

# MARCUS: THE NAKED BRAZILIAN

Revealed in the Drawings,  
Paintings & Photographs of

**DOUGLAS SIMONSON**



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Paintings and Photographs of  
**DOUGLAS SIMONSON**

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## MEETING MARCUS



My first photo shoot in Brazil happened in 2004, with a couple of models named Renato and Rogério, and it was such a success I went back to Brazil 6 months later for another photo shoot. It was on that second trip that I met Marcus.

I took the photograph above at a restaurant in Rio called A Garota de Ipanema, on the night I first met Marcus. At left is my friend and traveling companion Gina, at right is Gui, my Brazil talent scout, and in the middle, flirting with Gina, is Marcus.

The purpose of that meeting was for me to meet Marcus and decide if I wanted to work with him. My initial response, though I didn't say it aloud, was "Oh, yeah!"

When I first met Marcus, all I knew was that he was totally hot. Or, as they in Brazil, *um gato*. I had no idea at that time how important he would become in my artistic life.



*Above, photos taken during and after lunch on our arrival in Angra dos Reis. Below, we arrive at the marina and head for the boat we've chartered.*



*Angra dos Reis*



*After that first meeting with Marcus, Gui and I decided we should set our first photoshoot with him in the resort town of Angra dos Reis, which is about 2 and a half hours south of Rio. The four of us, Gina, Gui, Marcus and I, took a chartered boat out into the three hundred-plus islands of the Costa Verde to find a deserted tropical beach where Marcus could get naked for my camera.*



We found it, of course---and many others as well. That first day working with Marcus was a revelation. It turned out that he was not only great-looking and sexy, he also had amazing energy. I mean the kind of energy where he never seems to run down and it's a challenge to keep up with him; but I also mean the kind of energy that makes you want to look at him, watch him, just be around him.

I felt it when I was photographing him, but it was when I began looking at the photographs *after* the photoshoot that it really dawned on me. This boy had sex appeal like crazy, but beyond that, he had real charisma.

Since first discovering Marcus, I've done so many drawings and paintings and published so many photographs of him, you could truly say



he's my muse. That's why this book has been so long in the making: for me, Marcus is a big subject. I have a lot to say about him, mostly using my camera and my brushes.

The photographs, drawings and paintings that resulted from that first photoshoot are the subject of Part One of this book, *The First Marcus Photoshoot*.

A few months after that first photoshoot, I returned again to Brazil and this time we took two models with us to Angra dos Reis: Marcus, and a new guy named Sandro. Sandro was a perfectly adequate model but he suffered in comparison to Marcus. Almost anyone would. So although it was the "Marcus-Sandro Photoshoot" it really ended up being, once again, all about Marcus.

The photographs, drawings and paintings that resulted from that photoshoot are the subject of Part Two of this book, *The Second Photoshoot: Marcus and Sandro*.



*Marcus and Sandro get to know each other on the first day of the photoshoot.*





*The view from my apartment in Copacabana in April 2006. Beautiful, but--where's Marcus?*

Then, in April 2006, I was in Rio for a few weeks on vacation. I was staying at a friend's apartment in Copacabana, right across from the beach. I was hoping to do another Marcus photoshoot, but by now I had discovered that aside from his sexiness and charisma, there is another aspect of Marcus that makes him attractive: his elusiveness. I've never had a phone number or e-mail for Marcus that was any good for more than a week or two. He's never in the same place for long and nobody ever seems to know how to reach him. That's why each time he actually shows up and I'm able to do a photoshoot with him, I view it as a kind of miracle.

This time, in Copacabana, it didn't look like it was going to happen. A few days into my stay, I had run into Marcus in a bar, totally by chance, and we had set up a day and time to get together. Of course he hadn't shown up. So I'd given up on it.

Then, about 10 a.m. one morning about a



week after the failed appointment, I was in my apartment and I got a call from the doorman. He said I had a visitor. I went down to see who it was, and sure enough, there was Marcus, ready for his closeup.

know is), you're going to spend some happy hours with this book. Enjoy!

--Douglas Simonson, July 2012

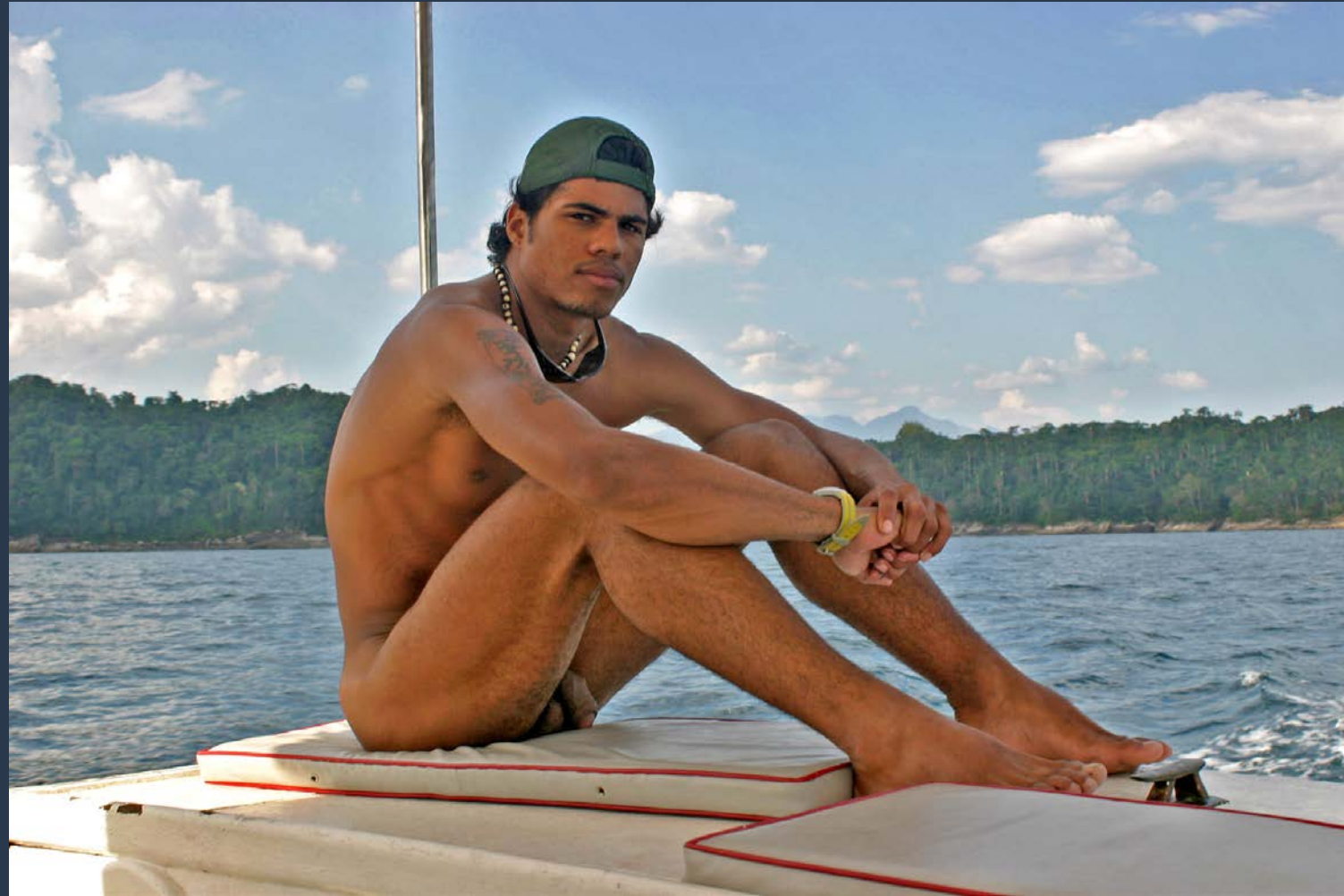
When Marcus shows up out of the blue for a photoshoot, you reschedule everything else and grab the opportunity. That's what I did, and that's the third and final chapter of this book: *The Third Photoshoot: Copacabana*.

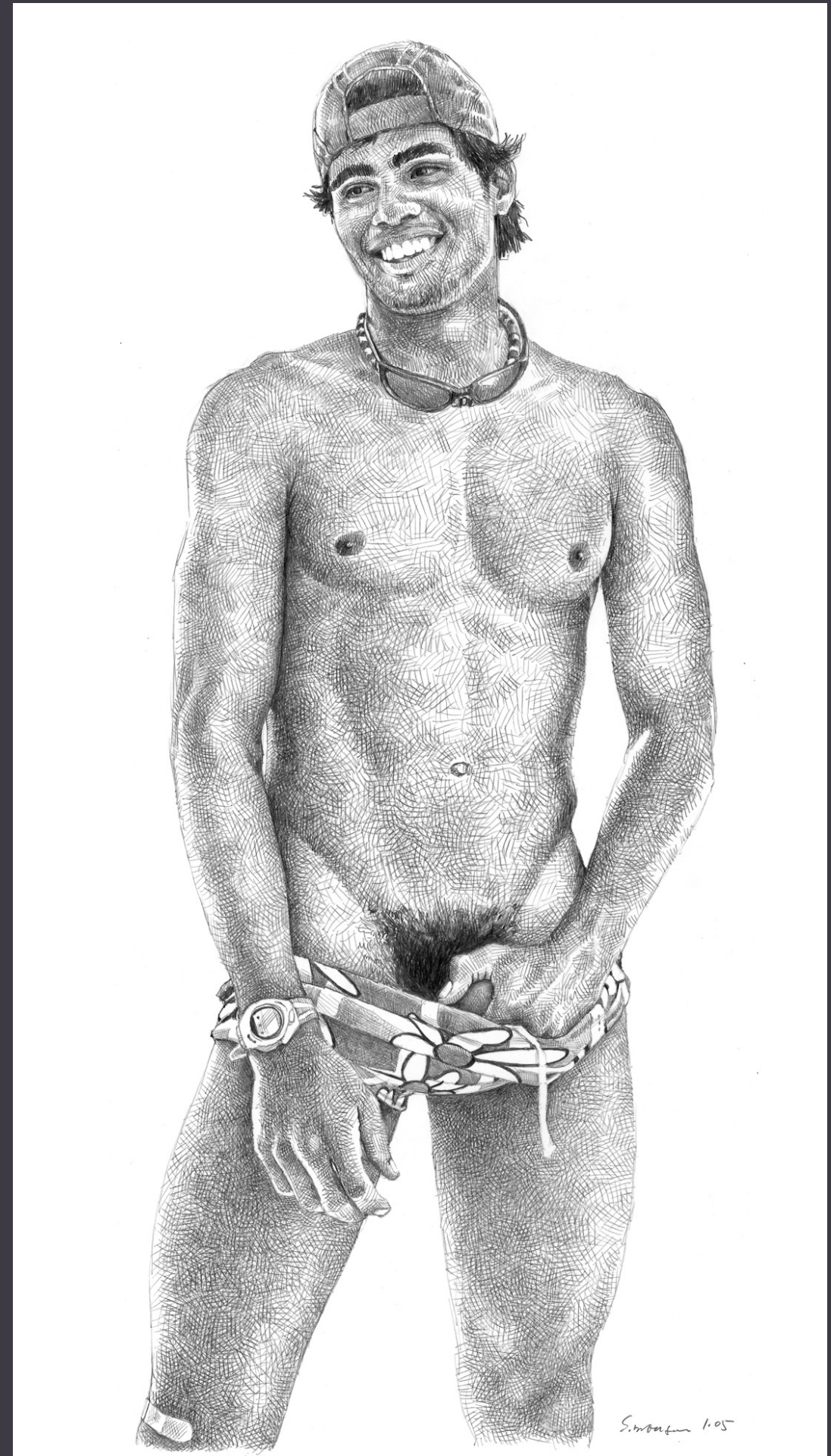
Putting this book together was quite an undertaking, simply because I have so much Marcus material: thousands and thousands of photographs, plus all the drawings and paintings I've done of him. But working with Marcus is always a joy, despite the challenges. Even when it's just two-dimensional representations of him. If you're a Marcus lover (and just about everybody I

# THE FIRST MARCUS PHOTOSHOOT

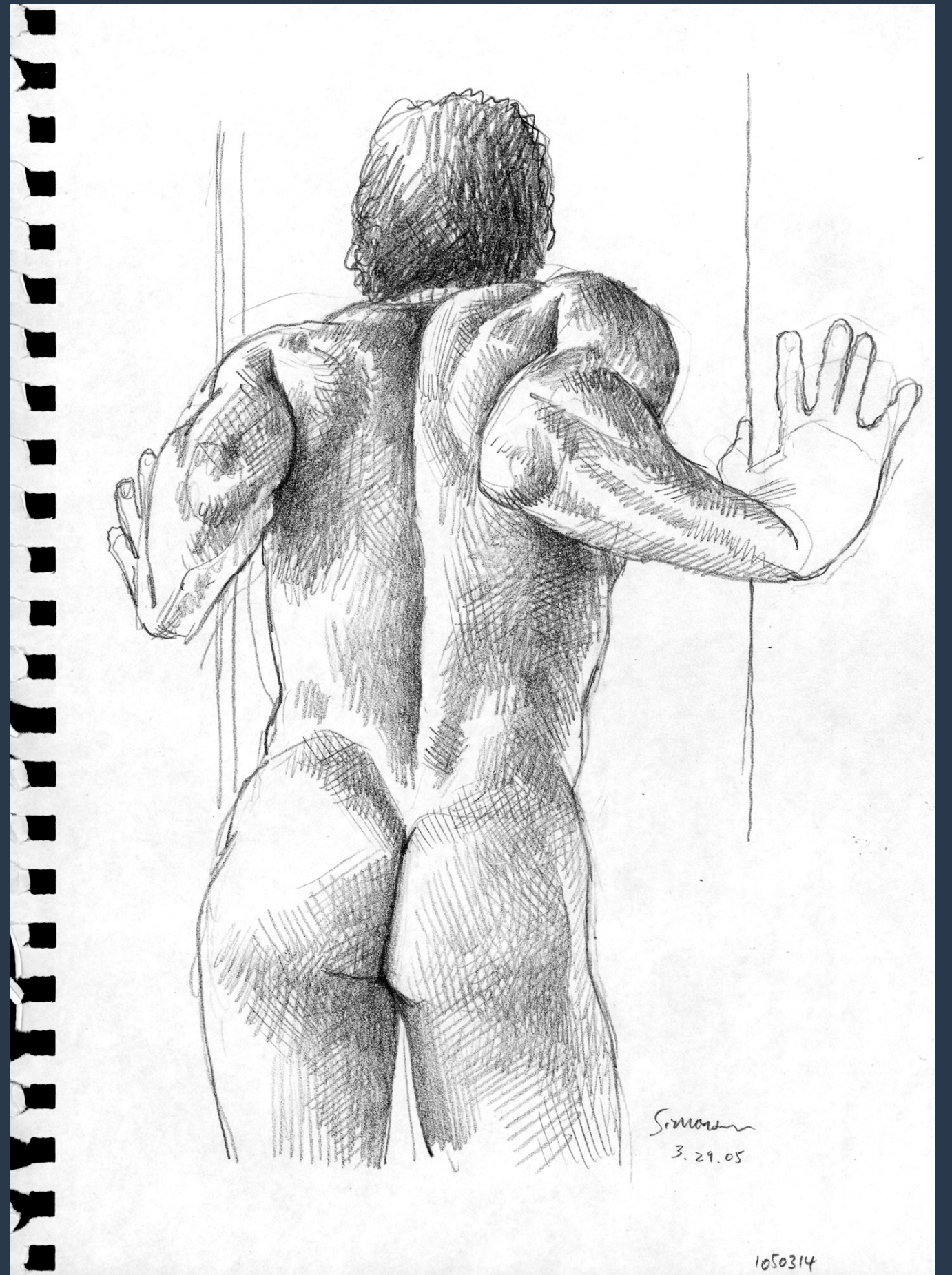


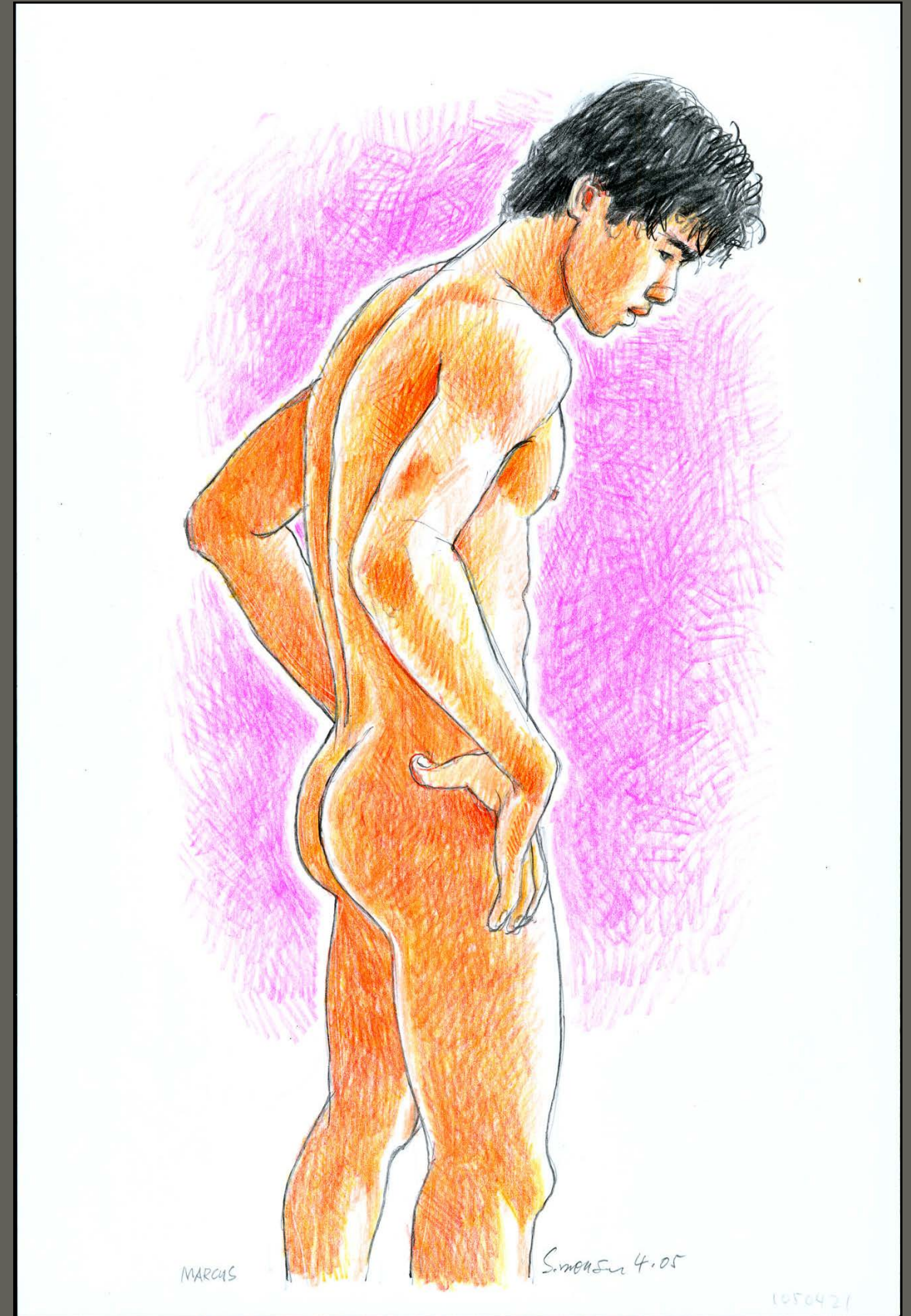
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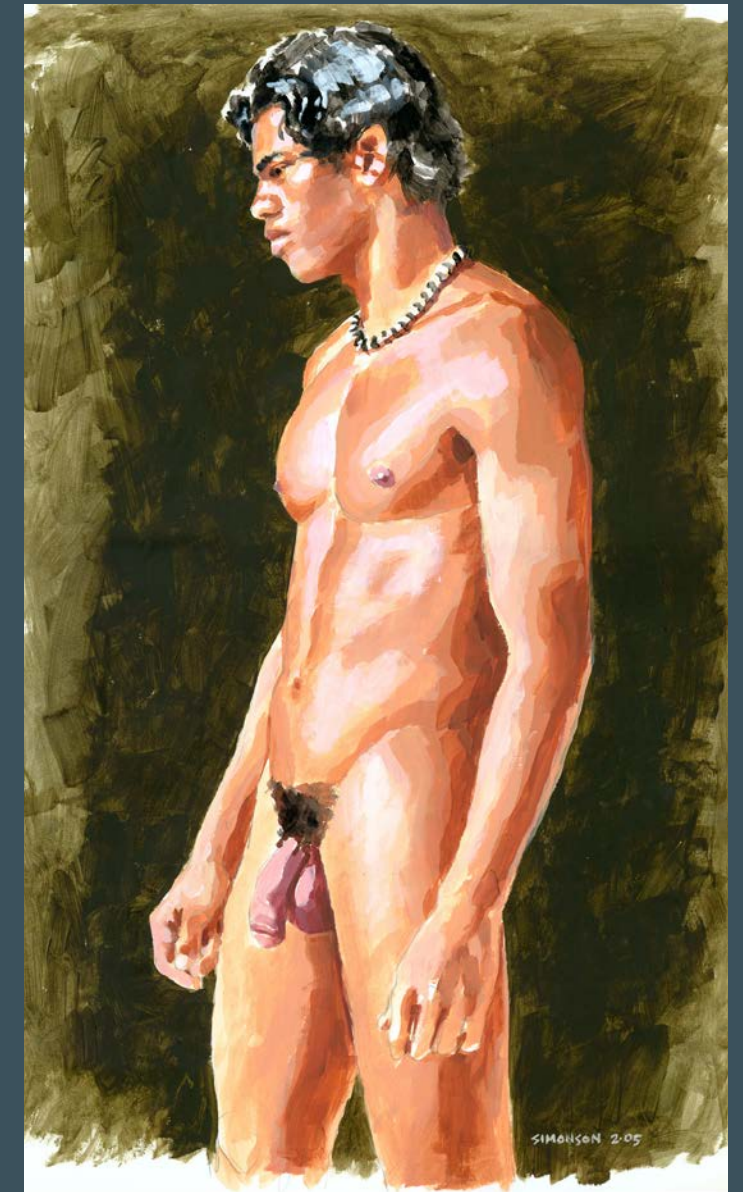


