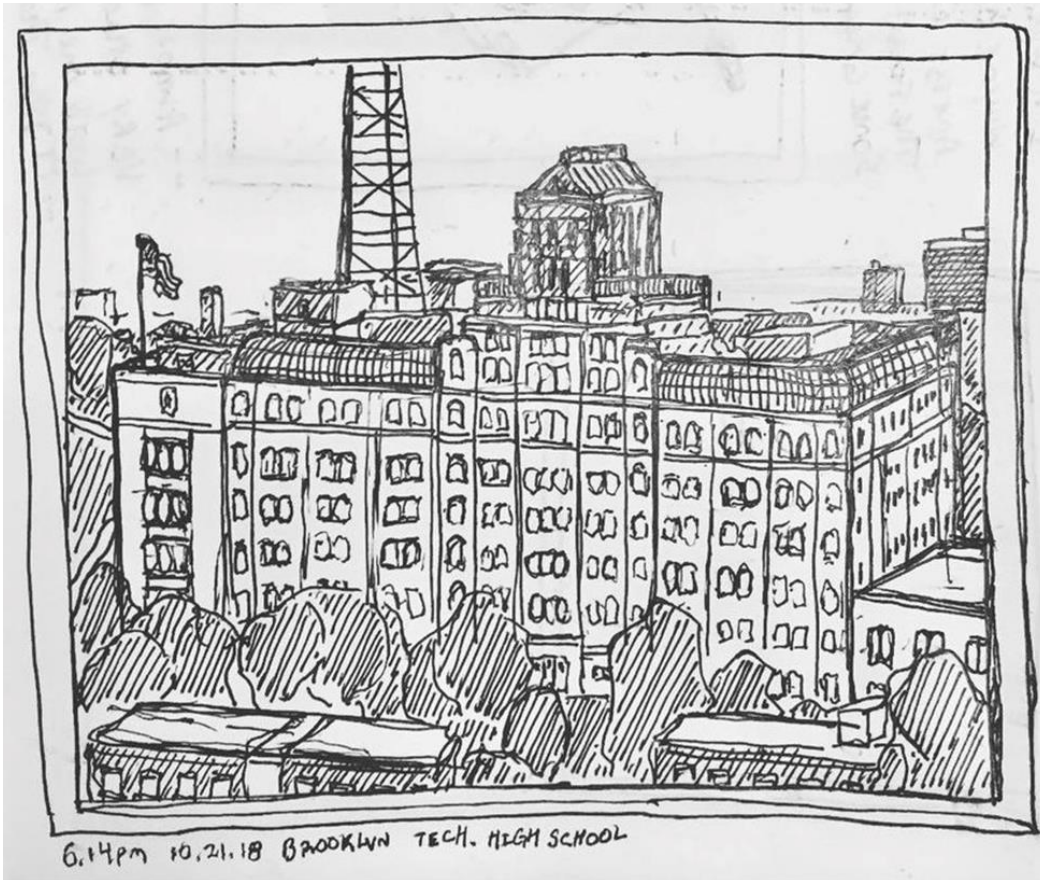
# City Sketches (2018-2021)

**Ryan Donovan Purcell**

## **Abstract**

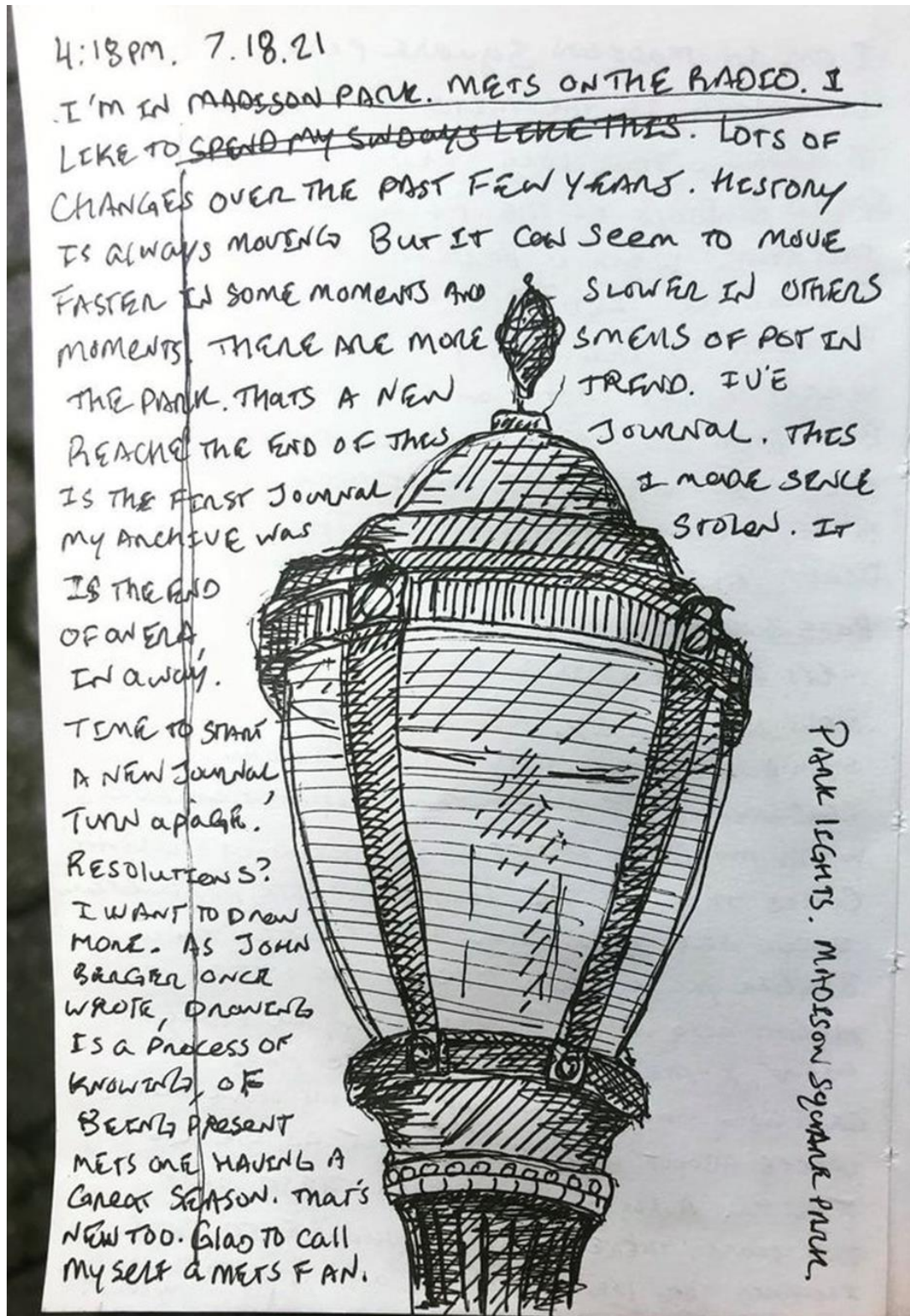
Drawing is an act of discovery, according to the late culture critic John Berger. Drawing forces, the artist to look at the object, to dissect it in their mind's eye and put it together again. Much like writing, drawing is also a means of observing and thinking about the world around you. Berger's philosophy has animated many of my creative projects over the past five years. This is how I approach urban history: observation, reflection, and analysis. But I have discovered drawing as an intimate medium through which to think about my relationship to New York City.