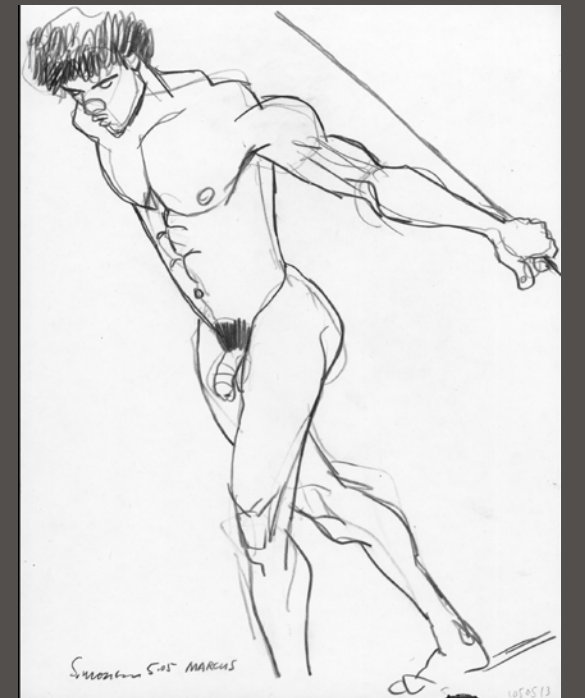
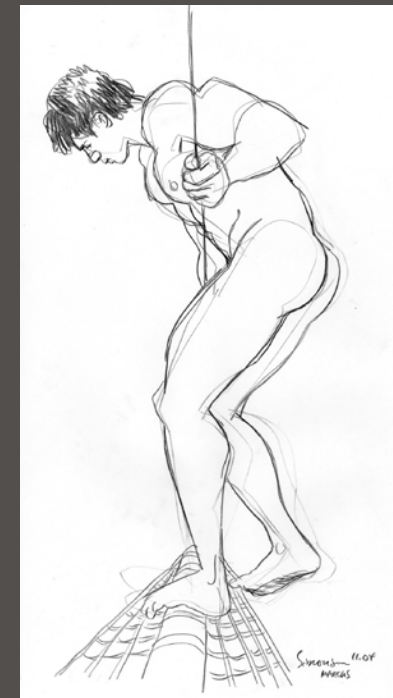


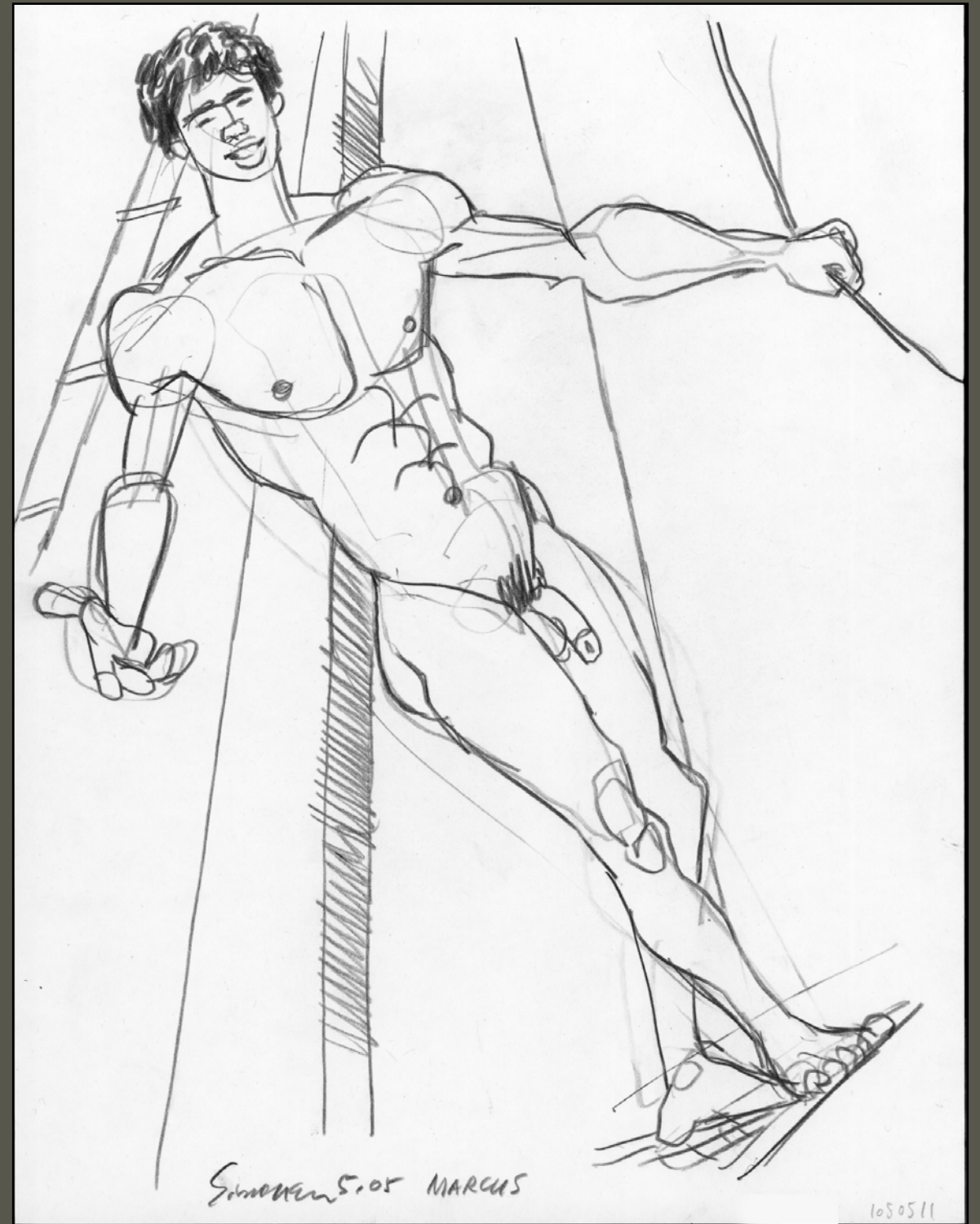


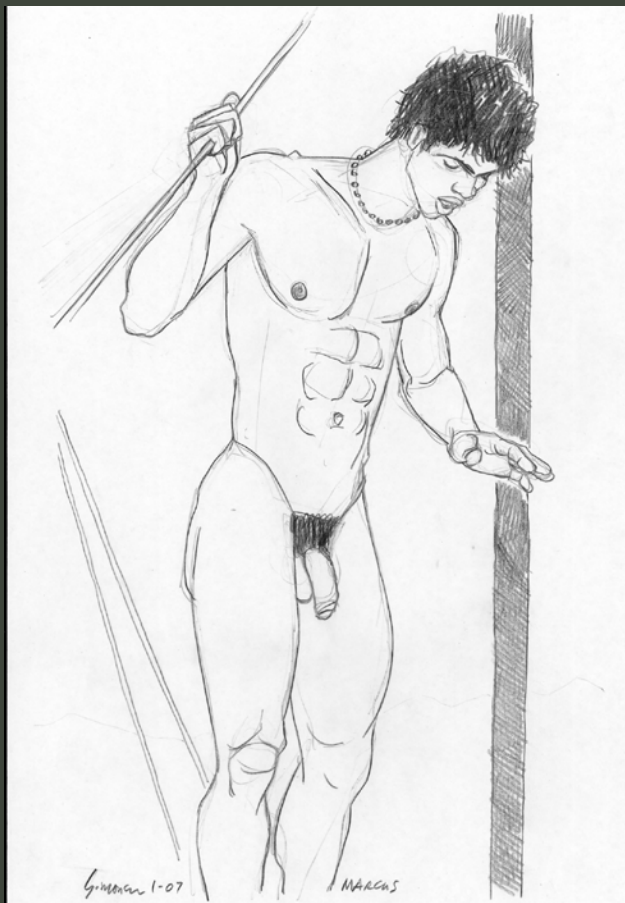
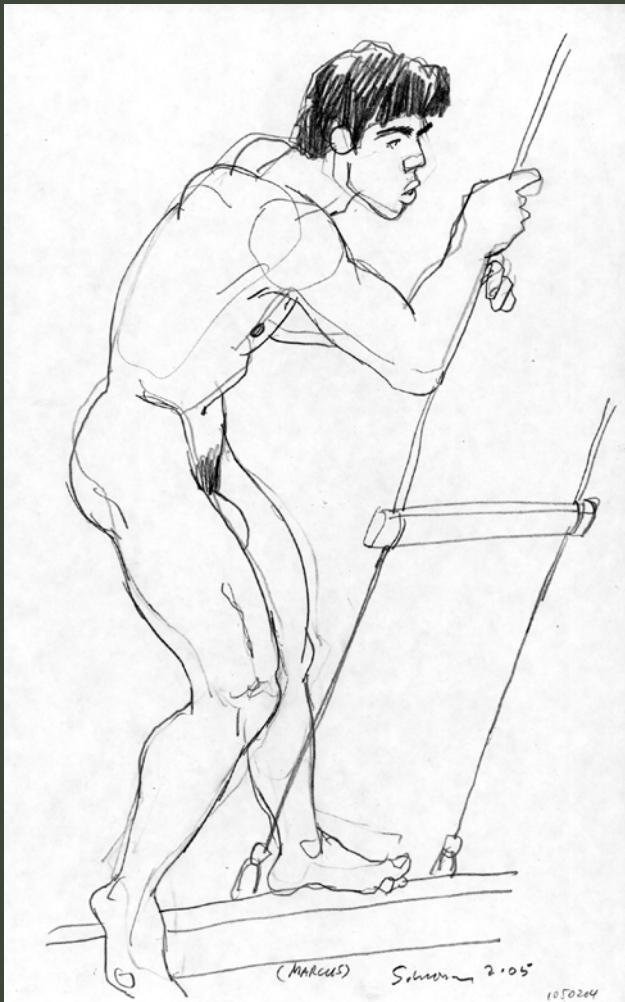


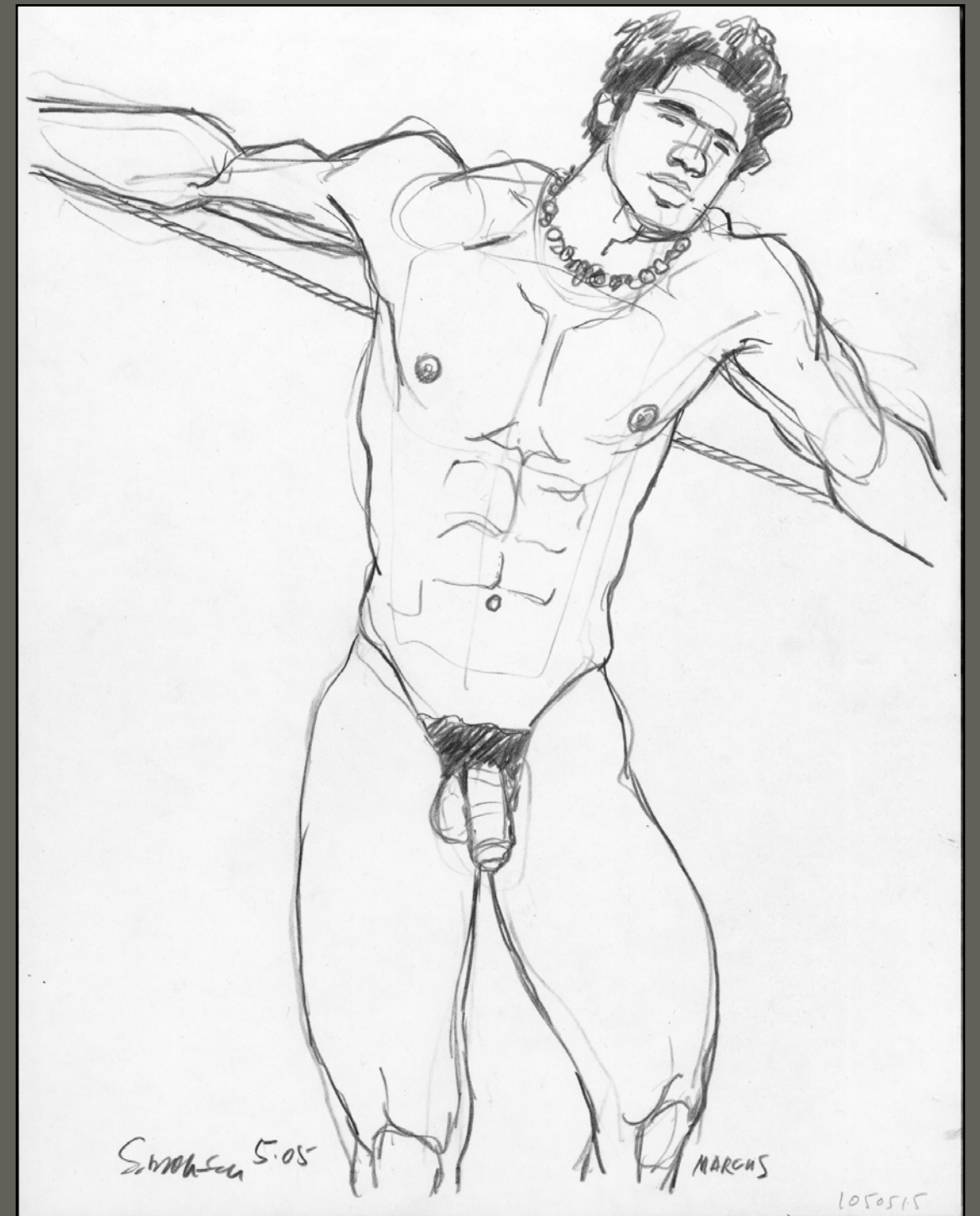




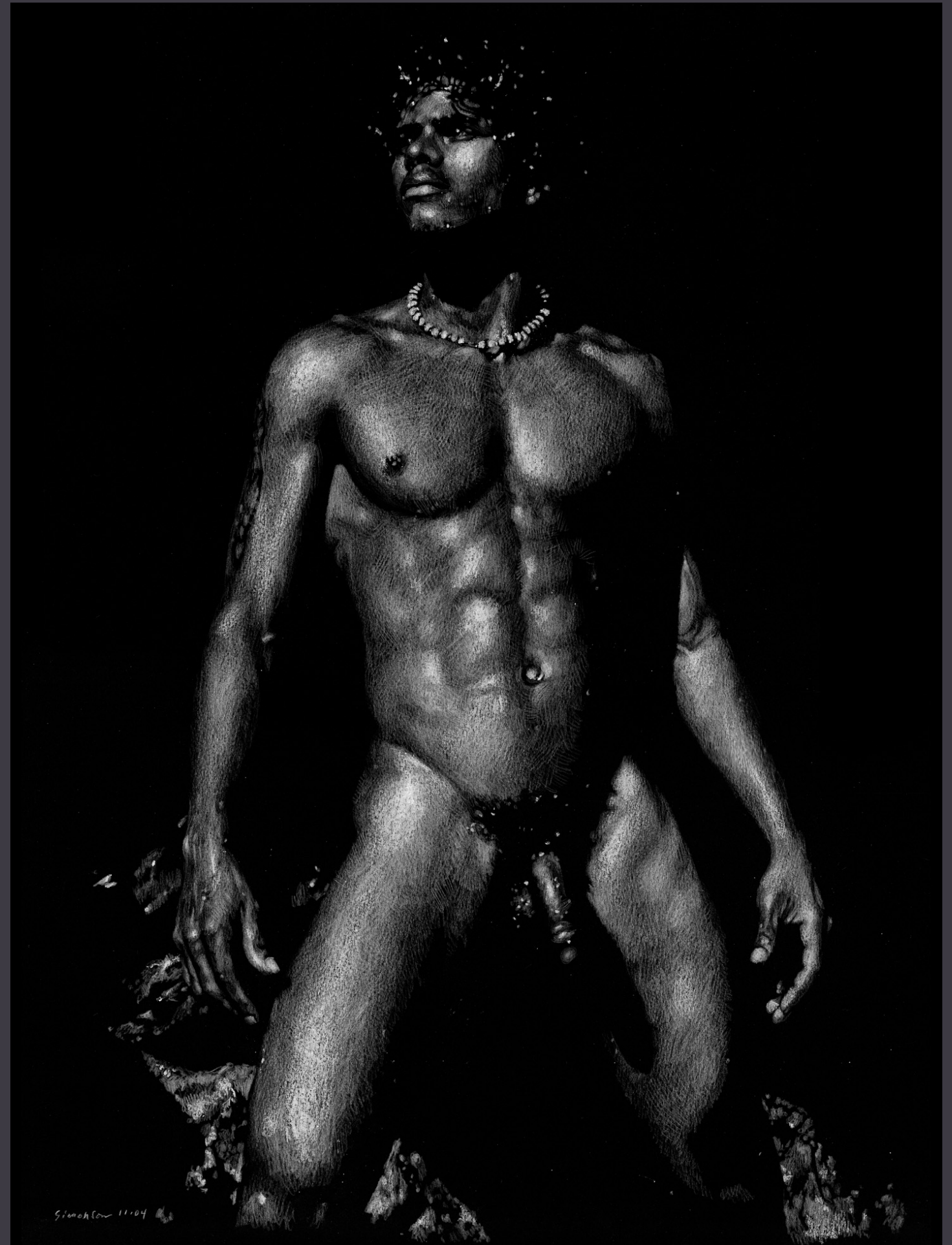






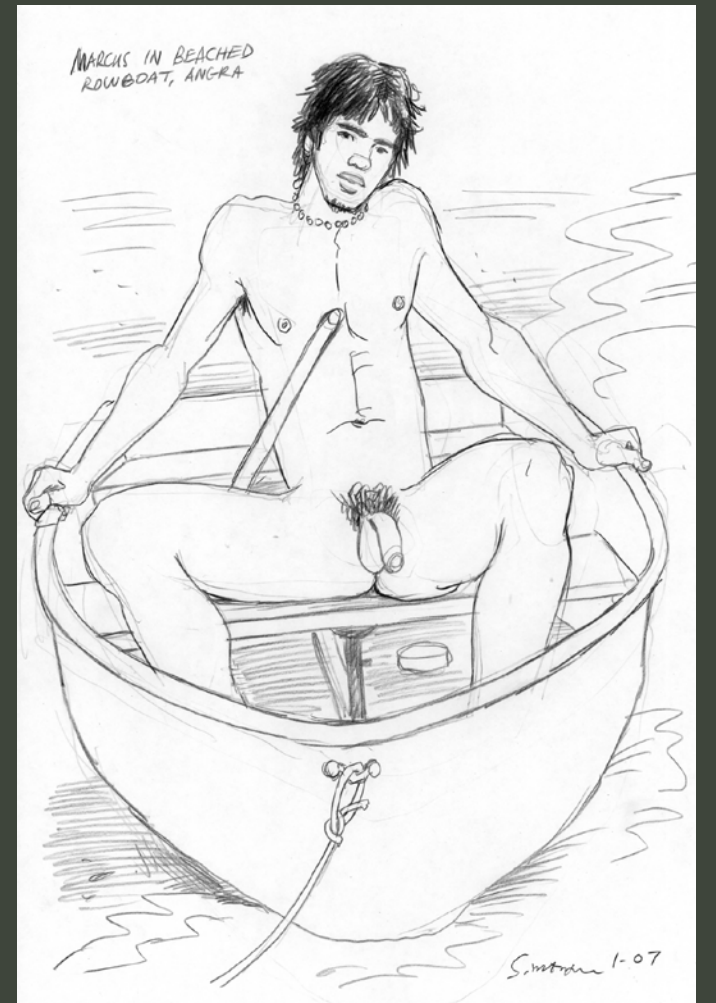


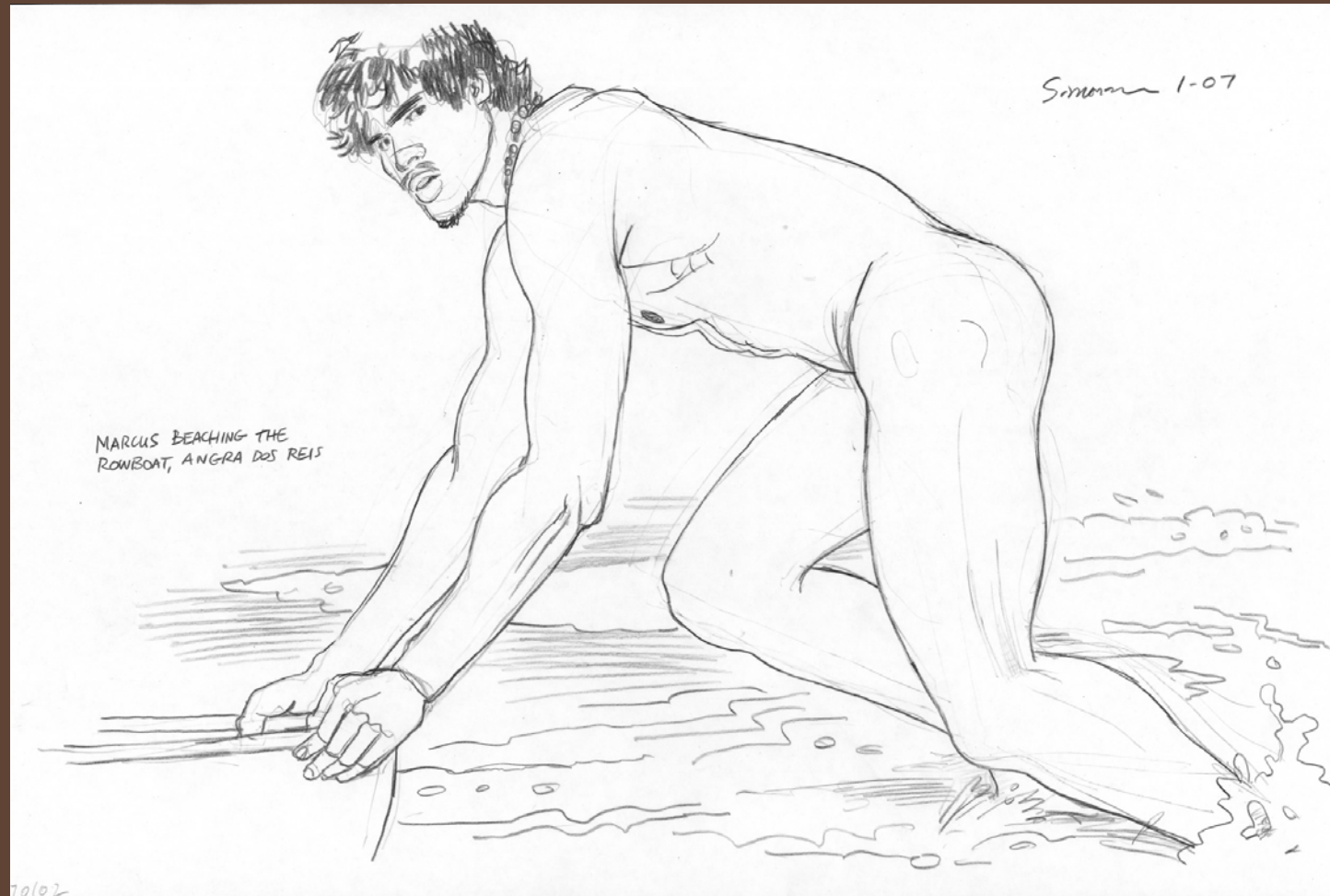


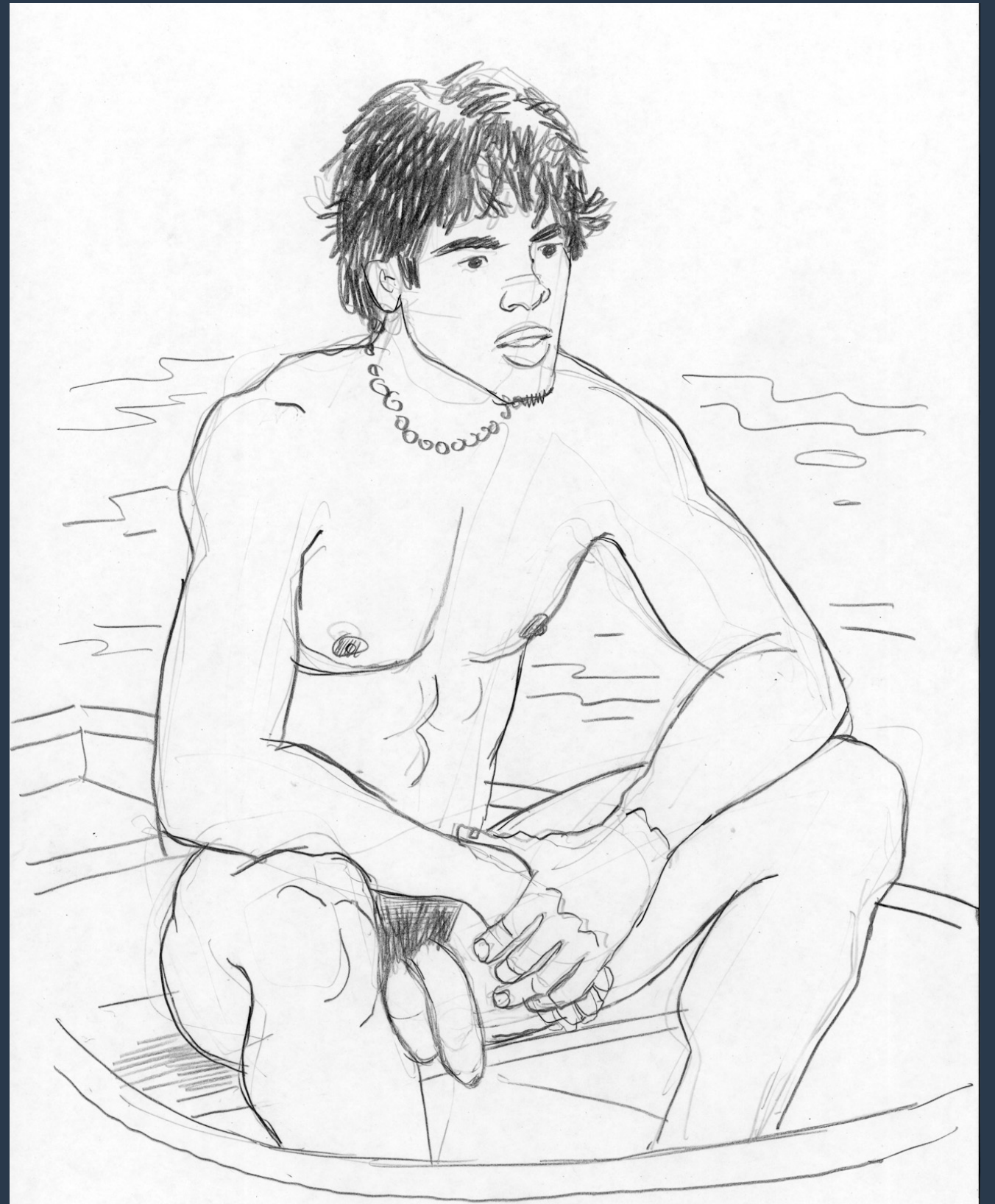






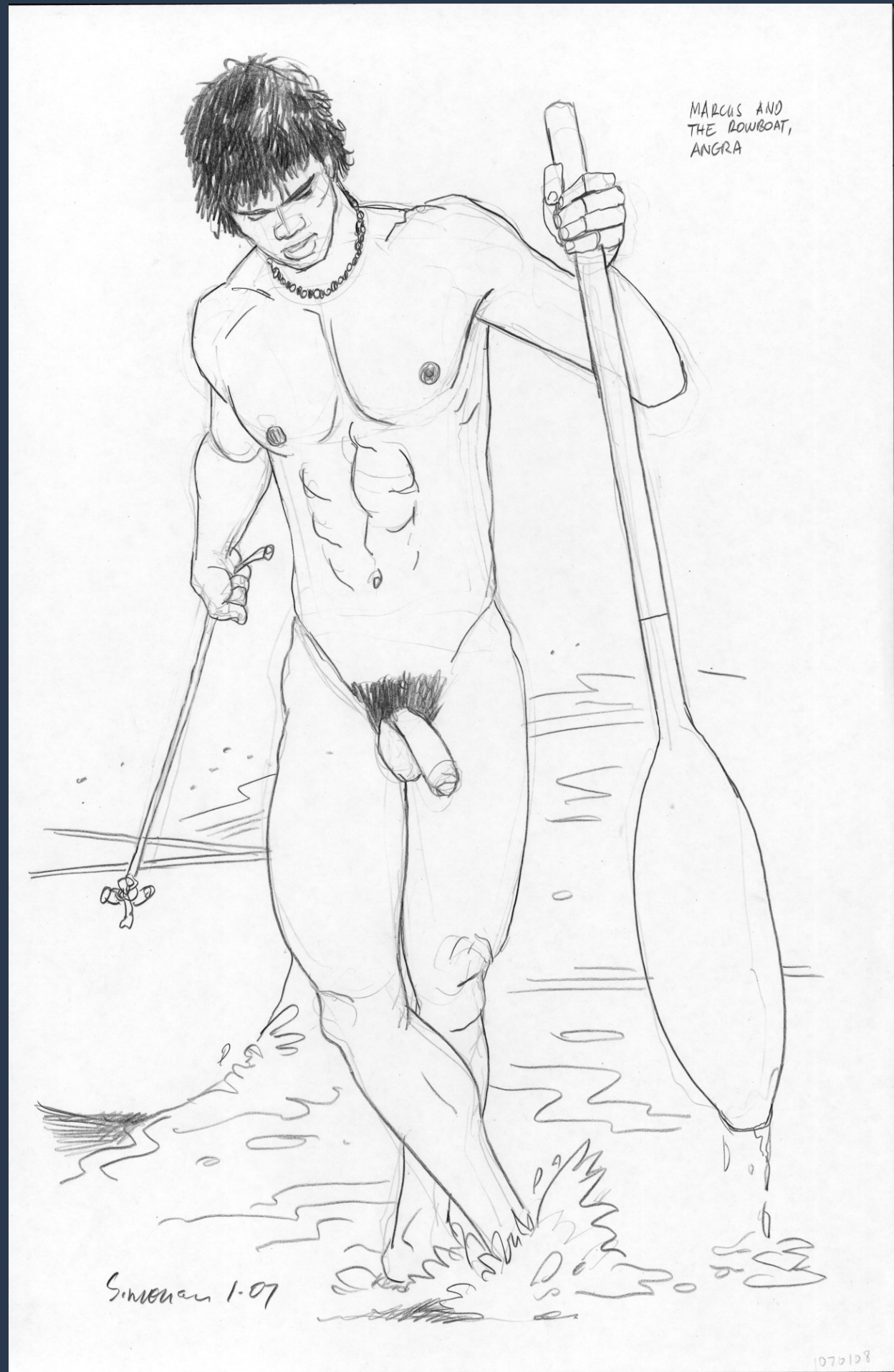