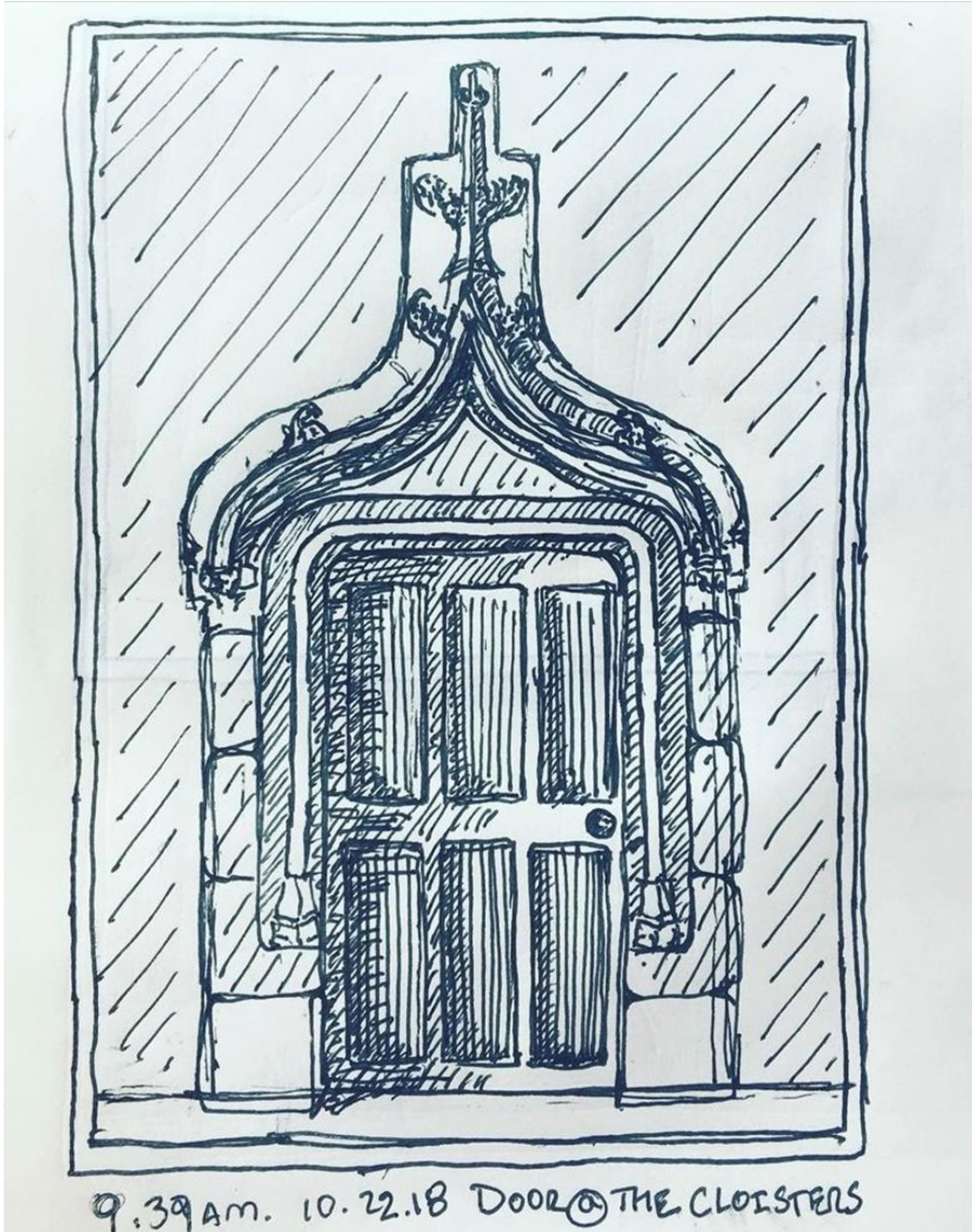








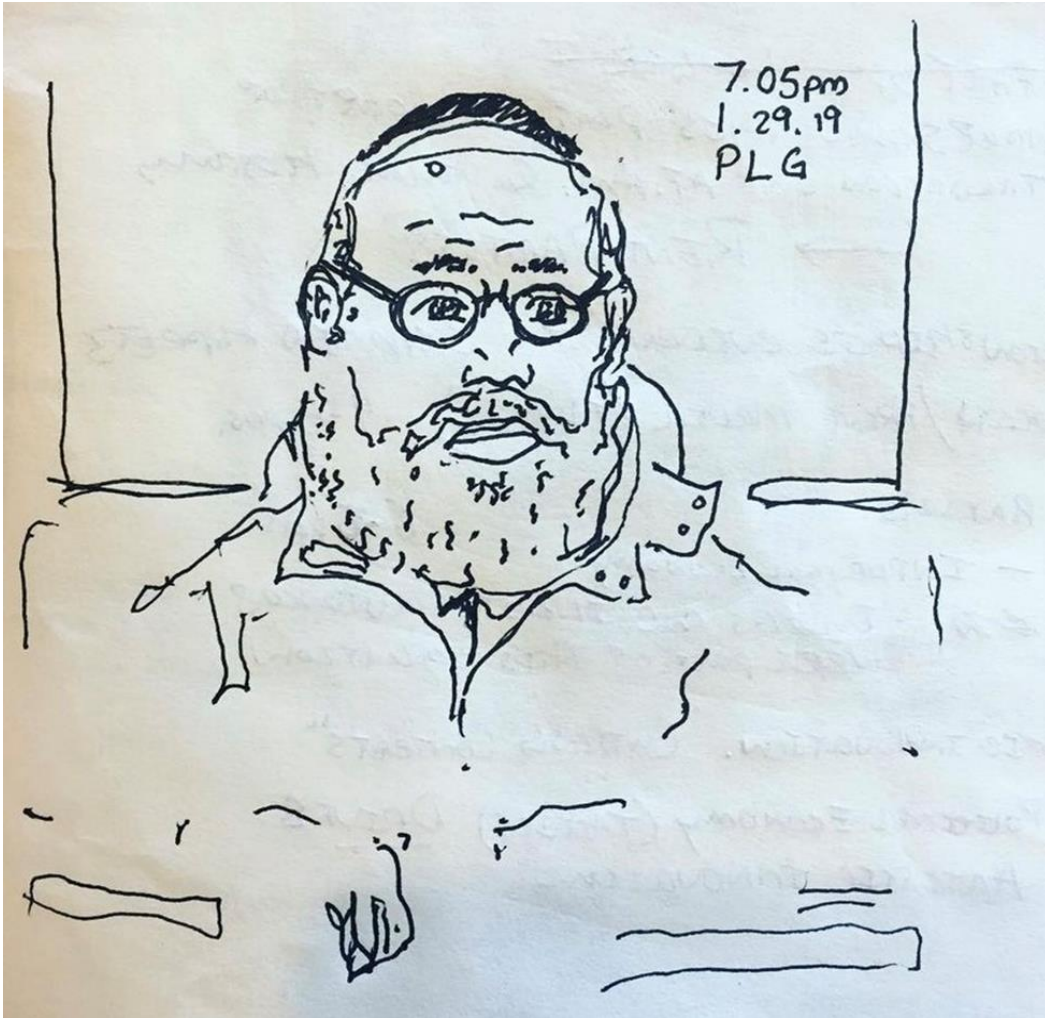


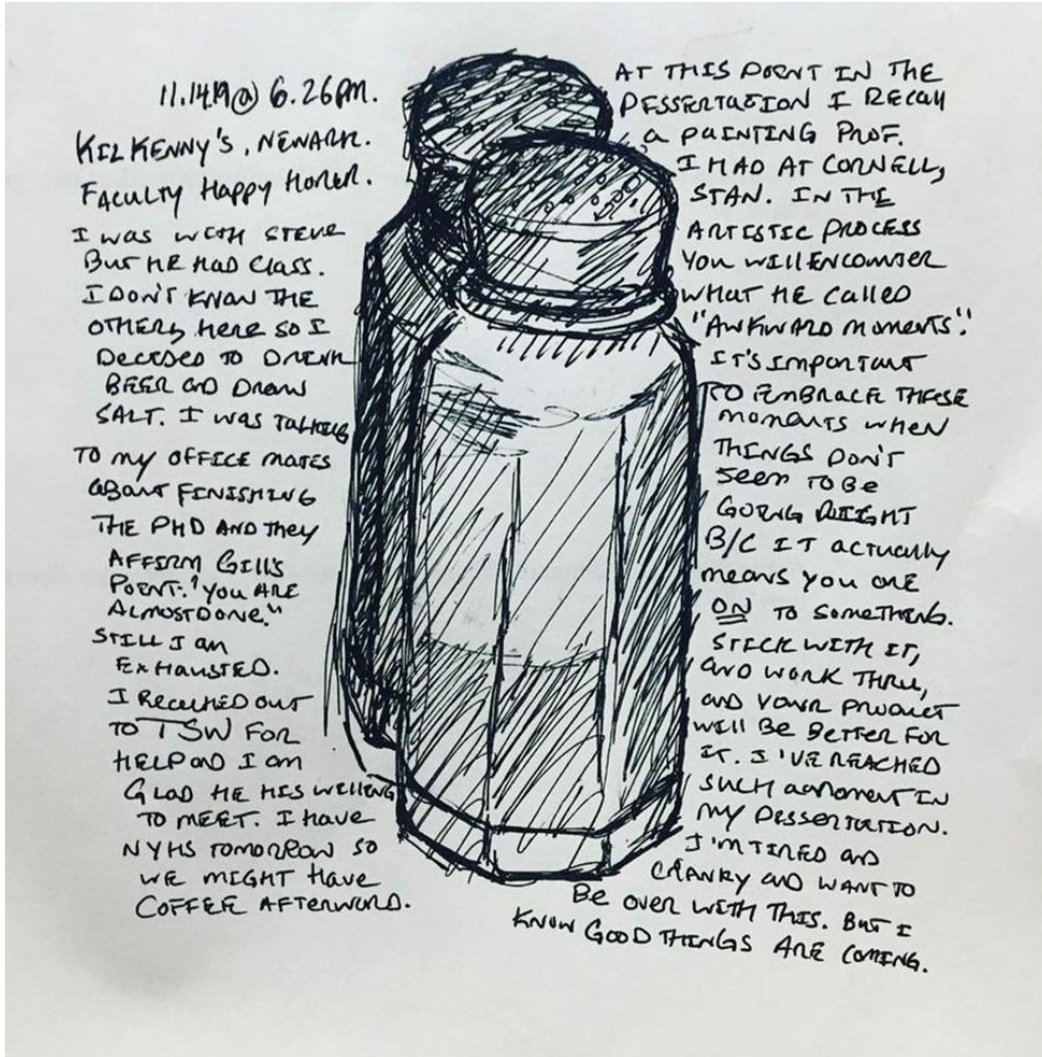