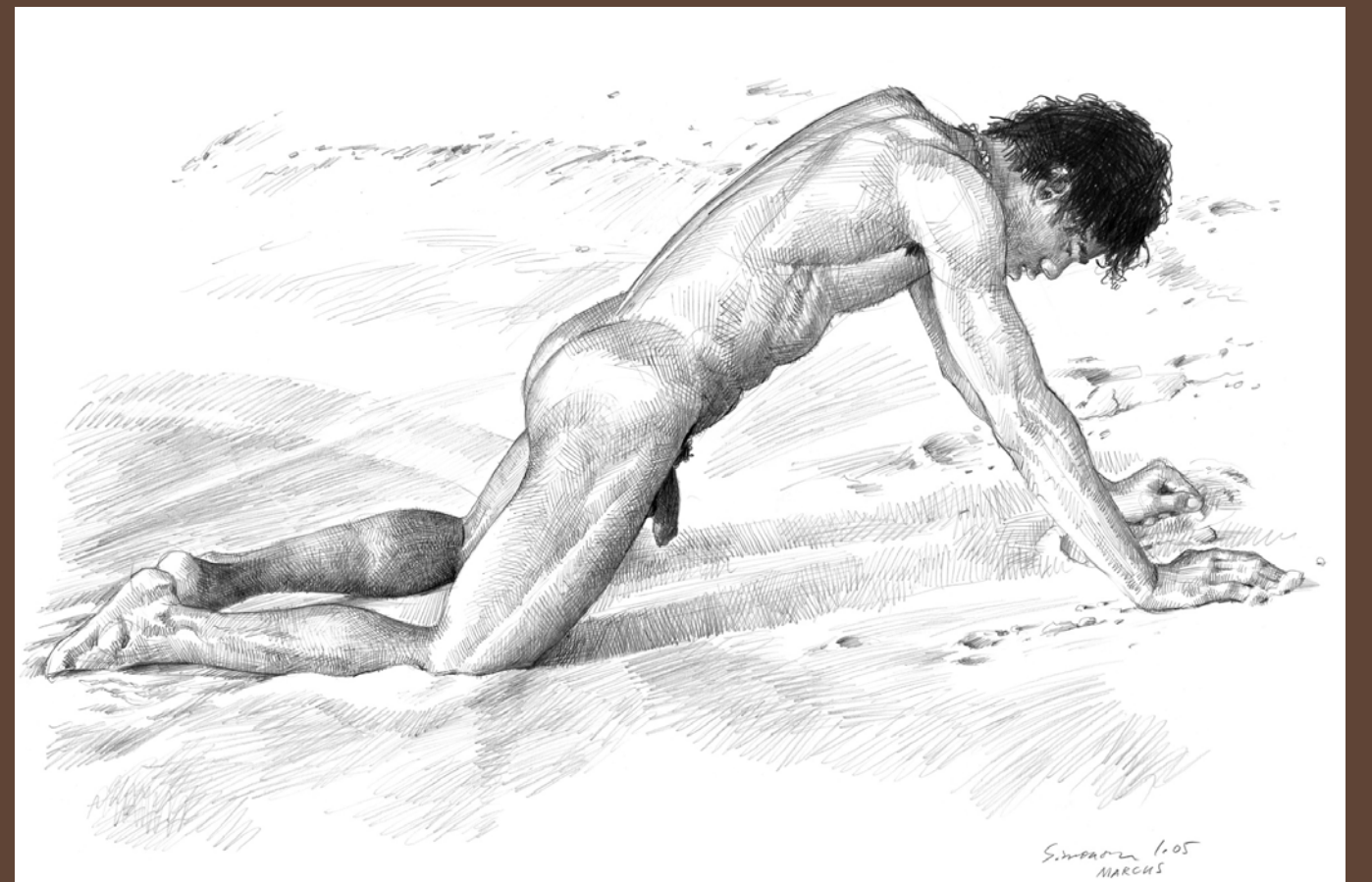


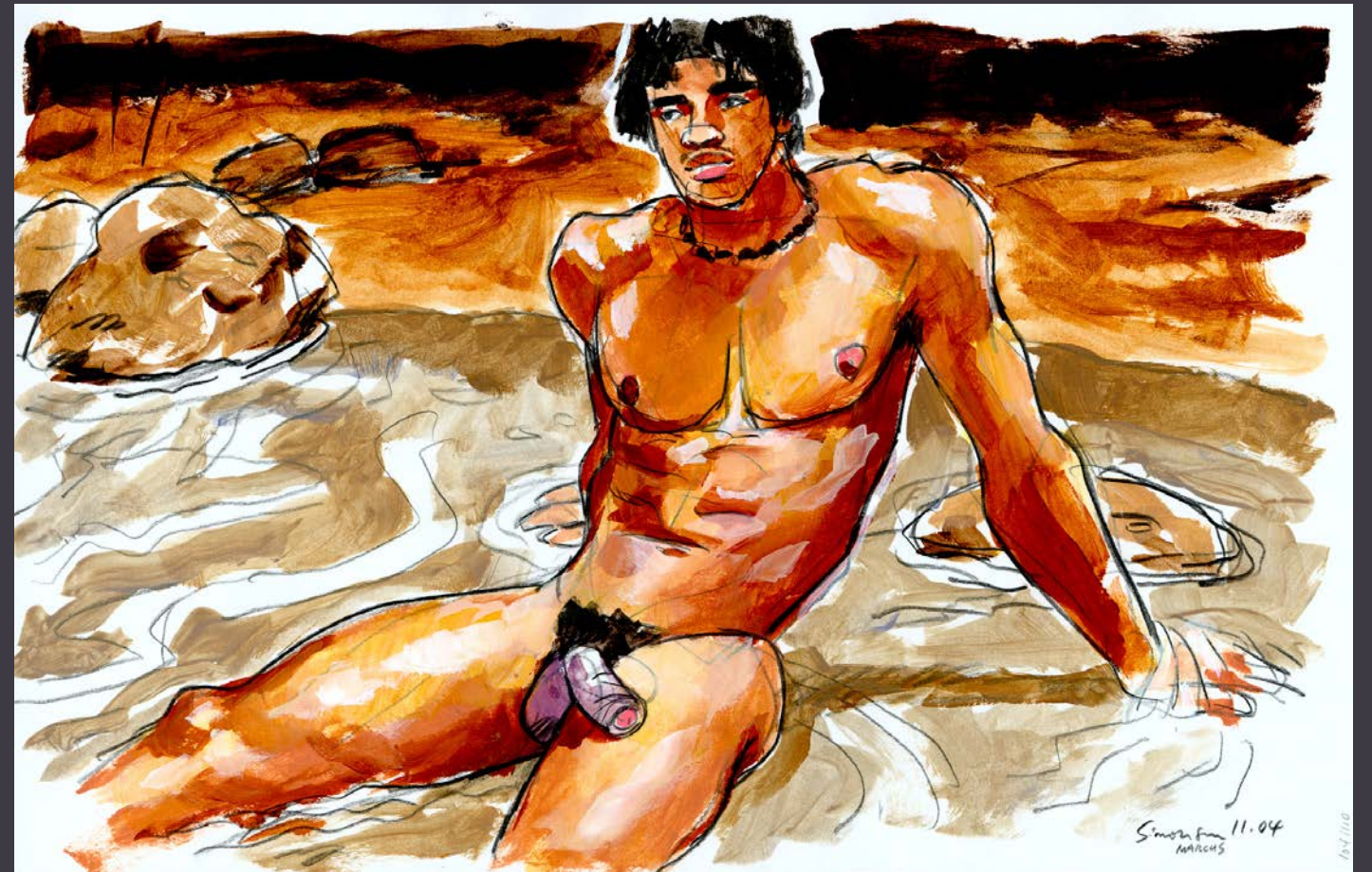


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MARCUS IN THE ROWBOAT,  
ANGRA DOS REIS

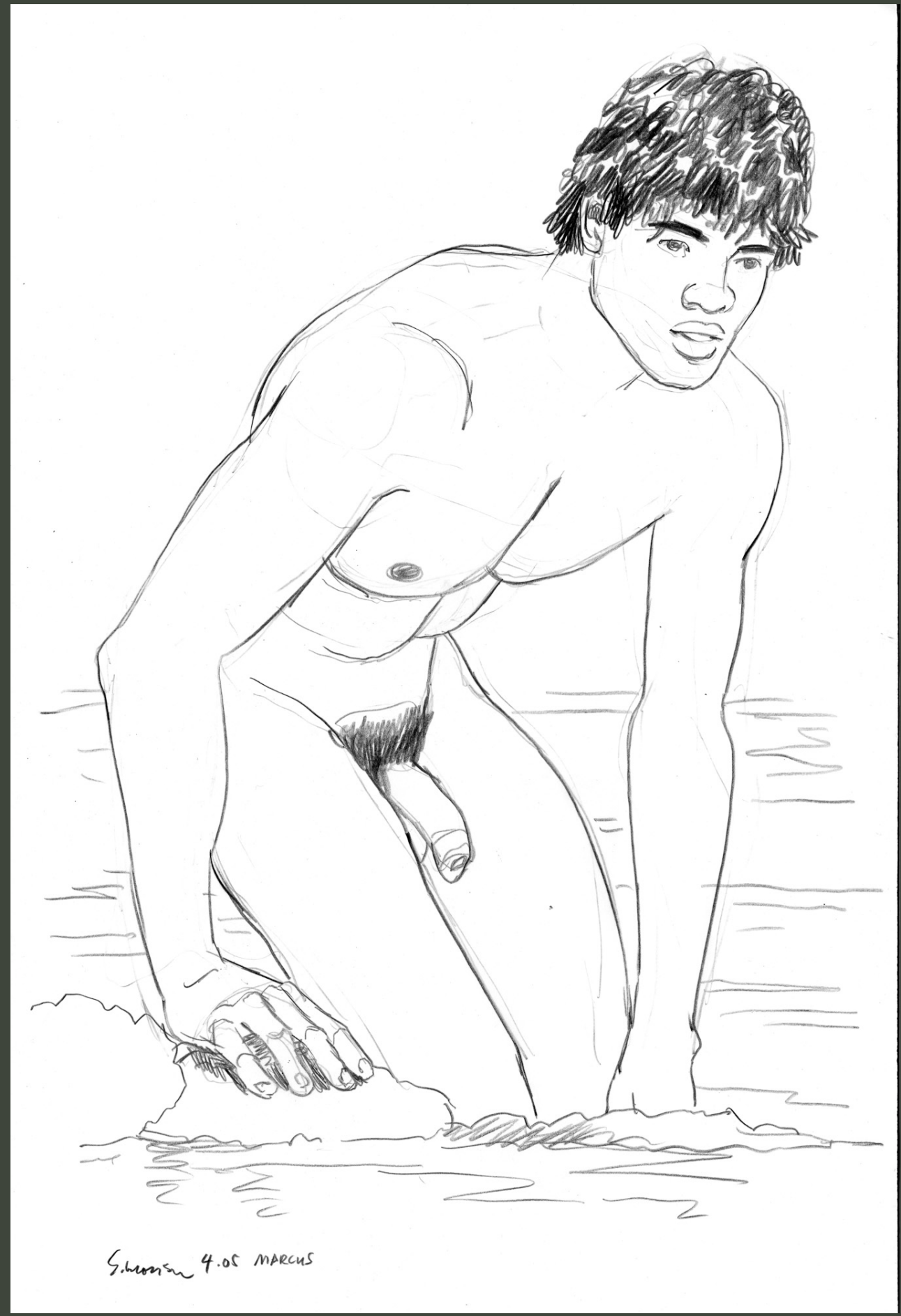
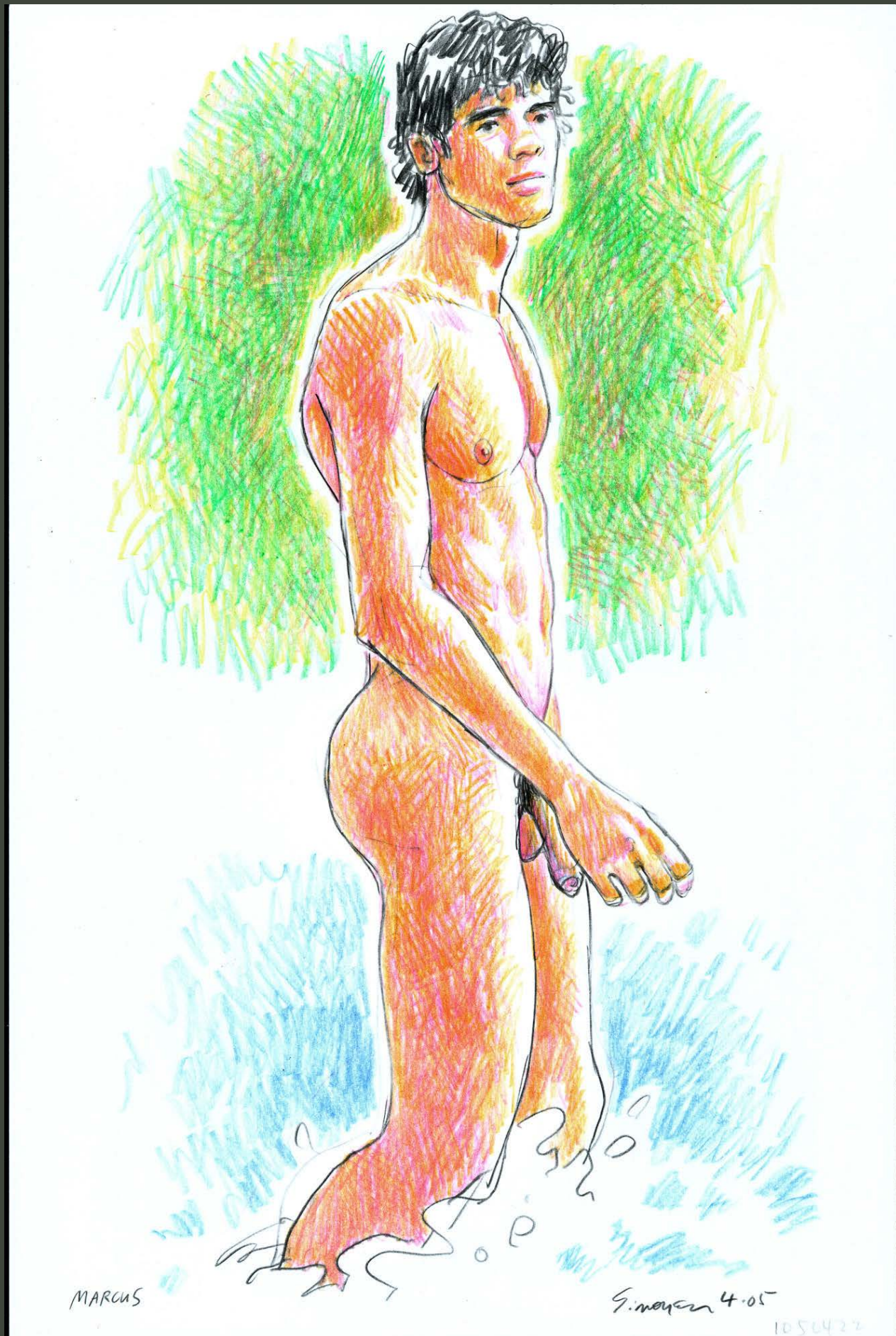




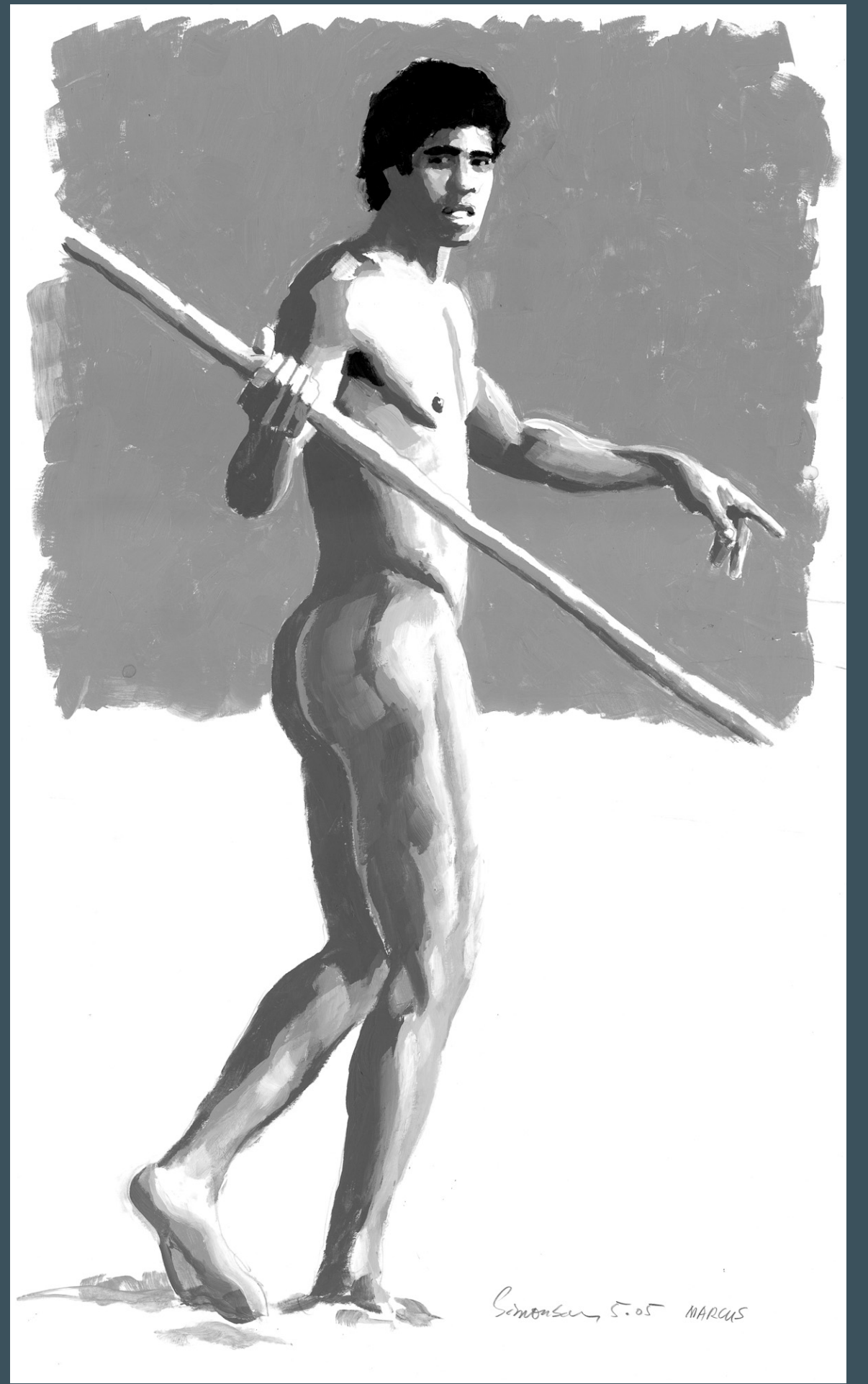


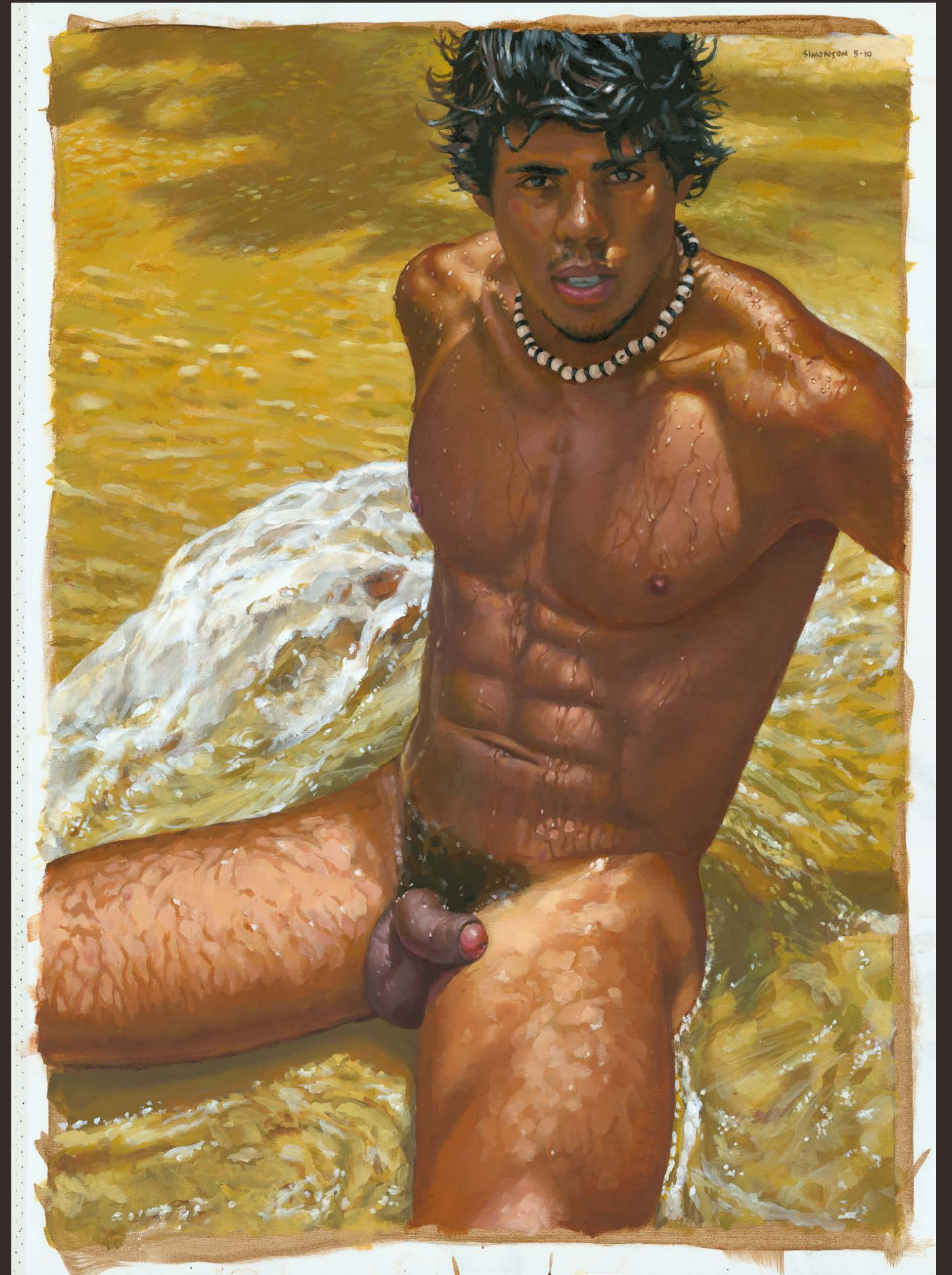


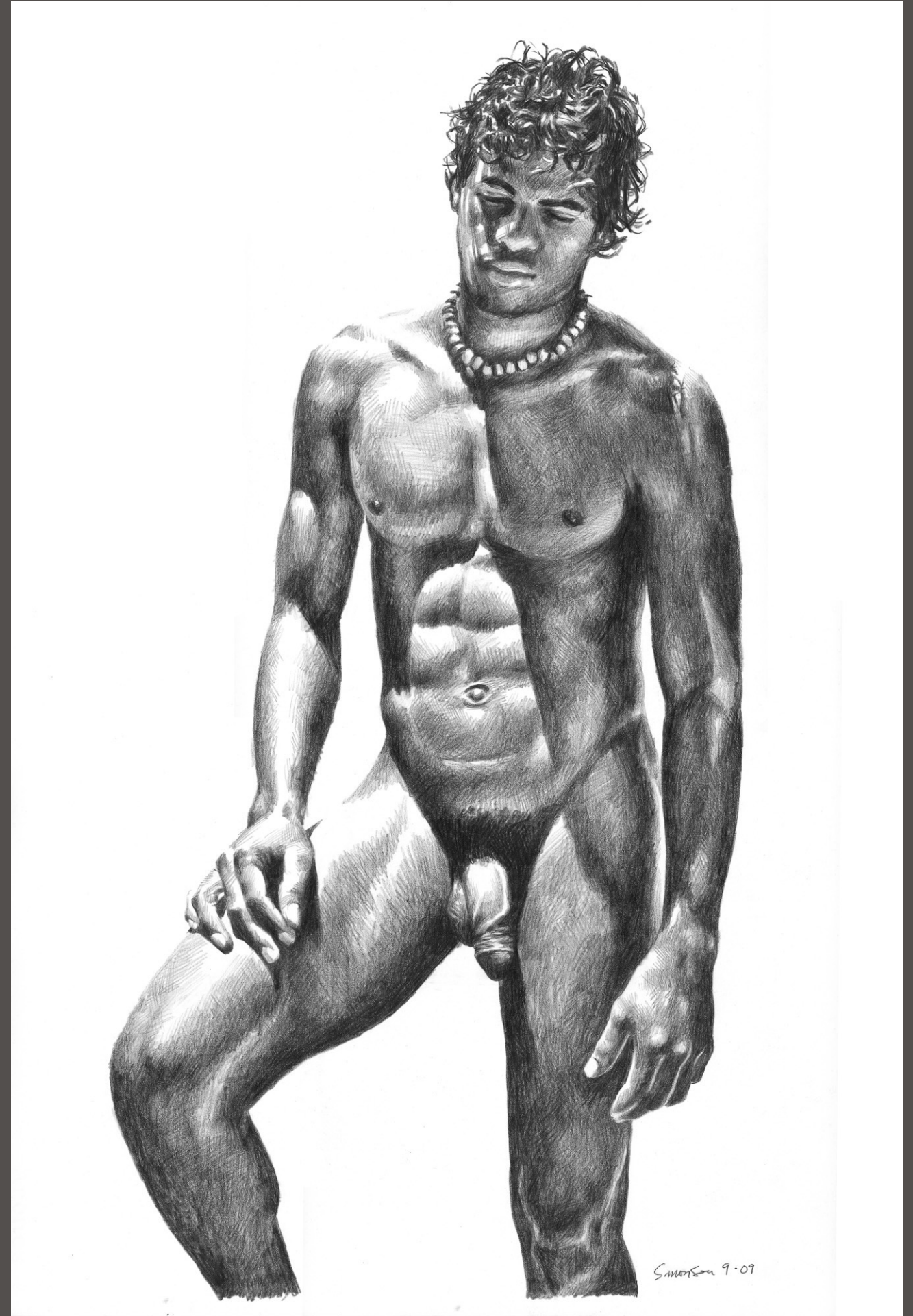


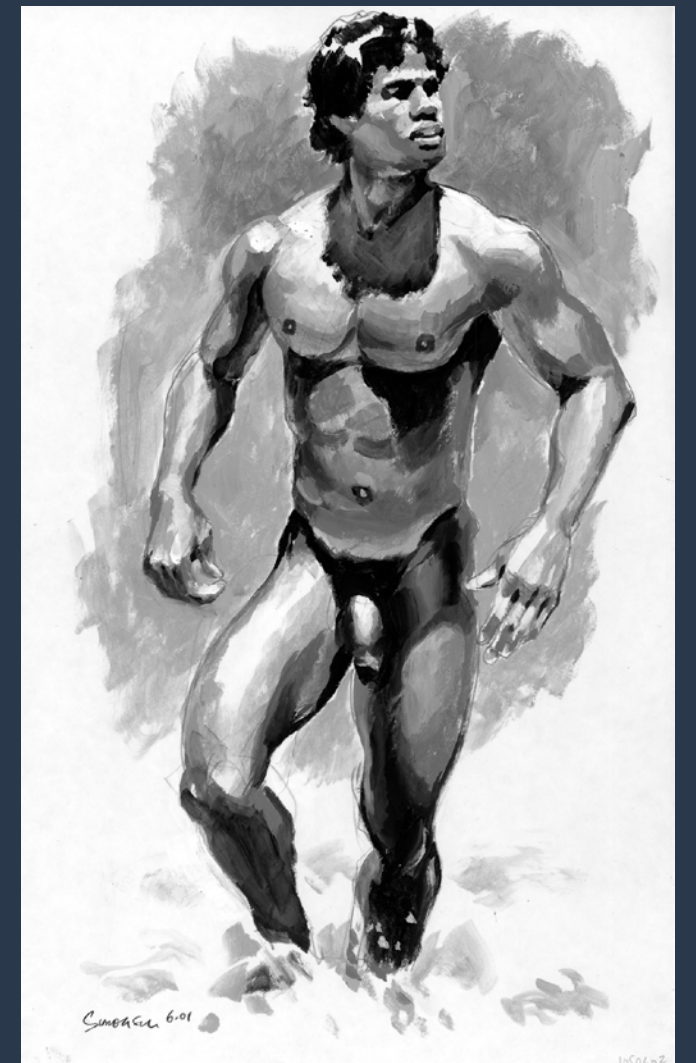








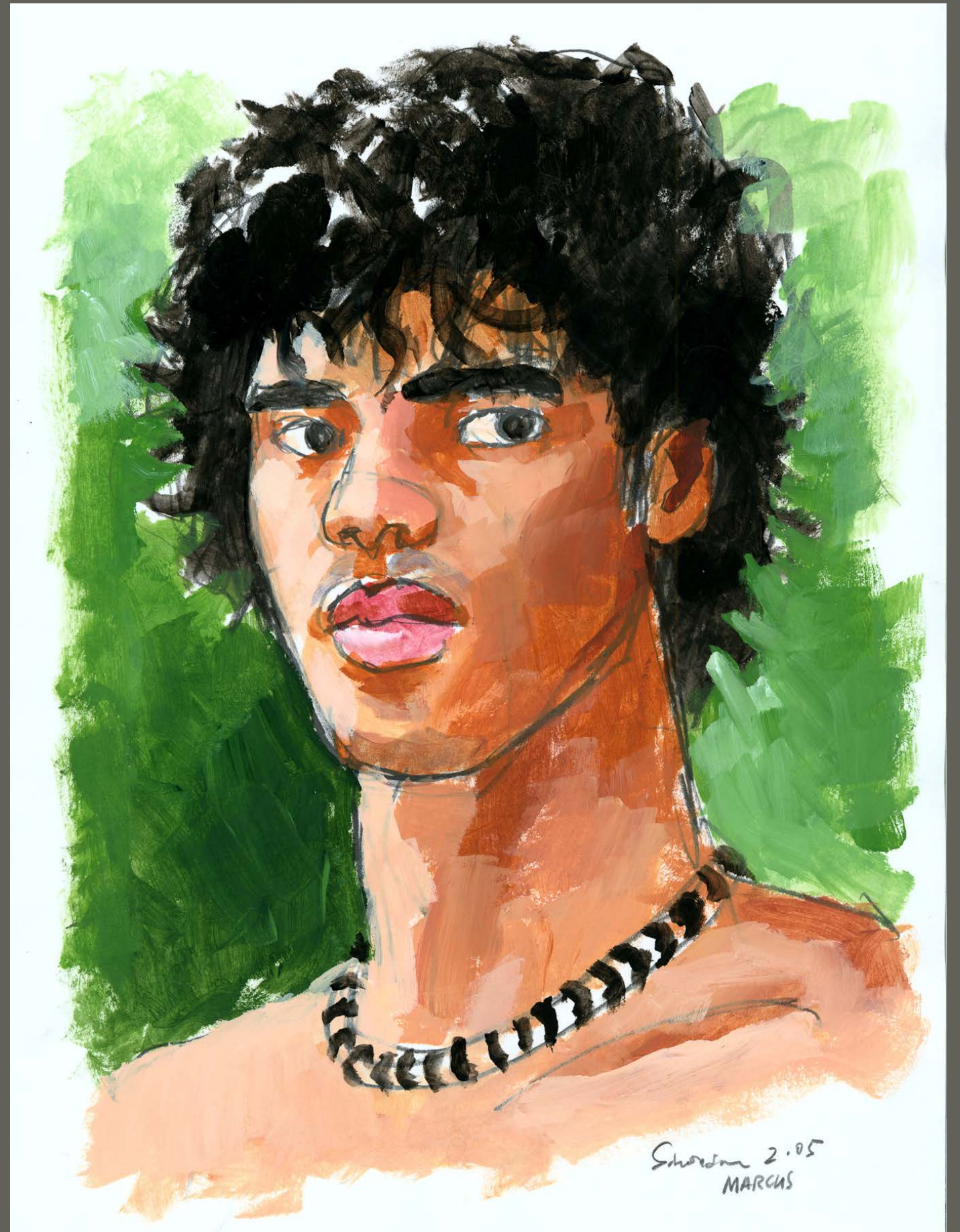




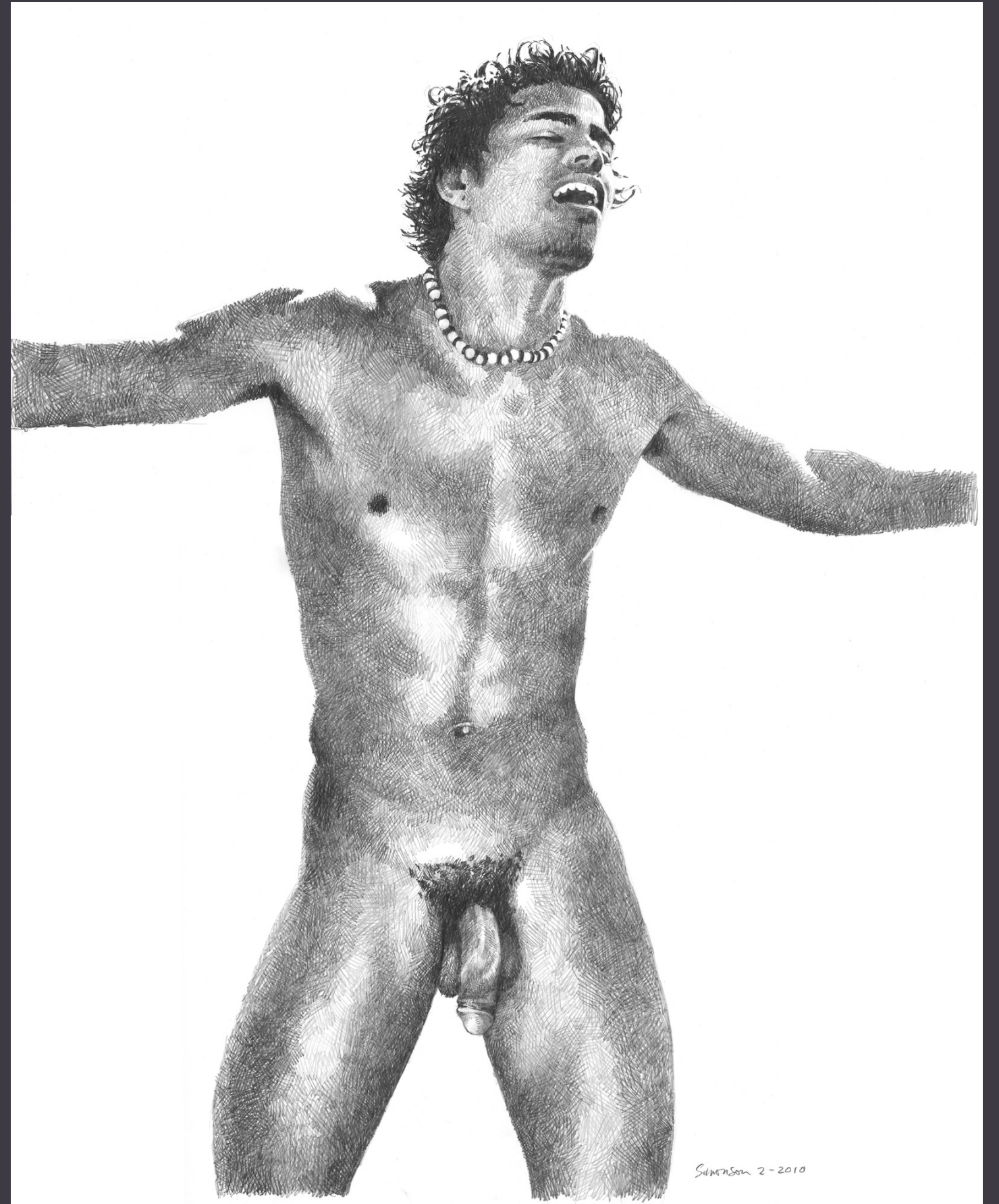


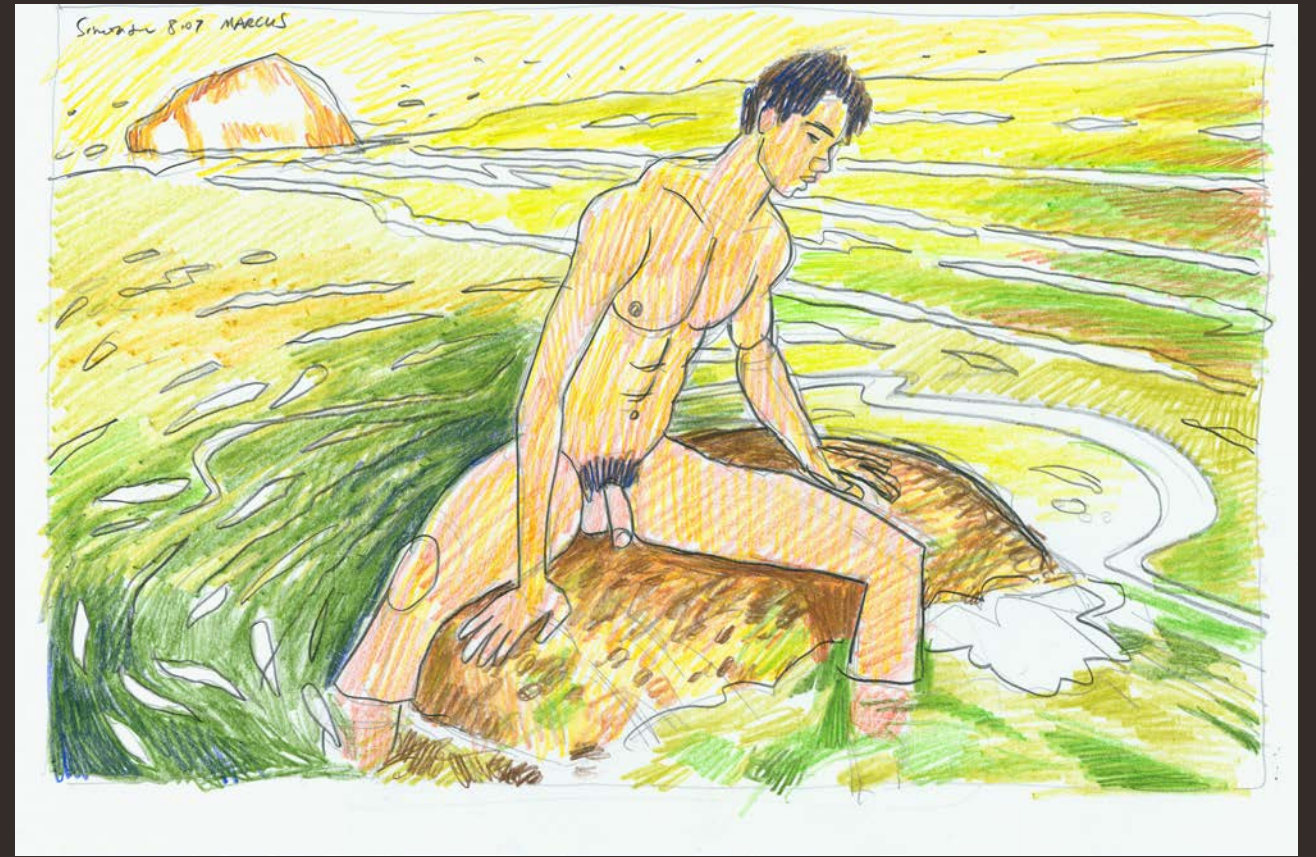


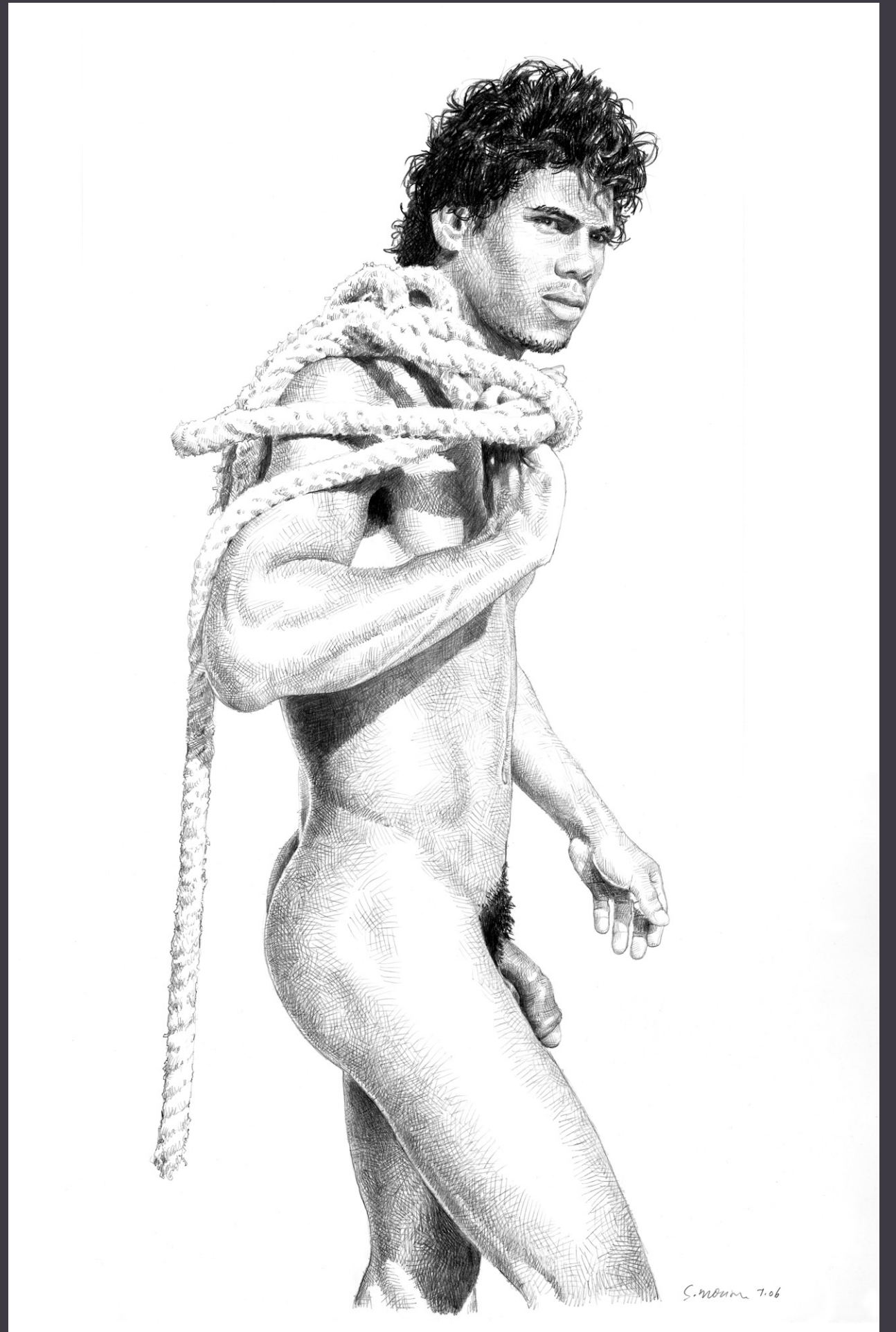
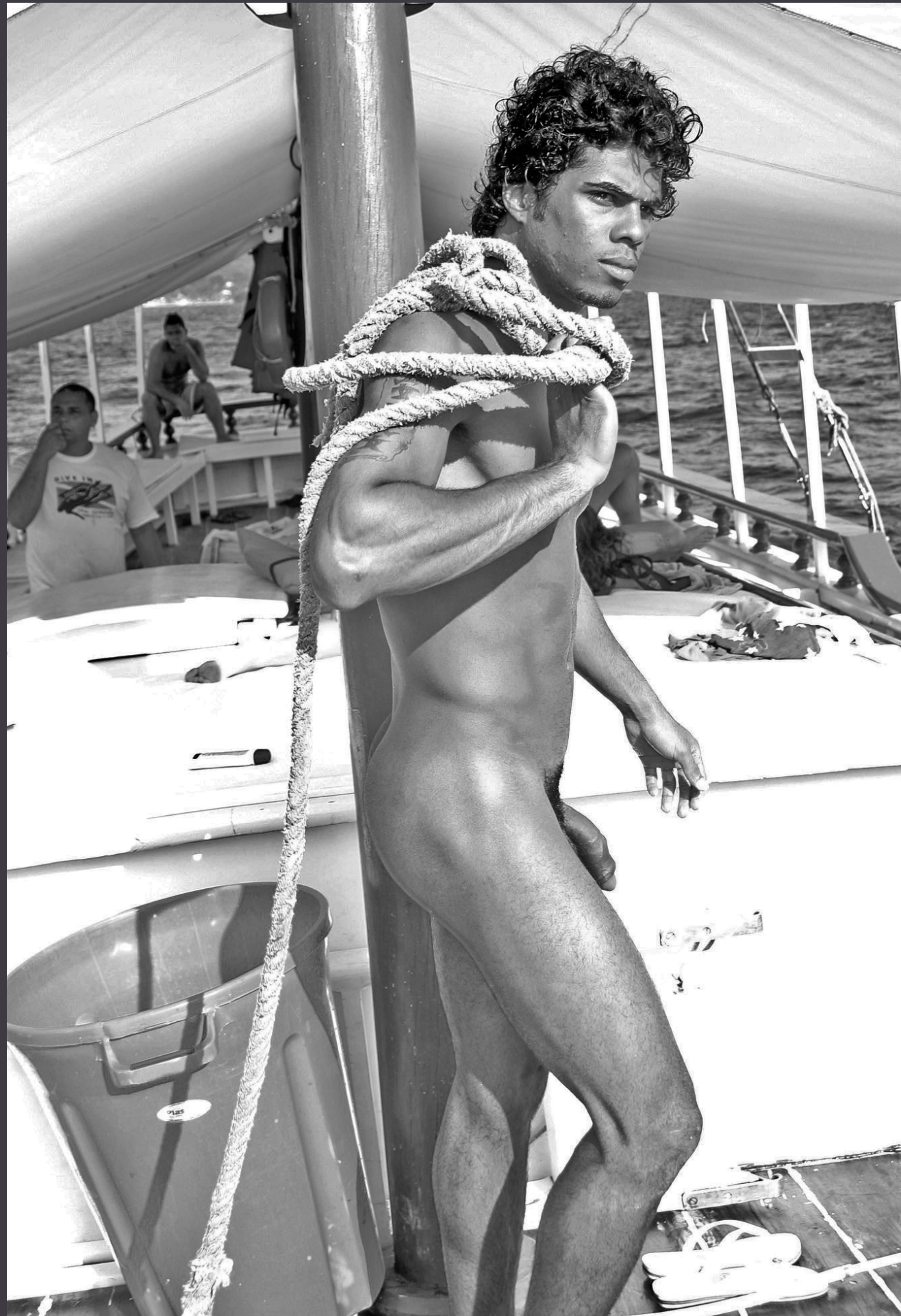