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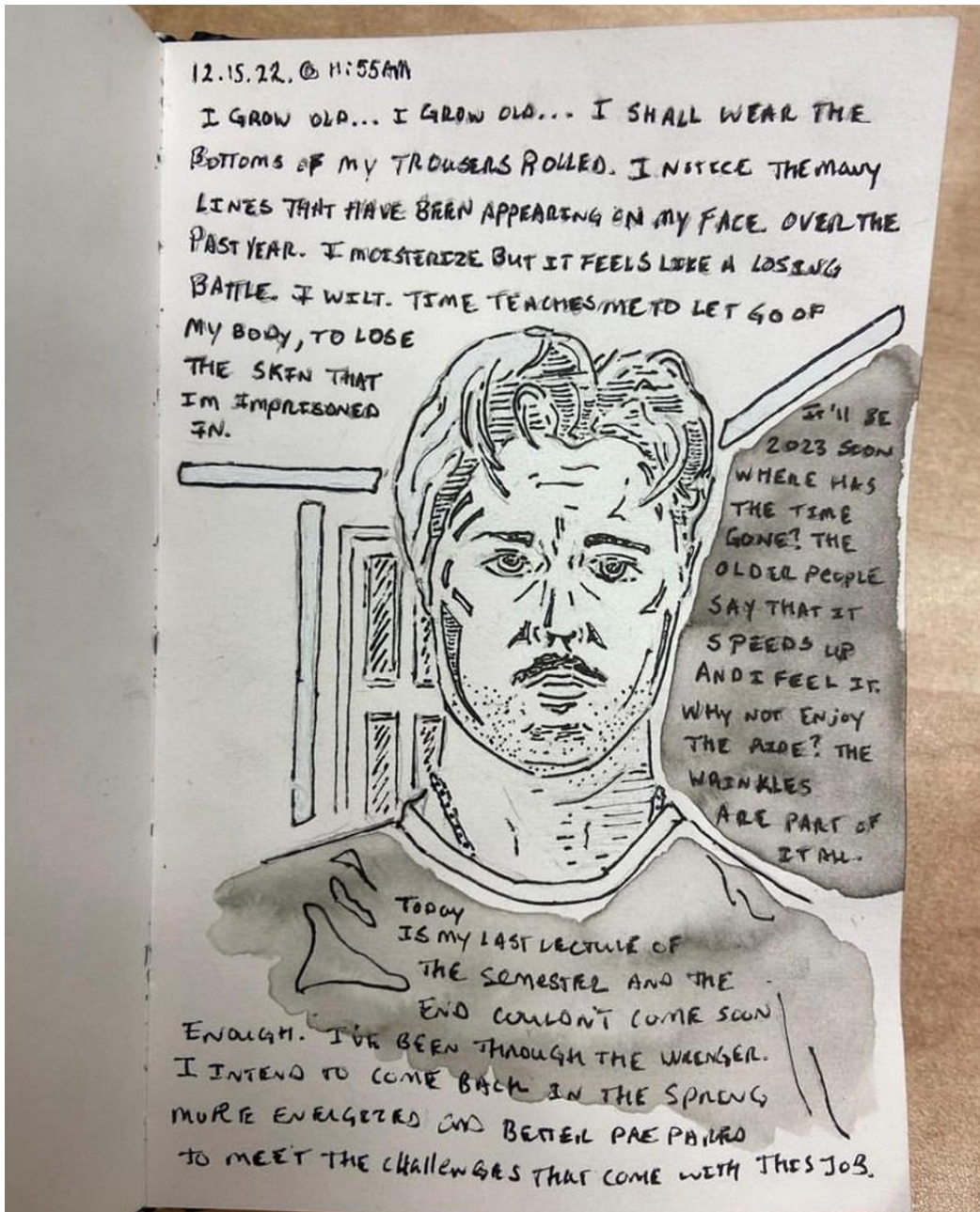




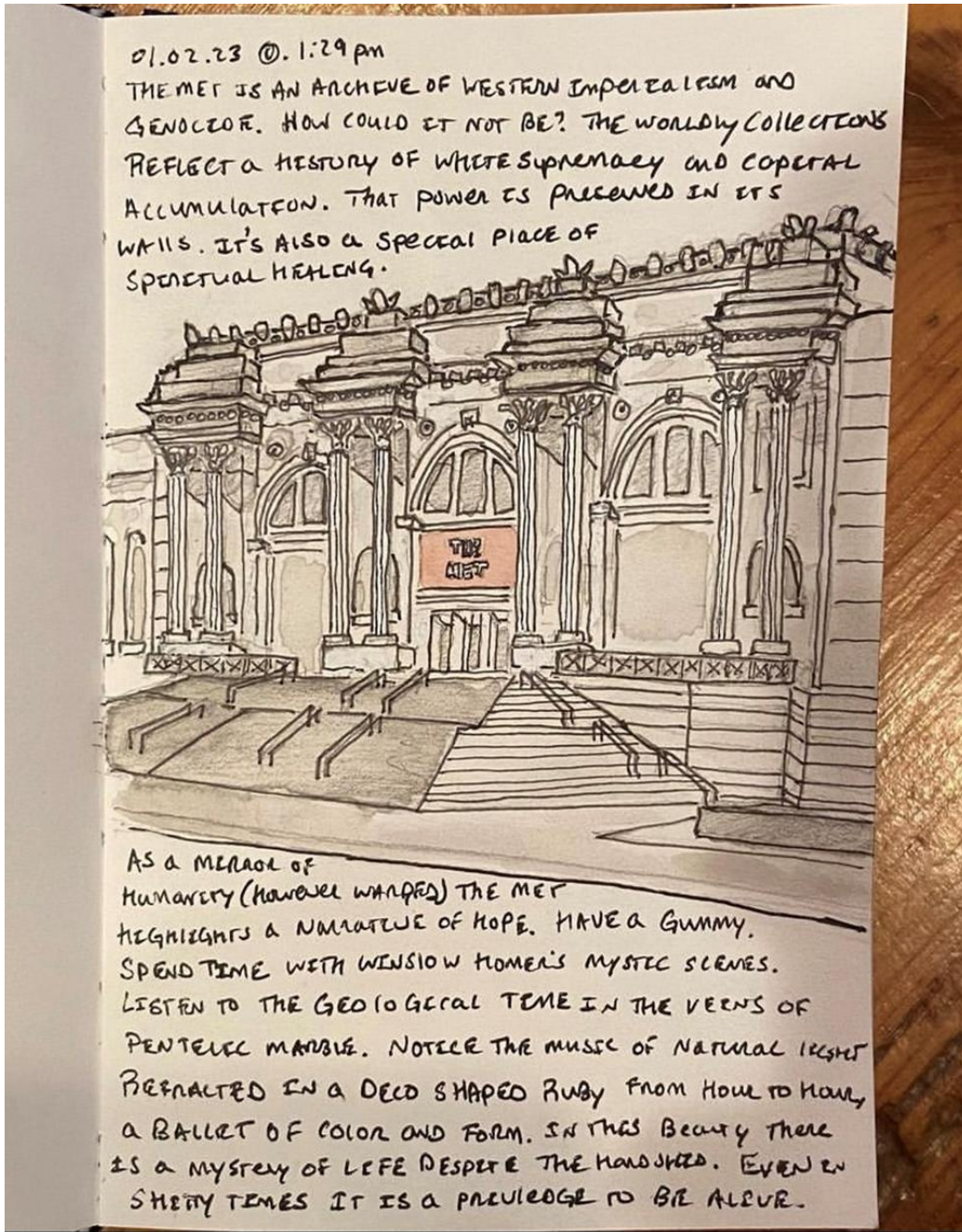




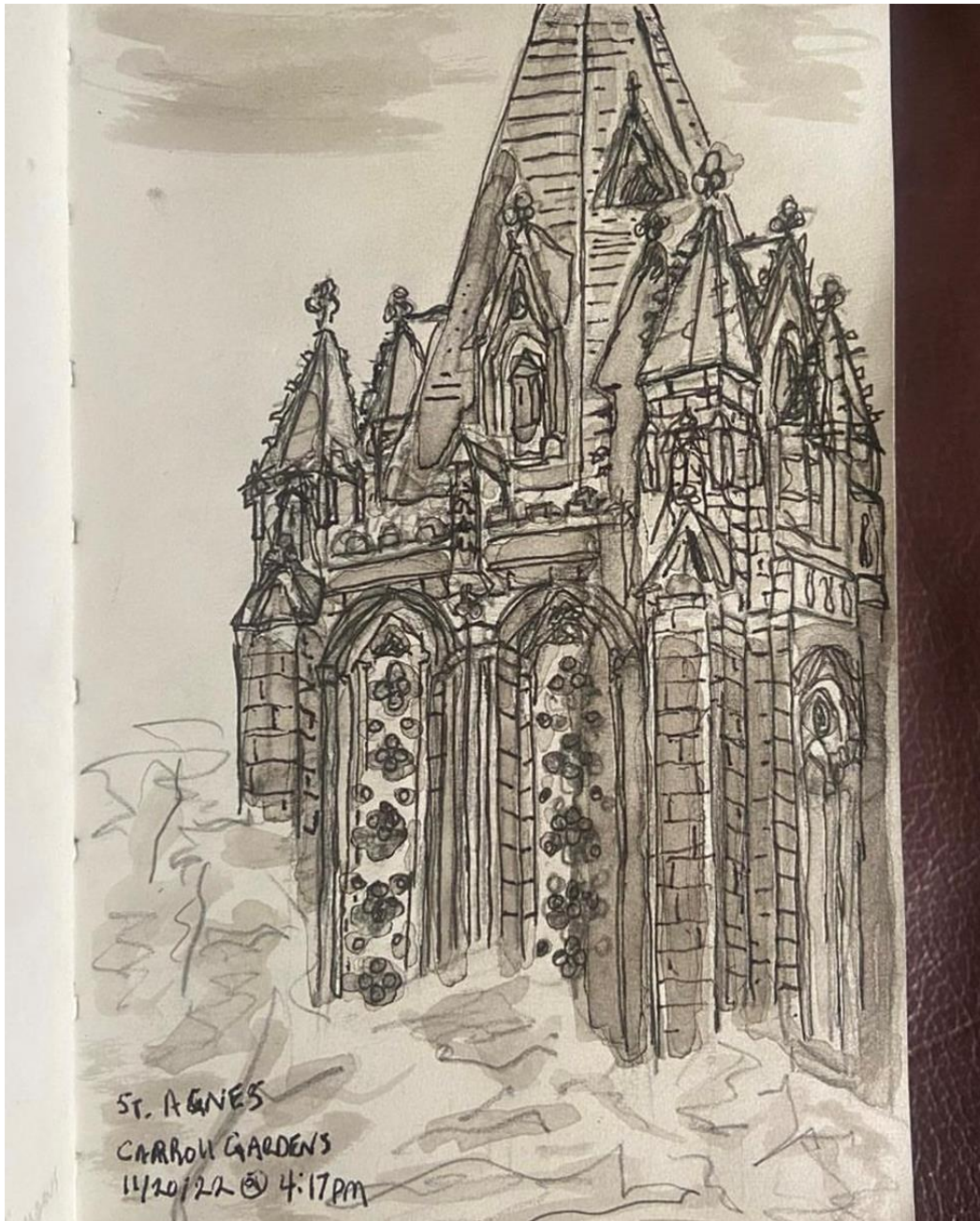




















### **About the Artist**

Ryan Purcell's work on history and popular culture has been published in the *Journal of Urban History*, *Rethinking History*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and *Hyperallergic*. A member of the editorial board at the Gotham Center for New York City History at the City University of New York Graduate Center, he is working on a book about how the New York punk rock scene developed with in welfare hotels during the 1970s.