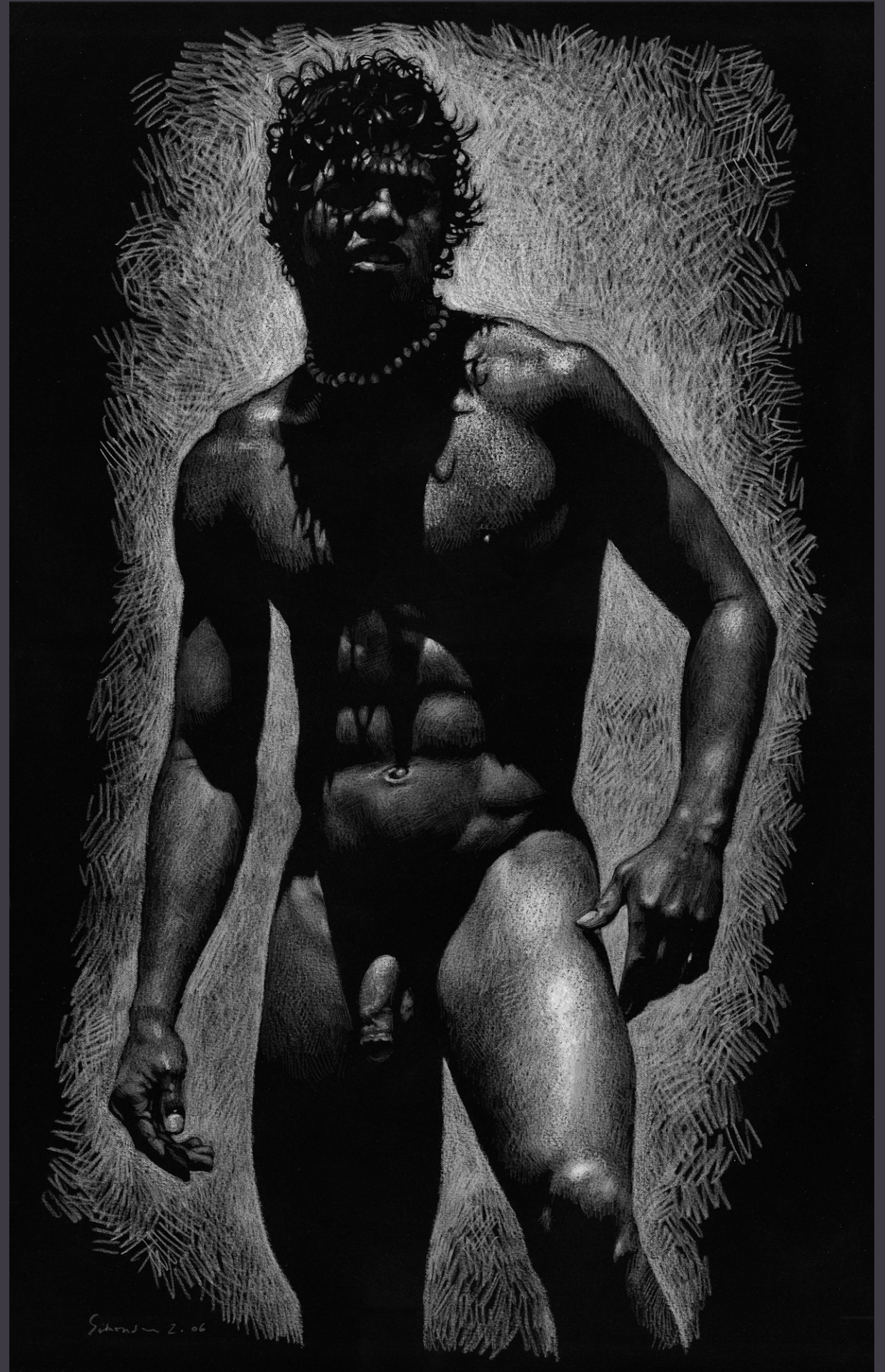


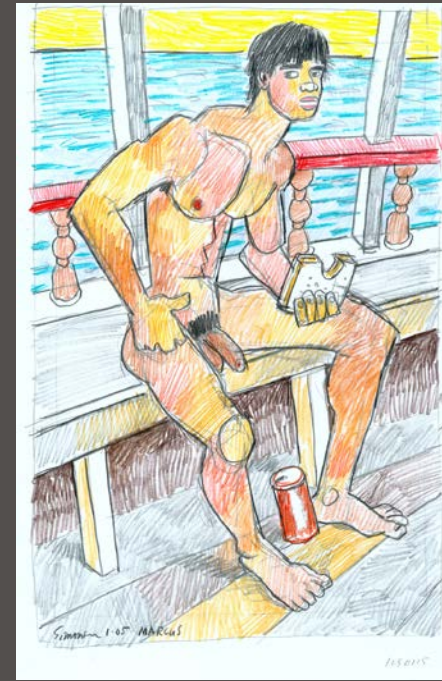




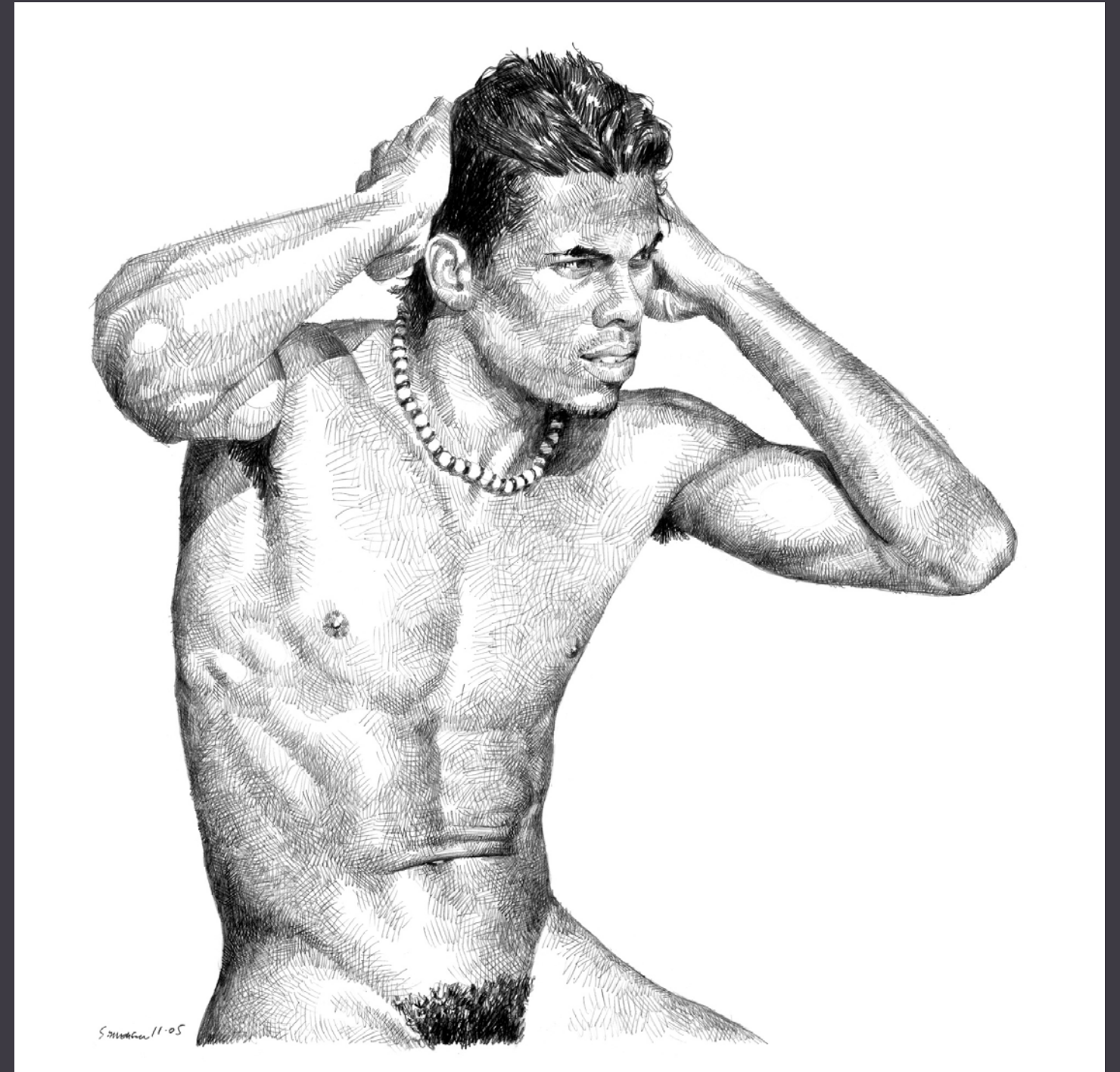




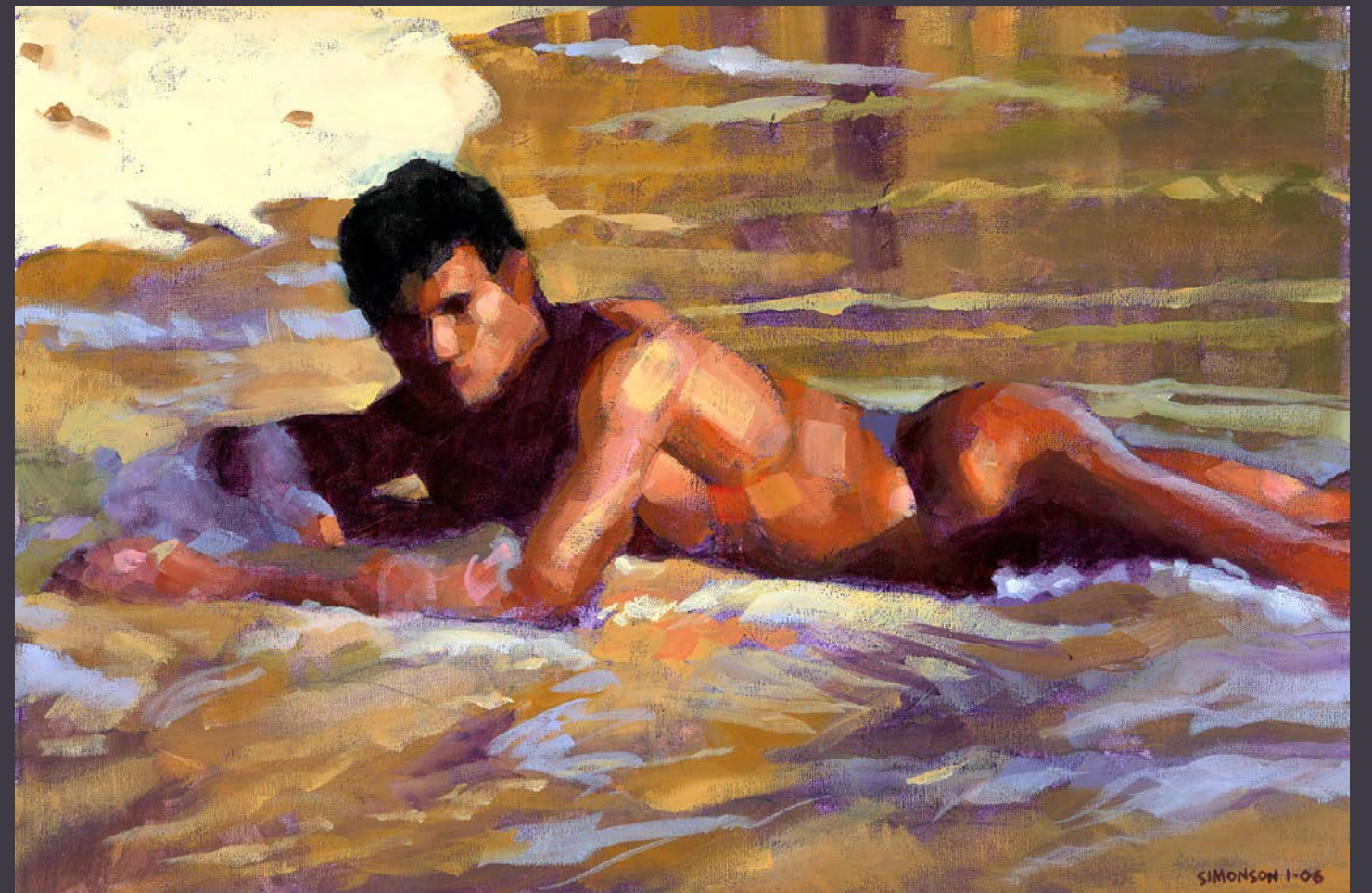








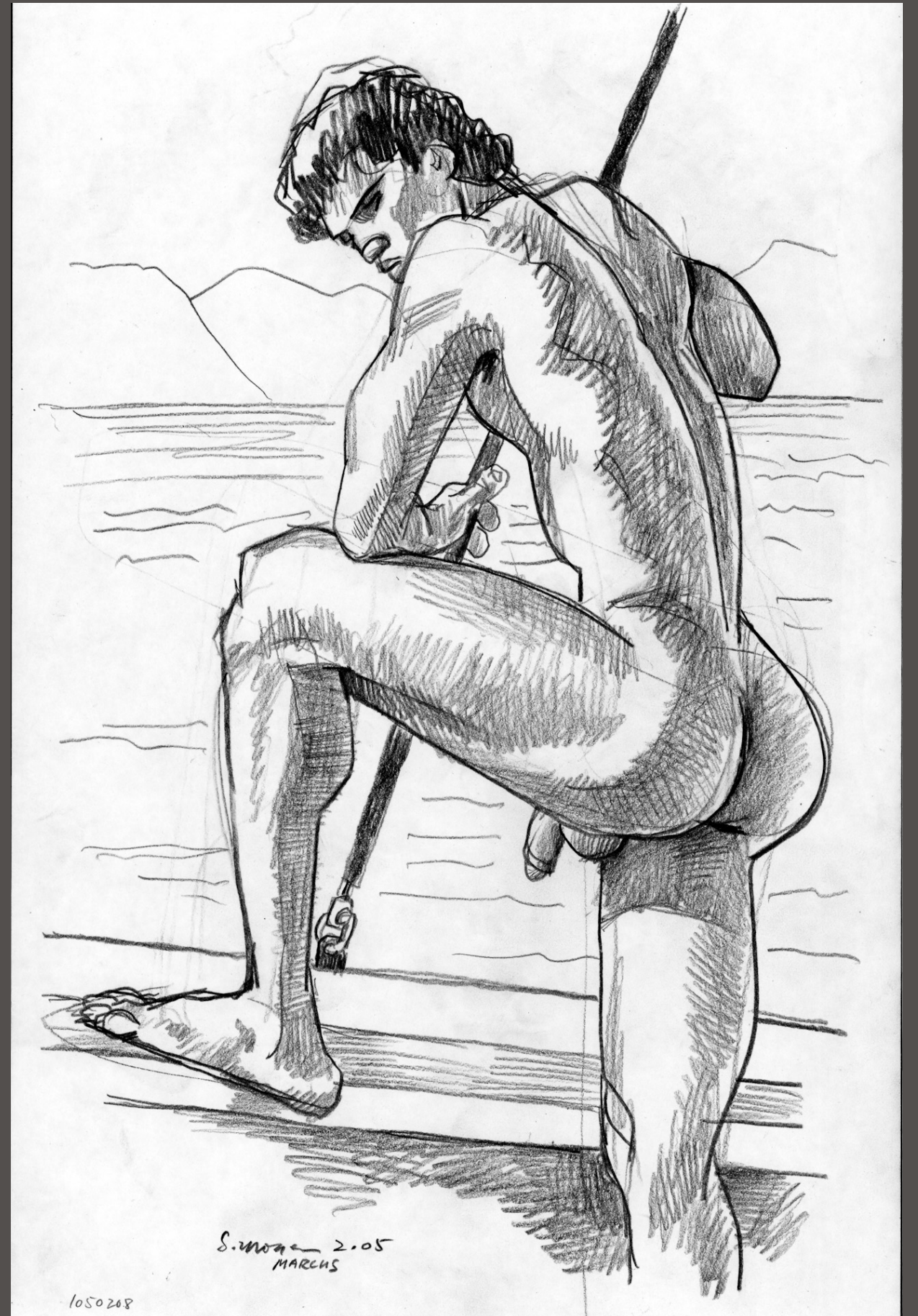


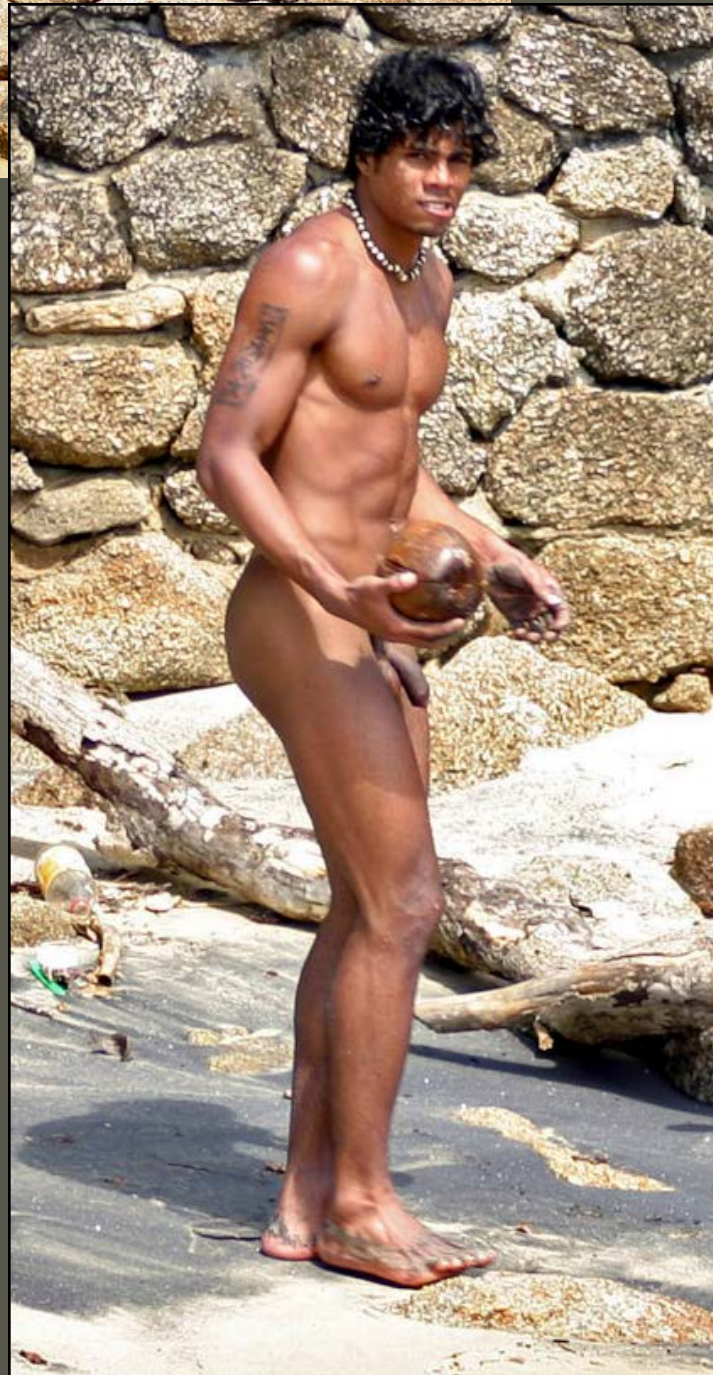


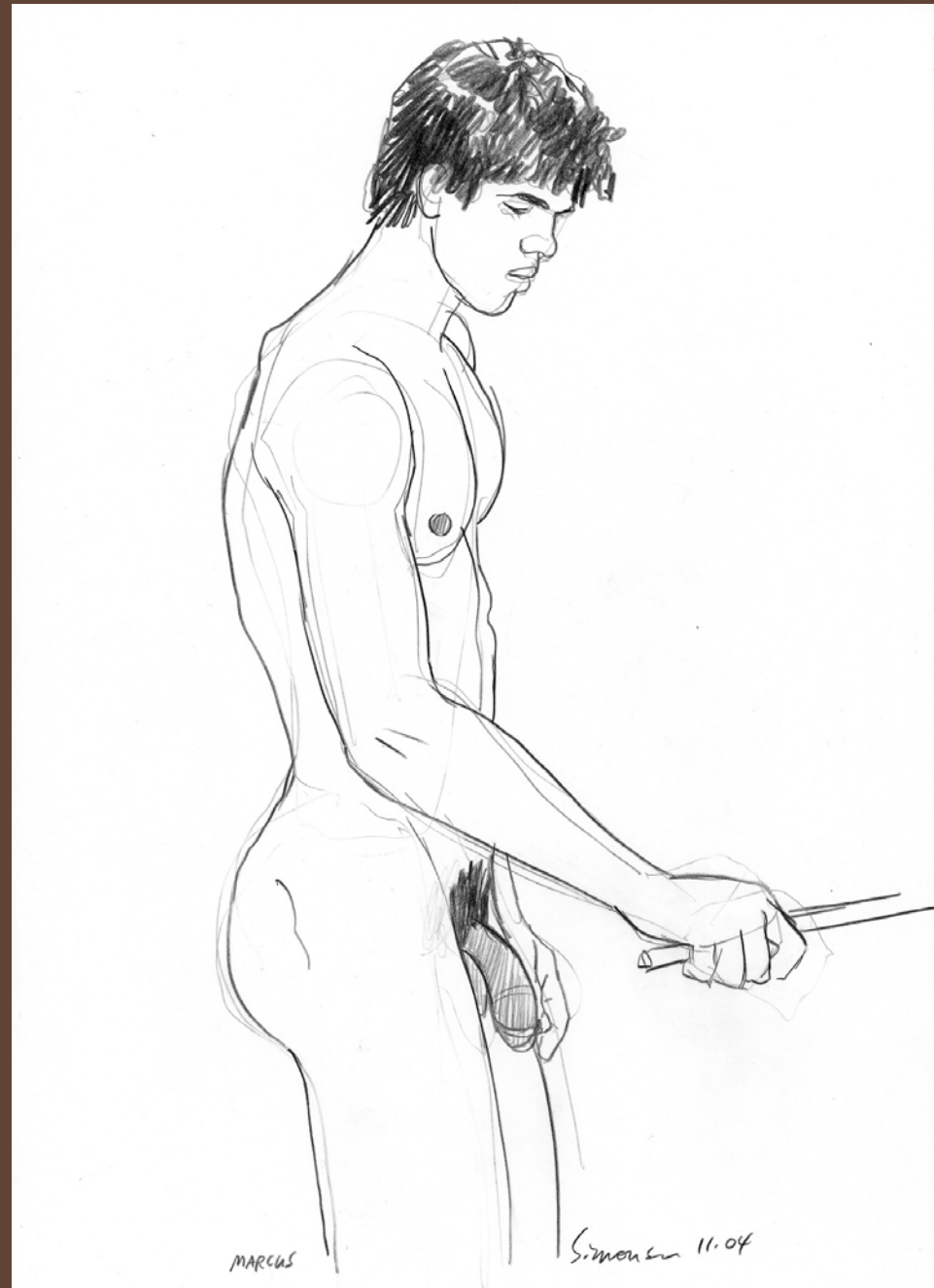


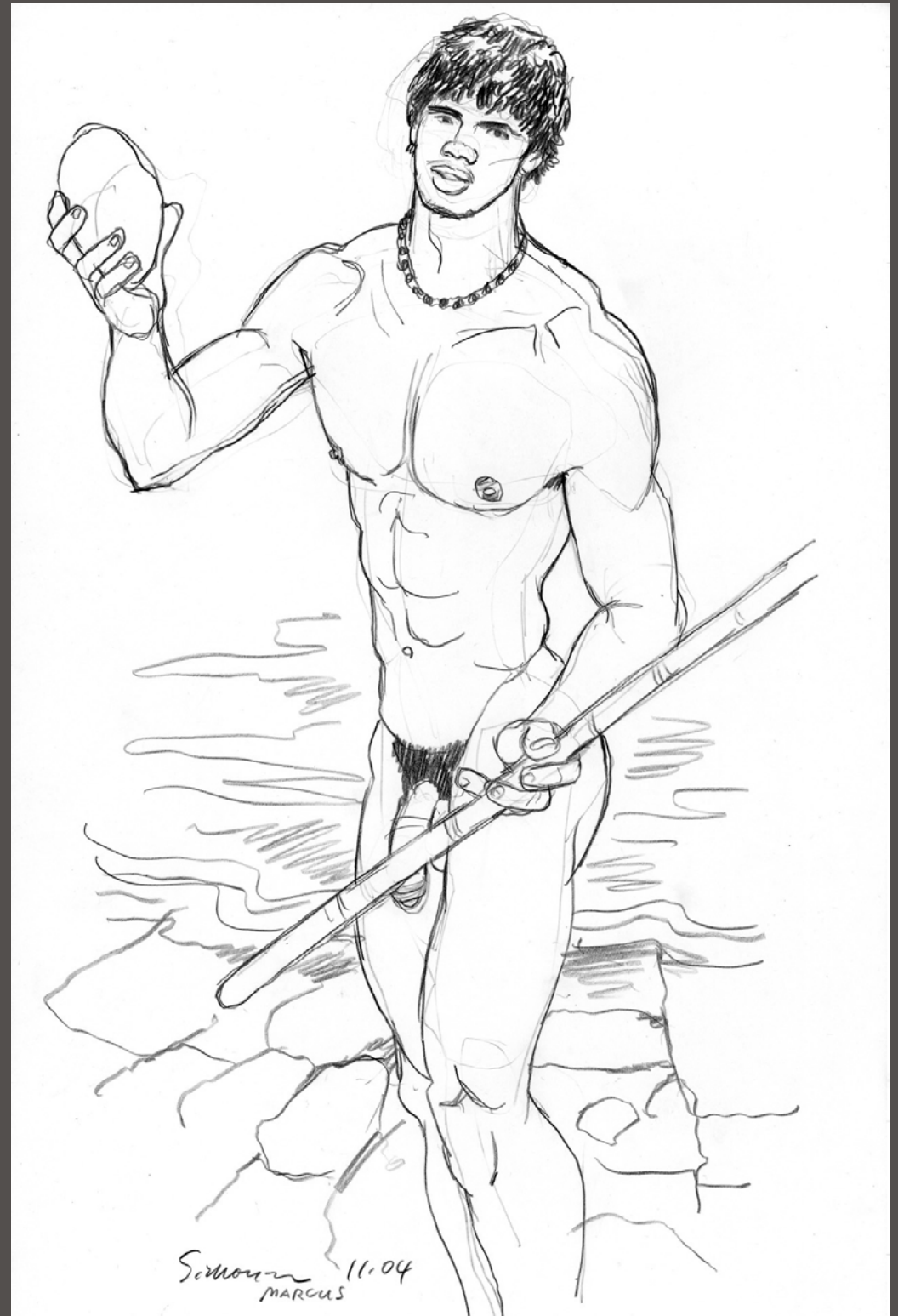
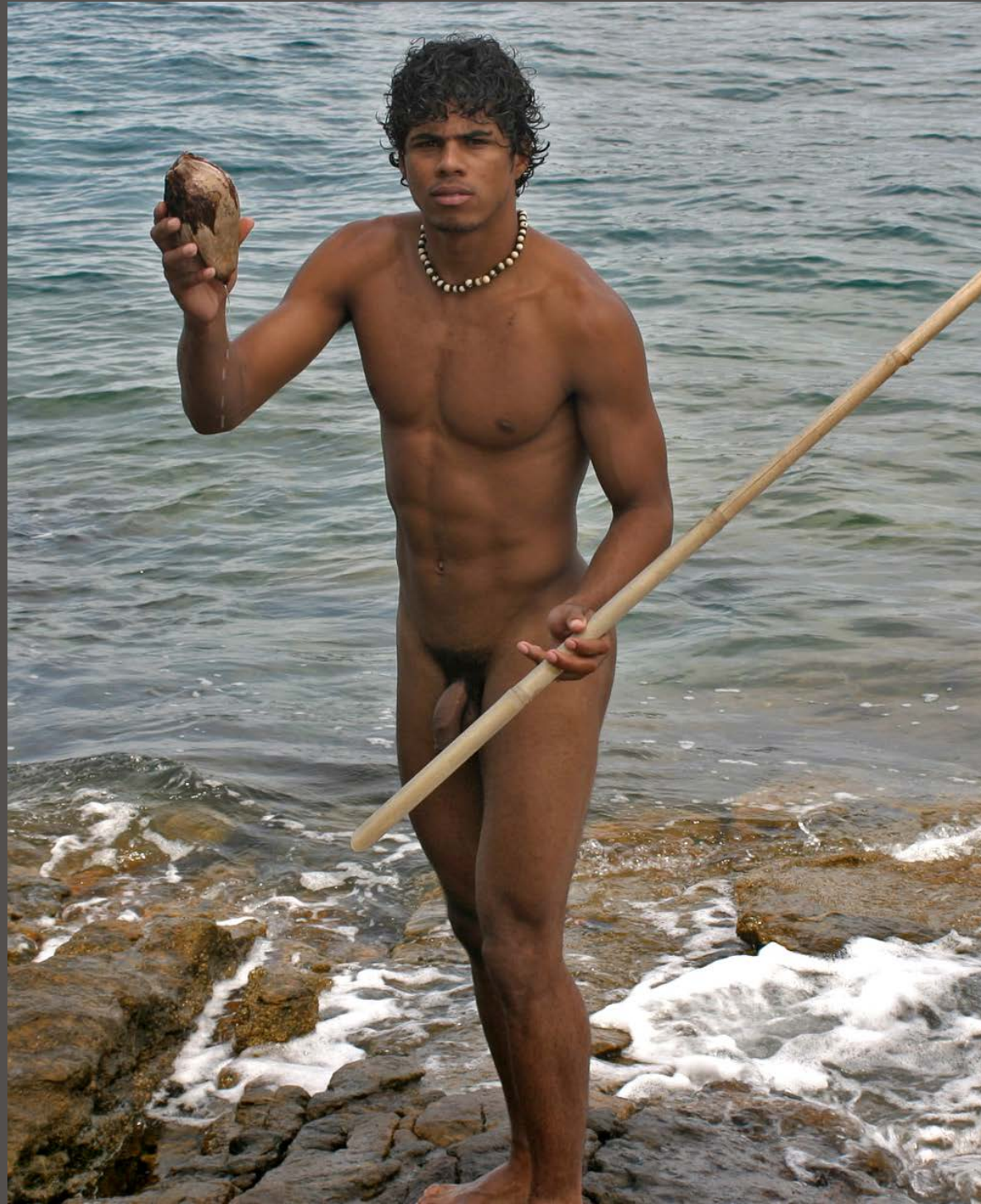




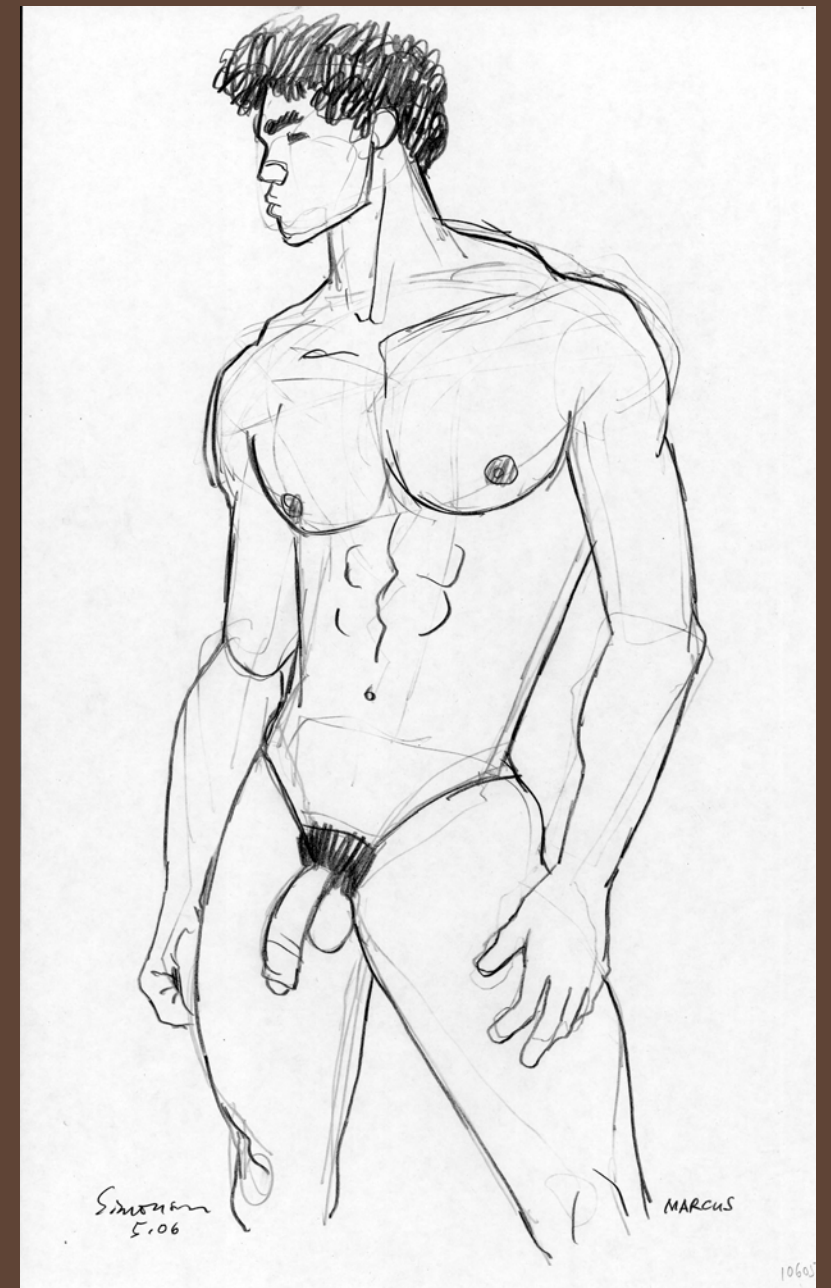


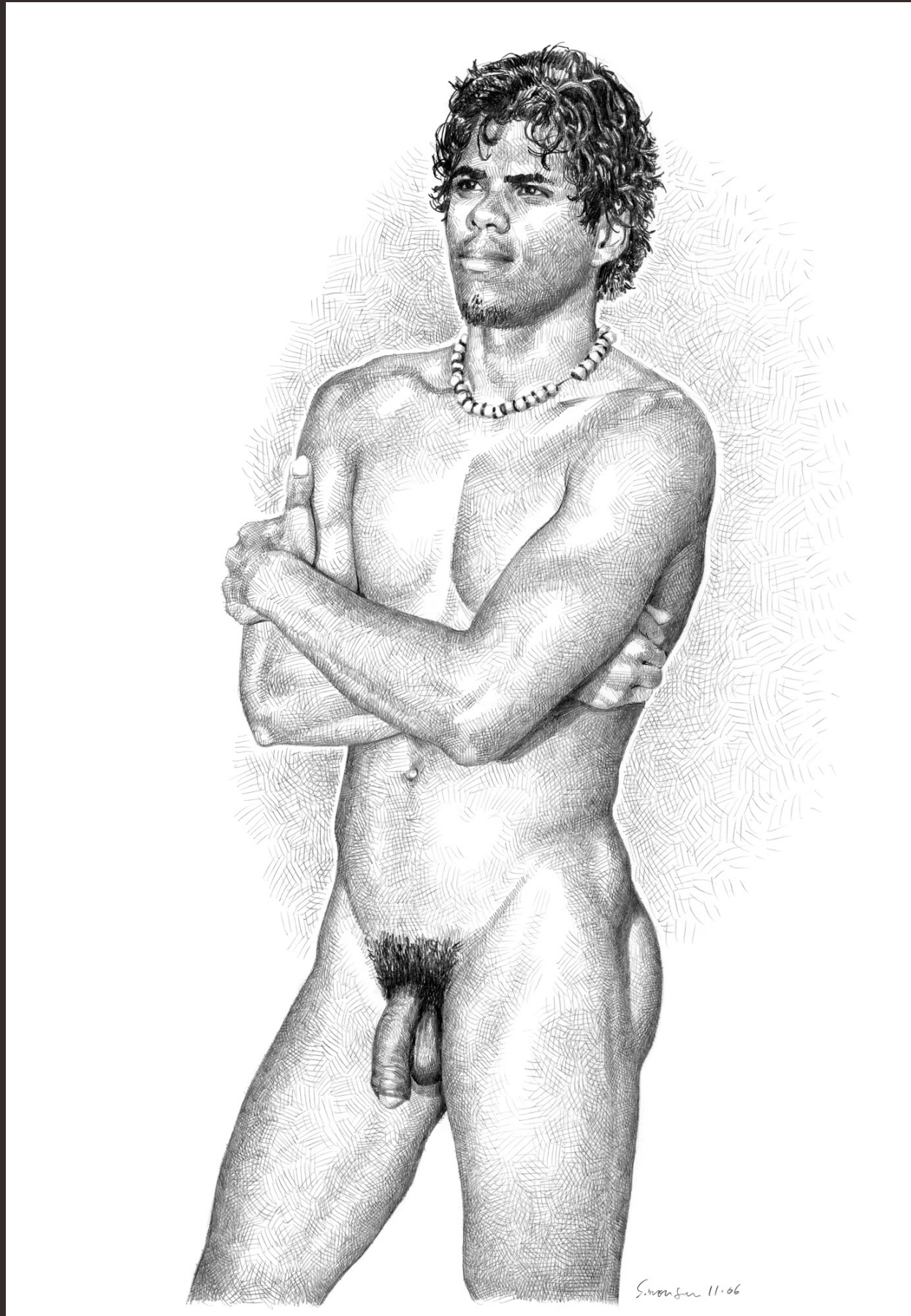


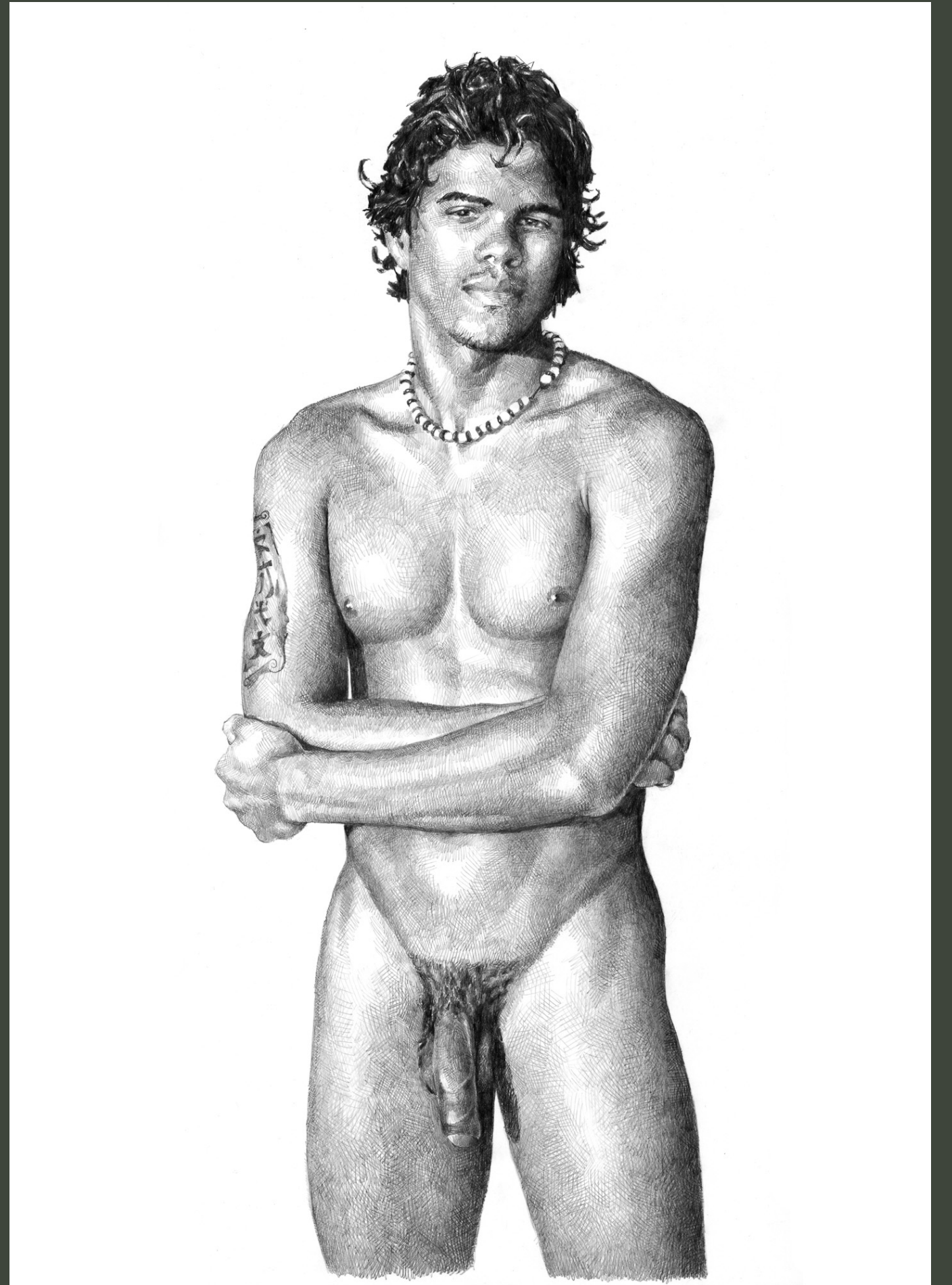


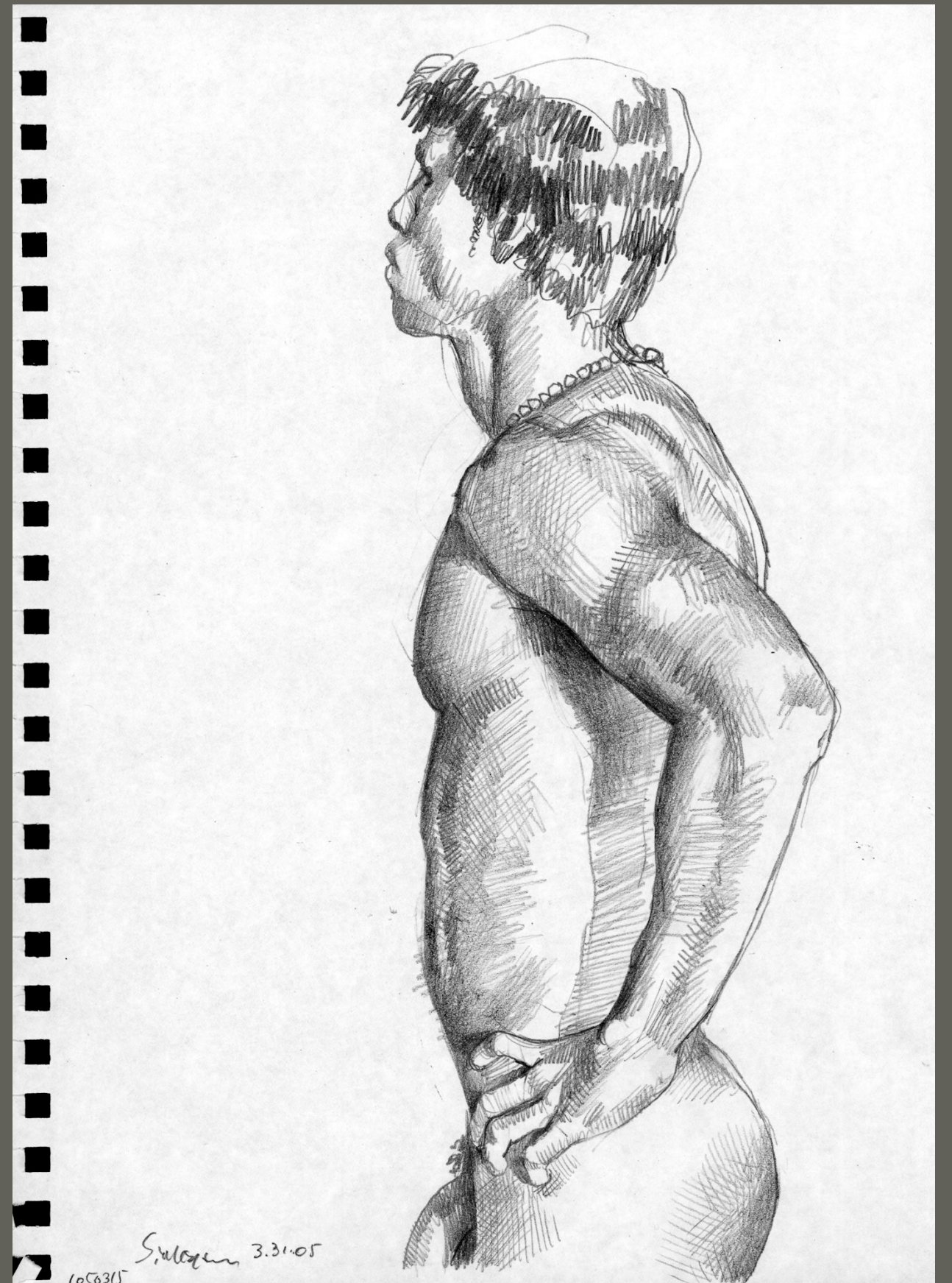


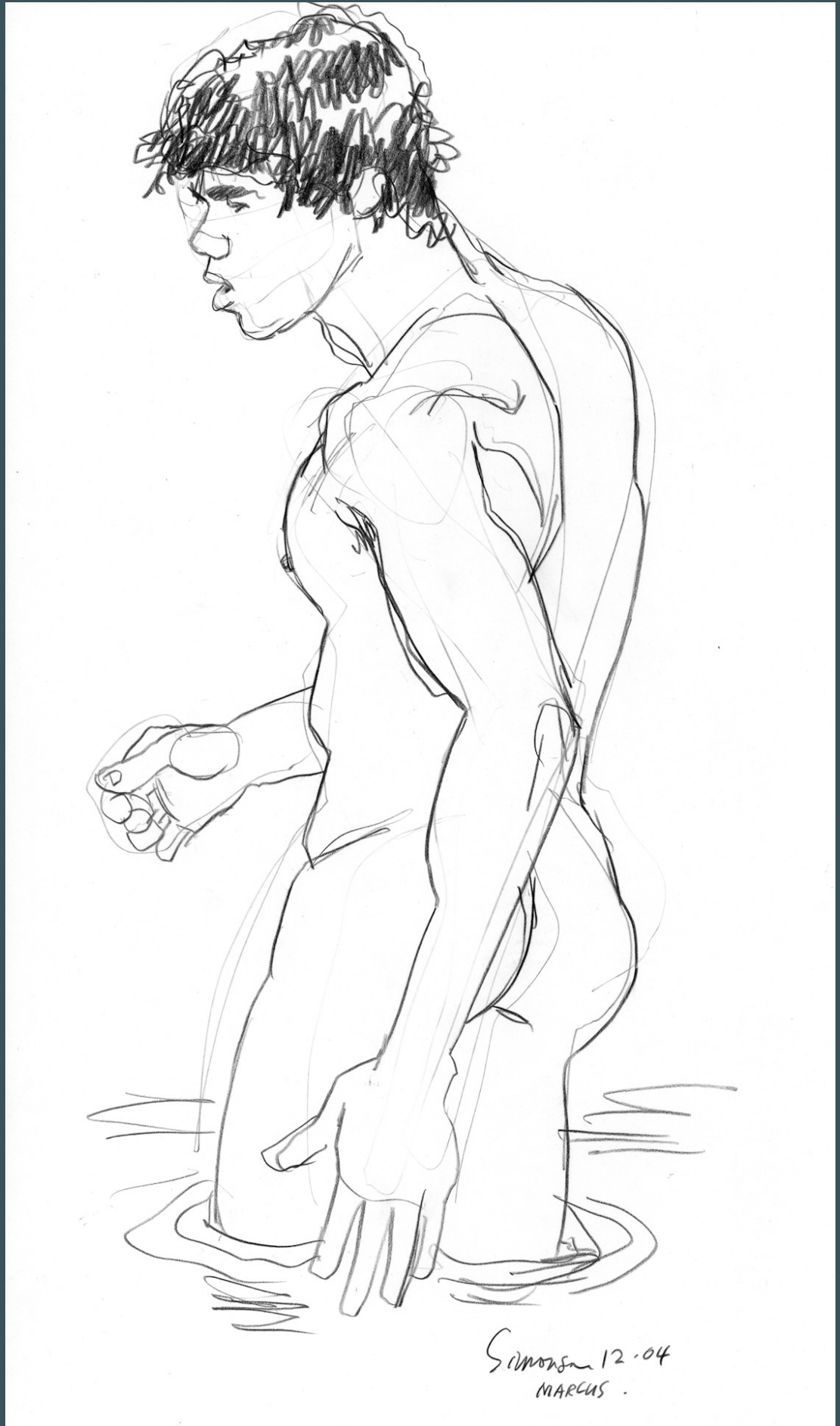
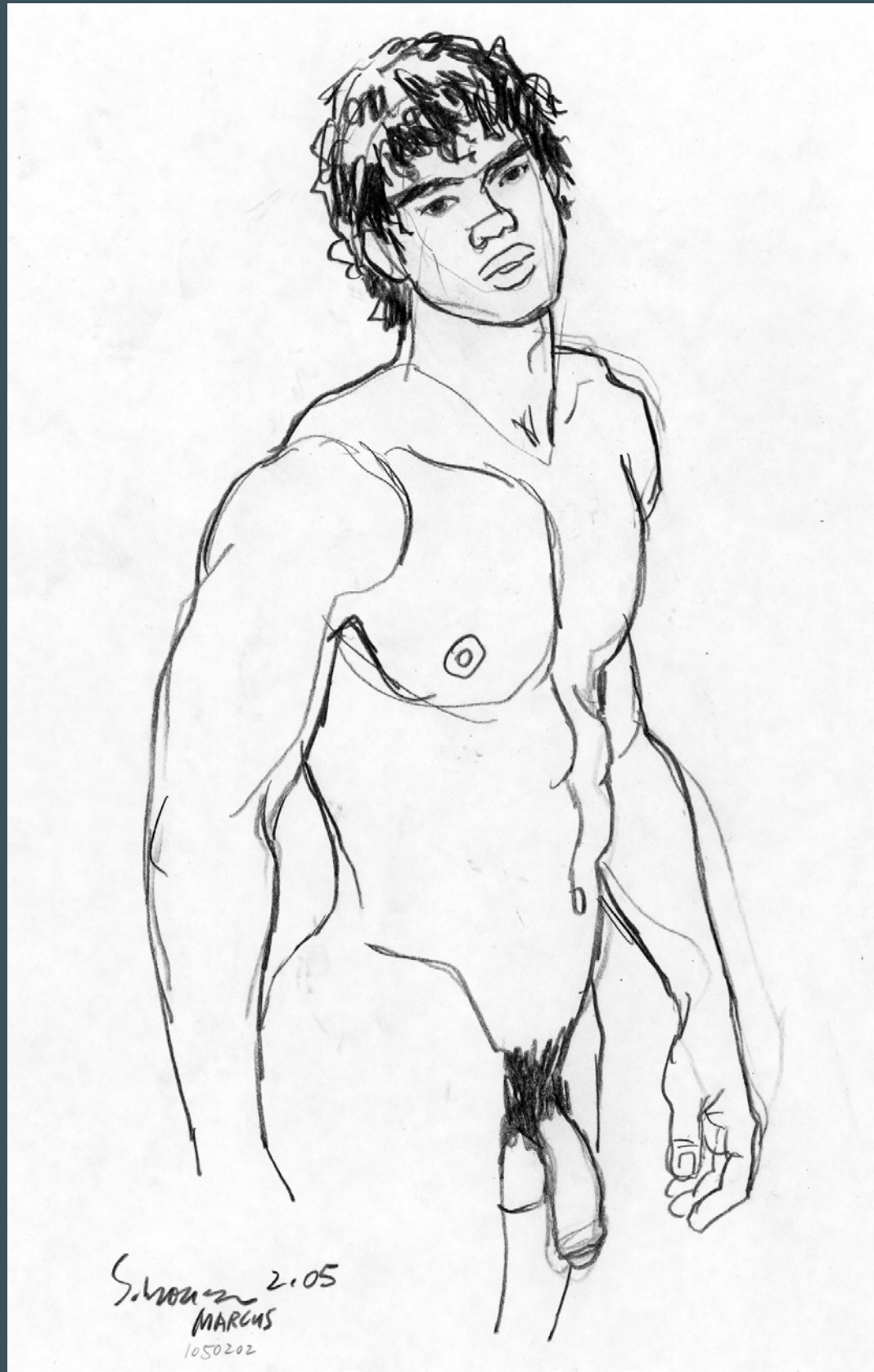


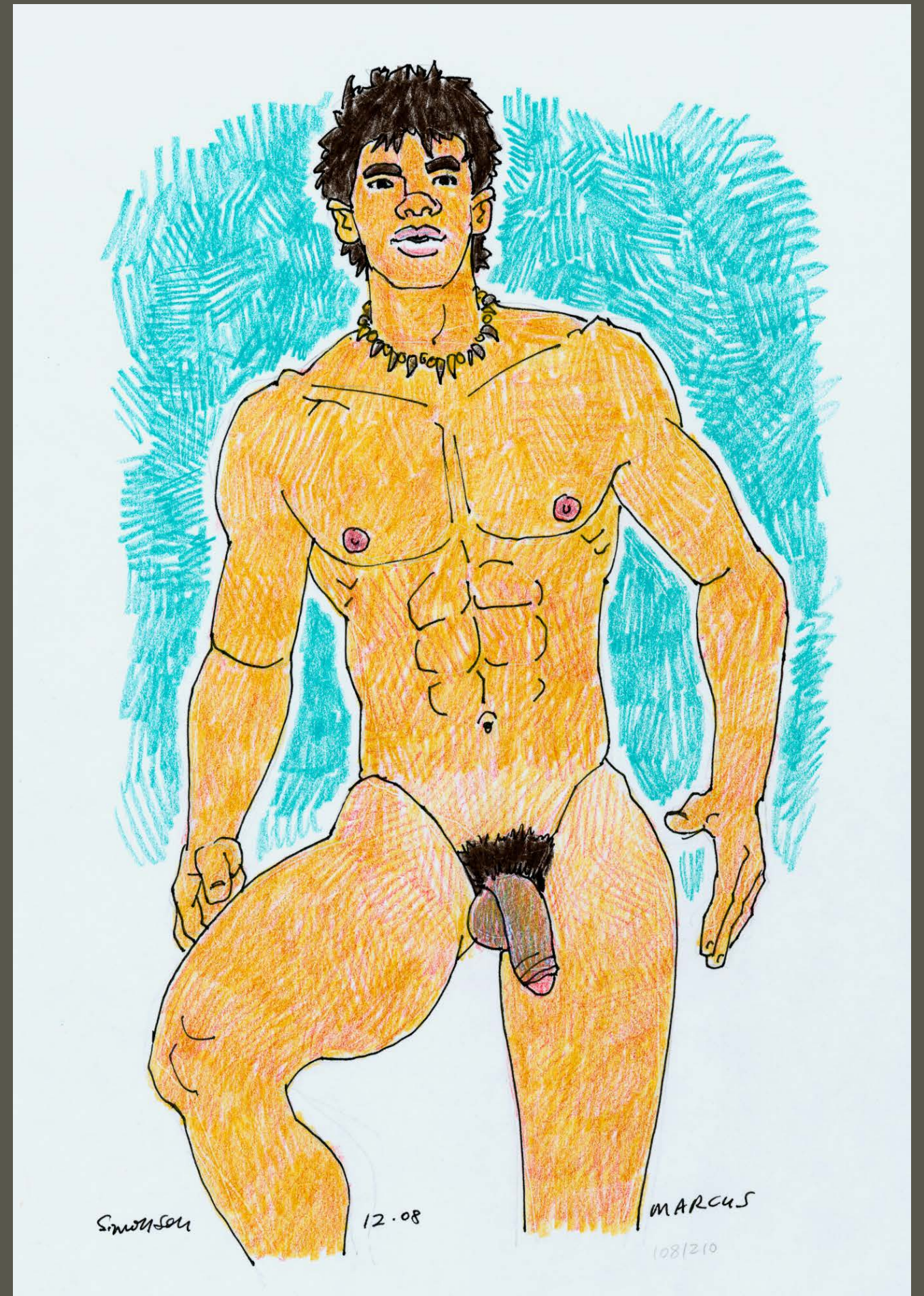


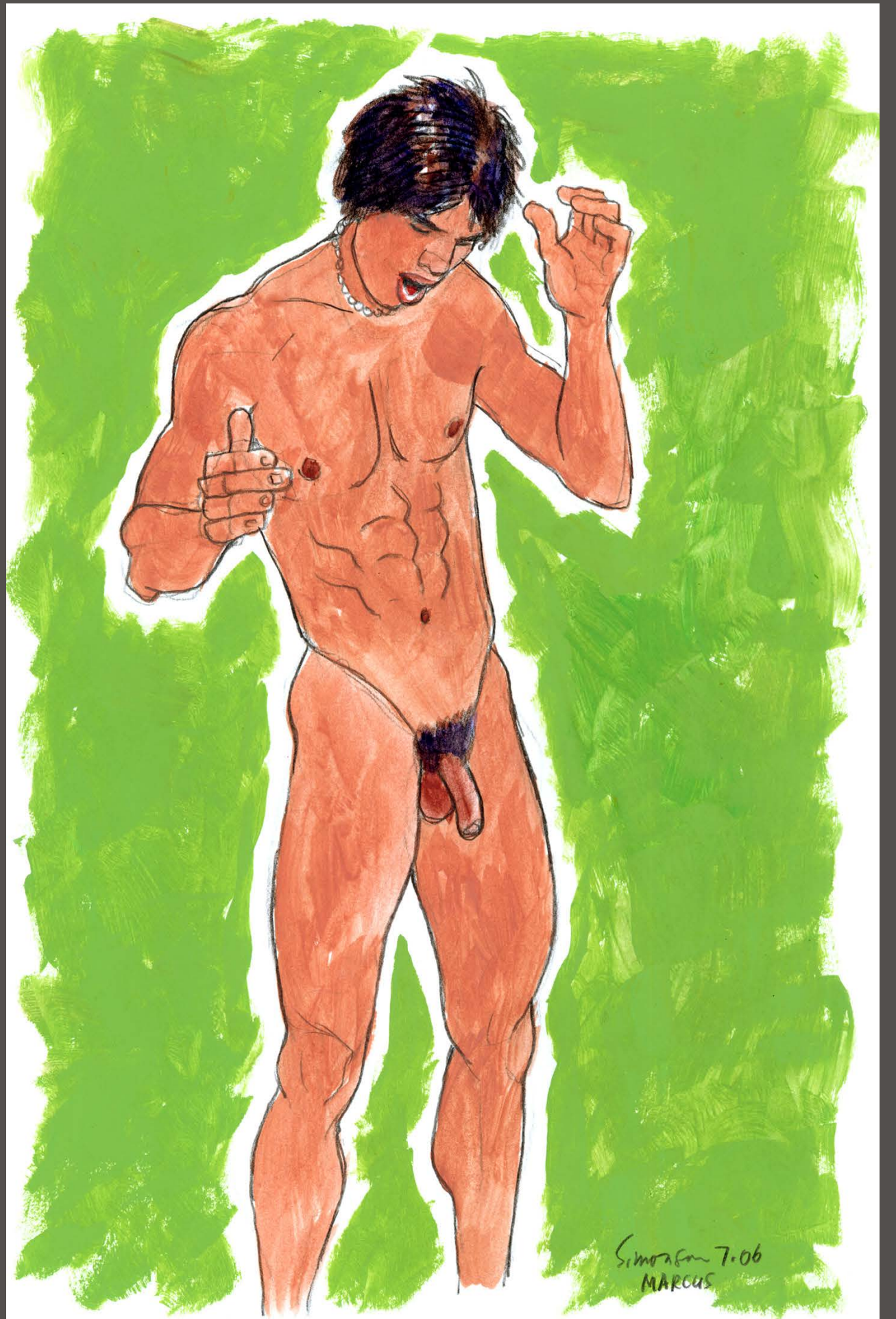
















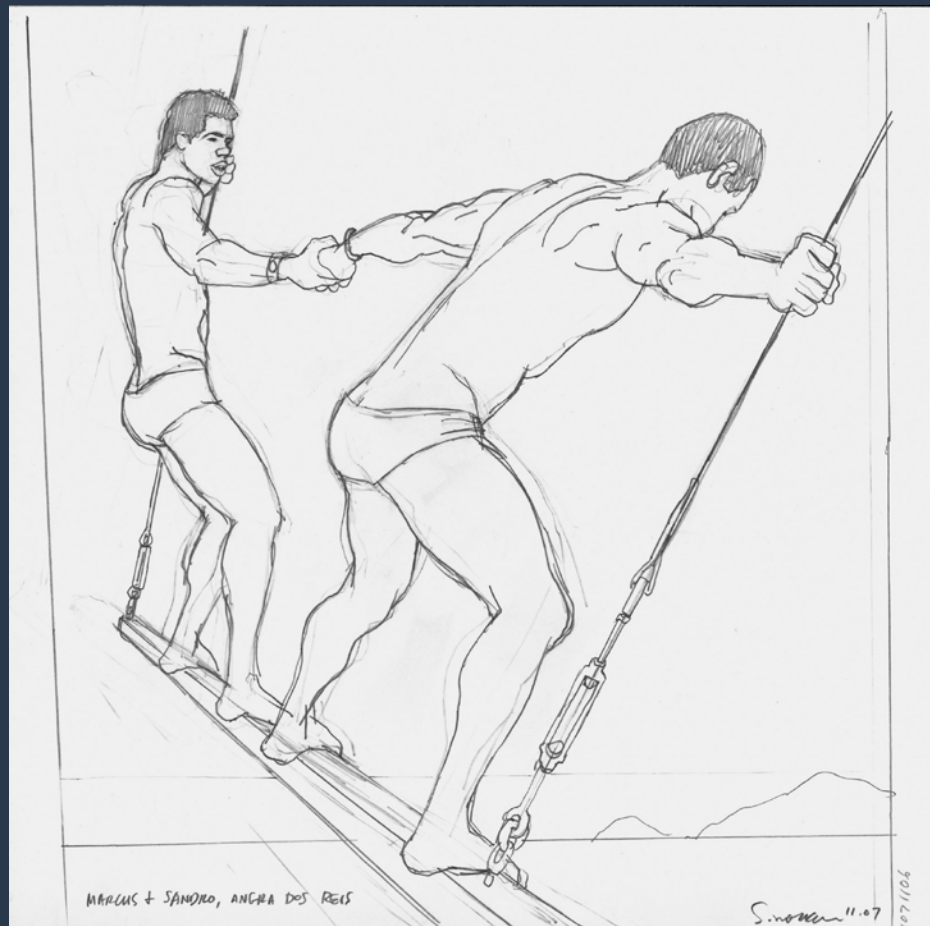


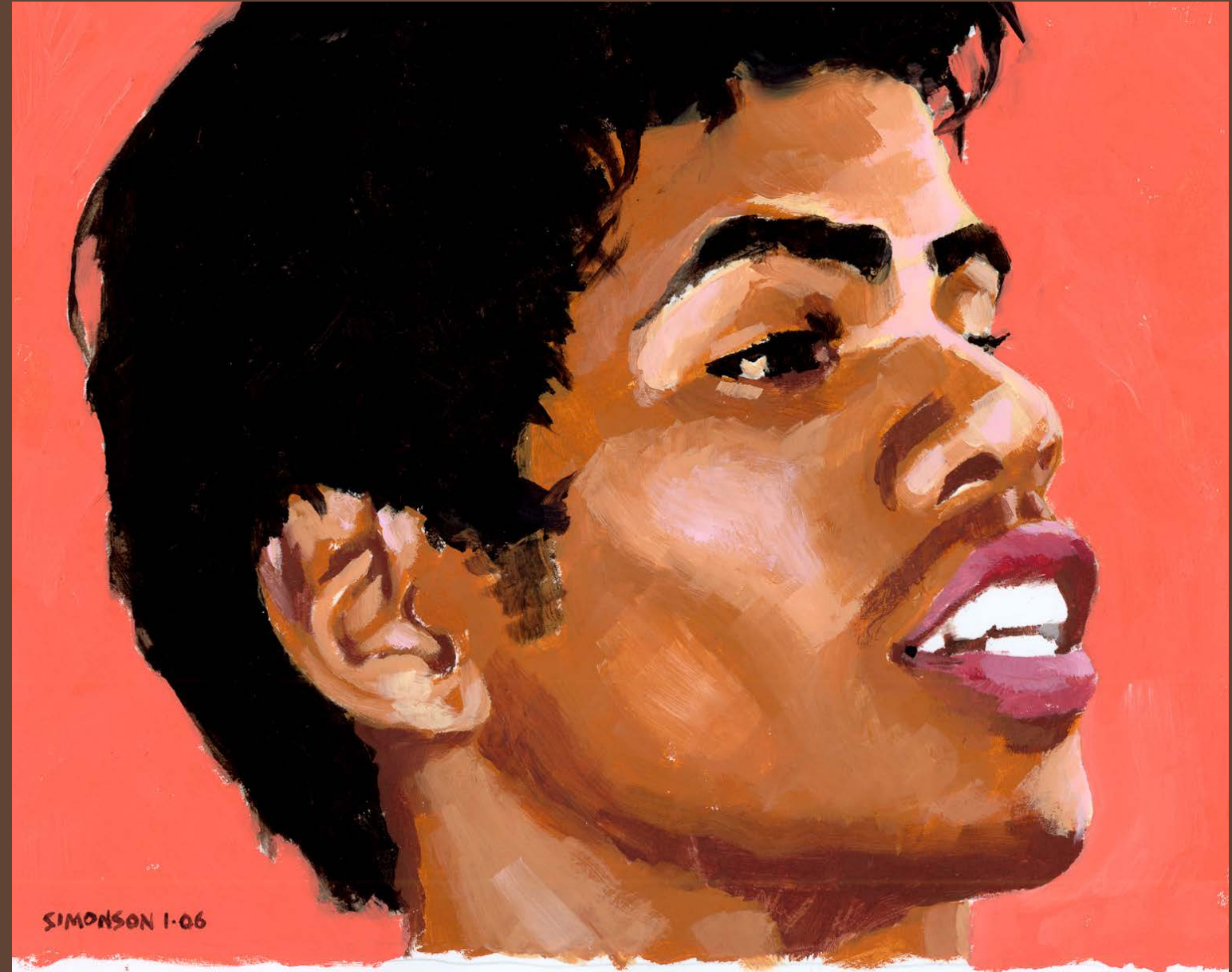


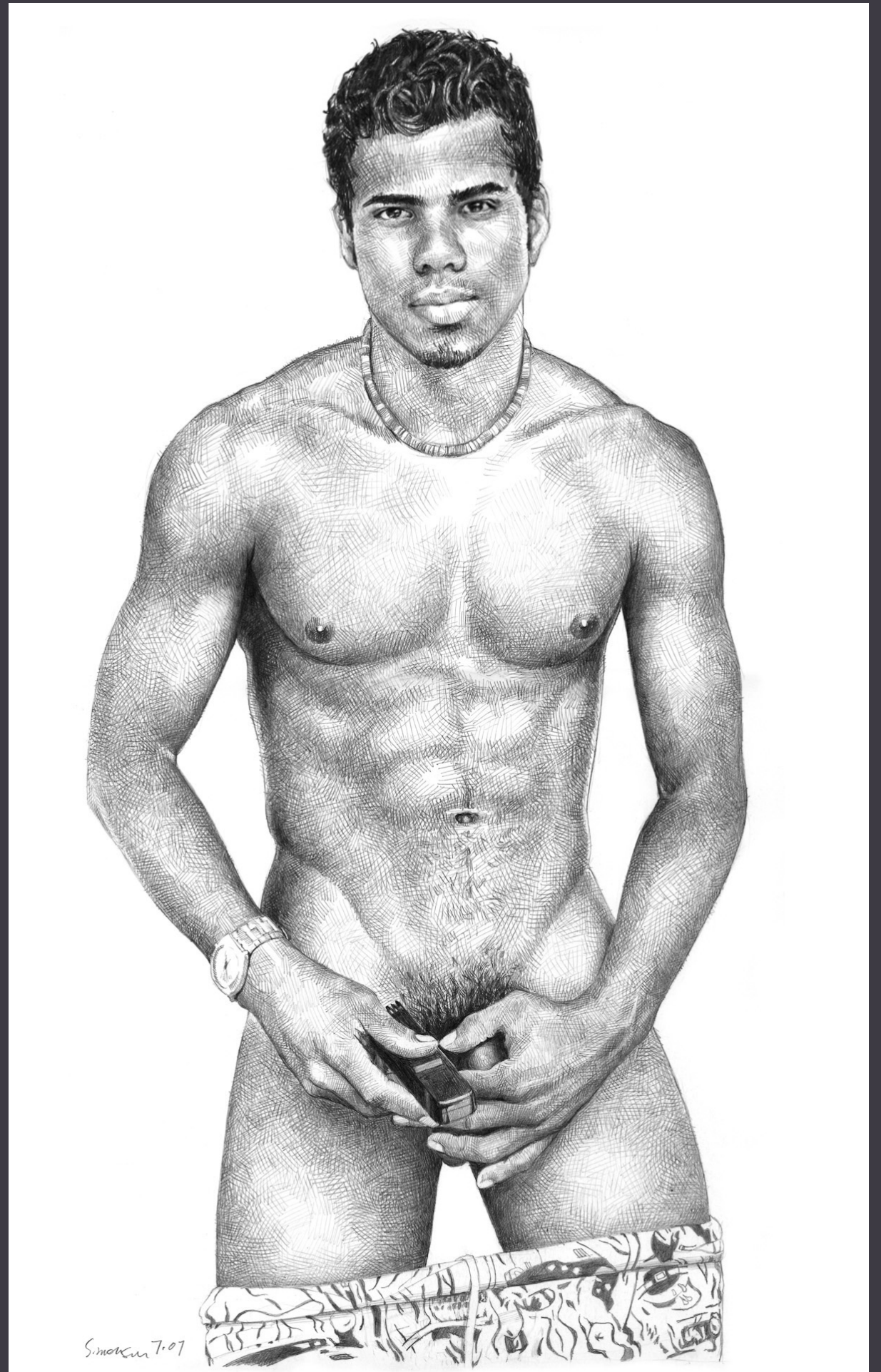
# THE SECOND PHOTOSHOOT: MARCUS & SANDRO

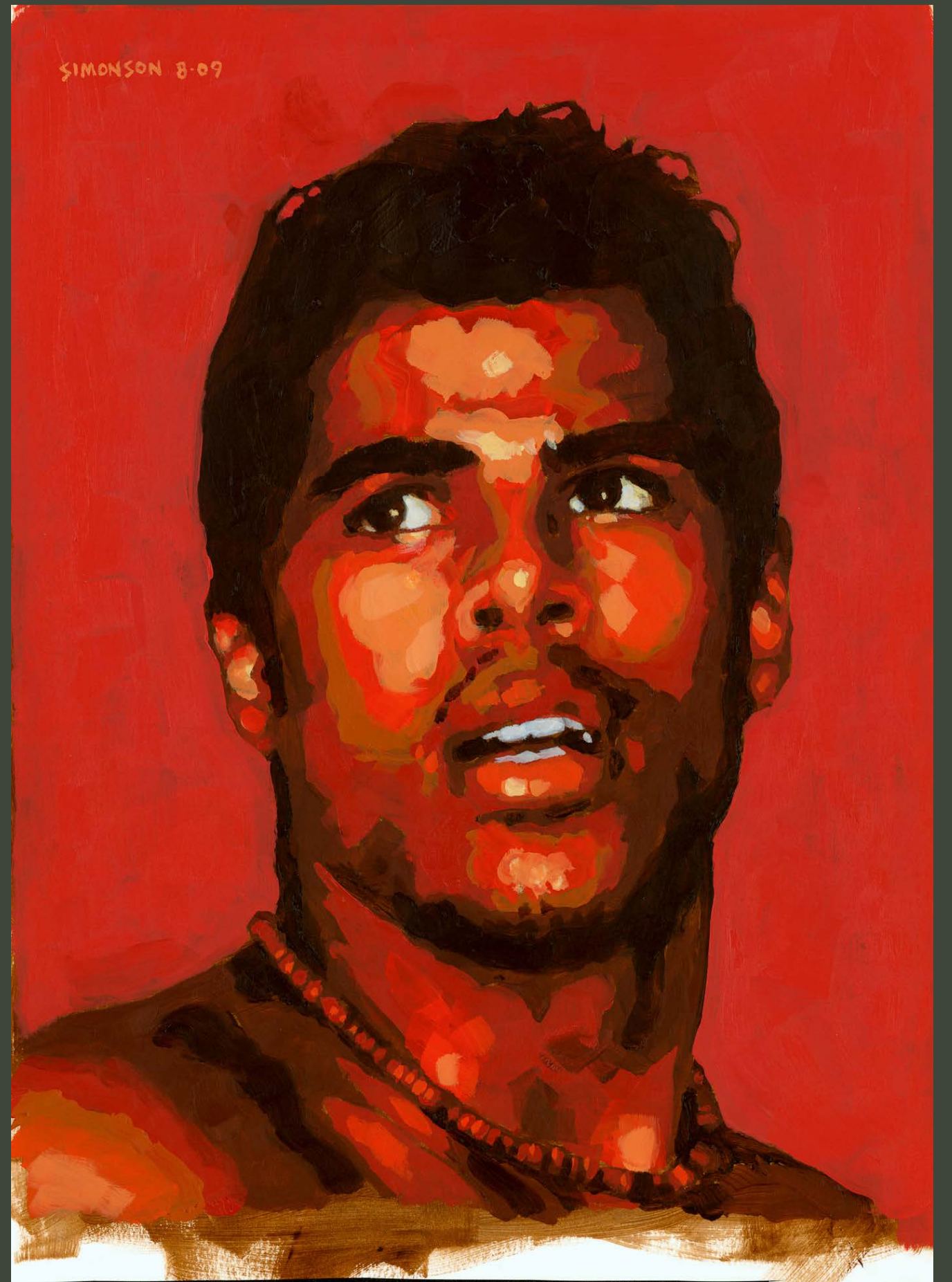
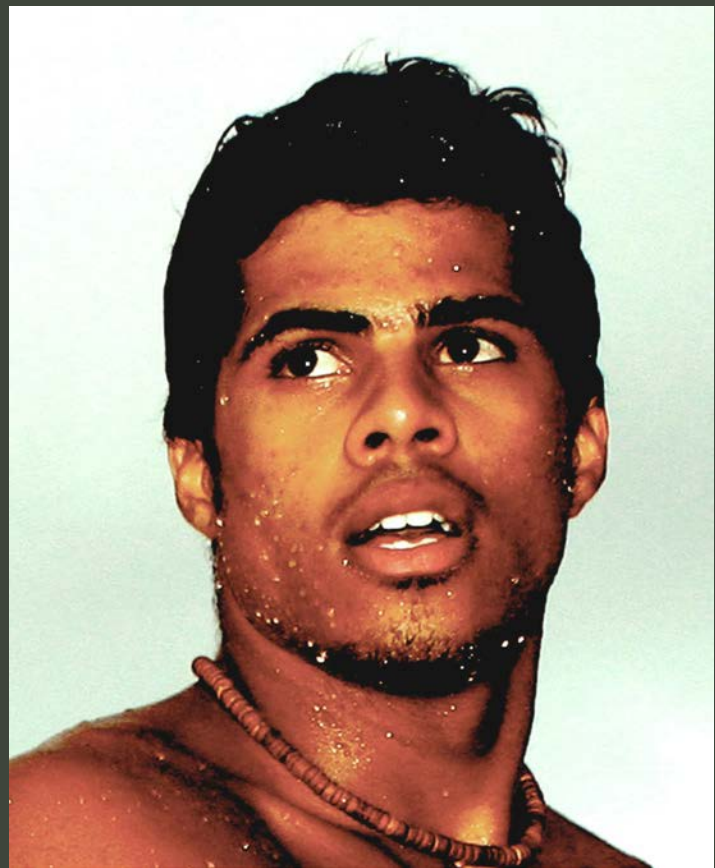


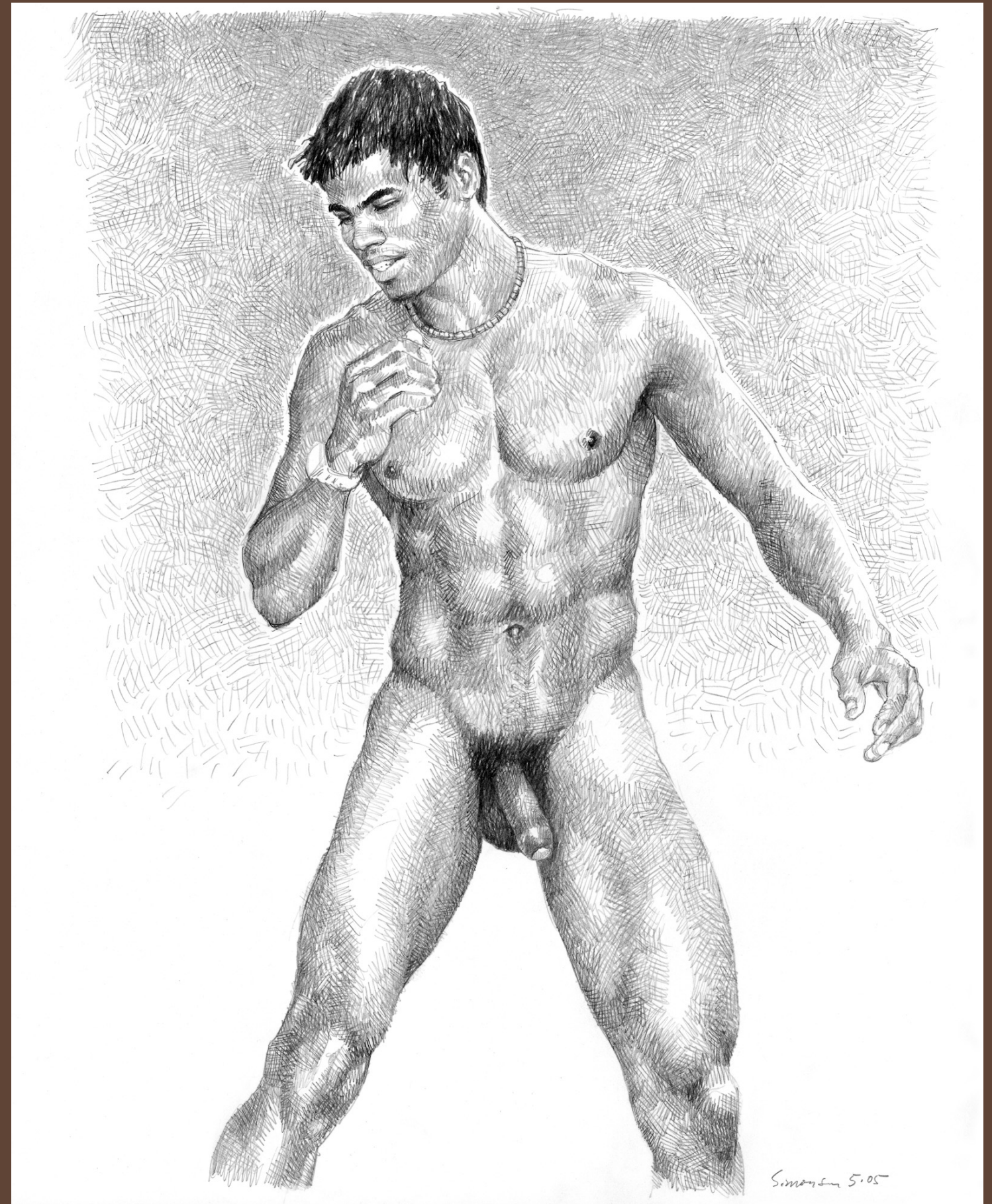
**Angra dos Reis,  
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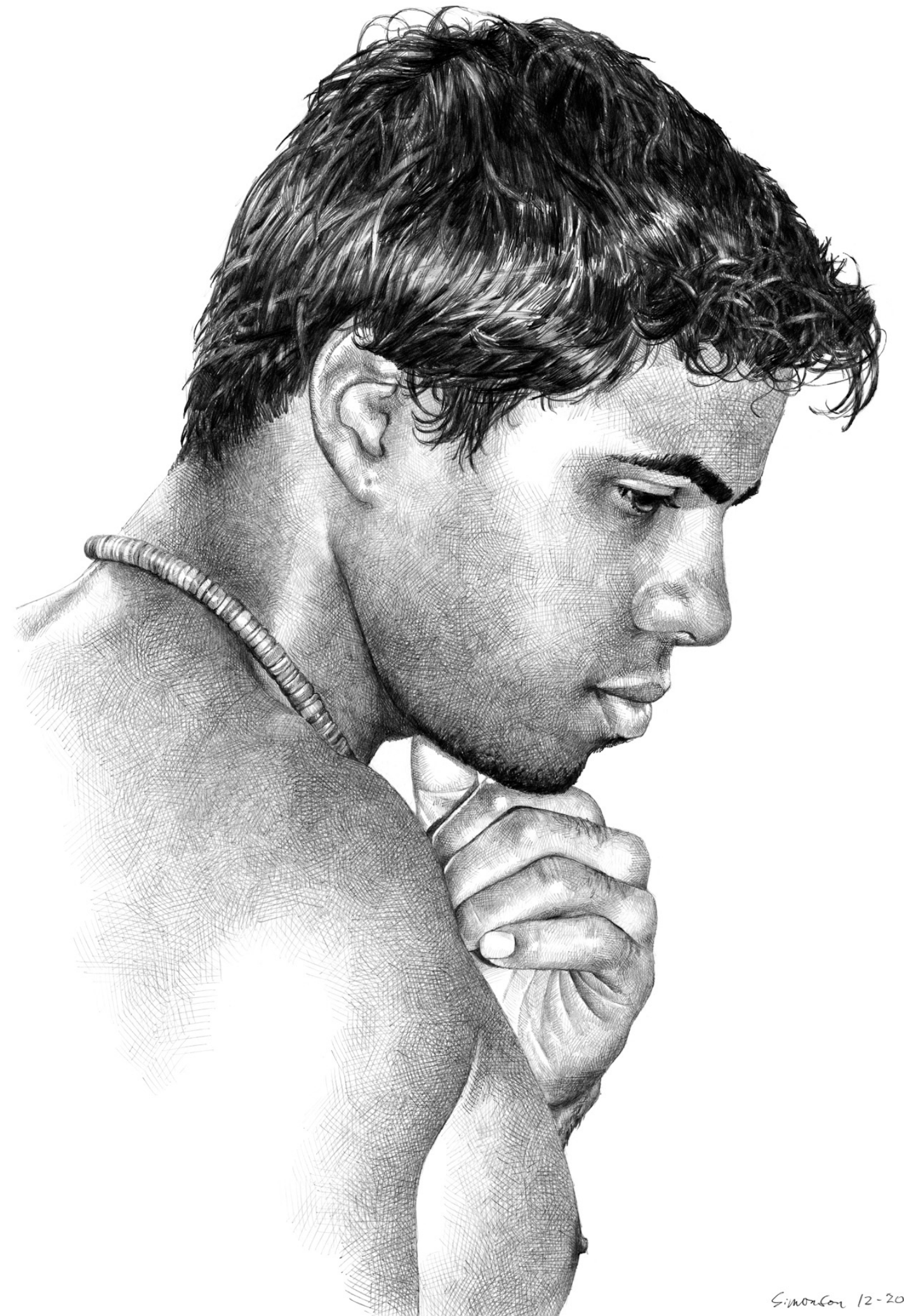


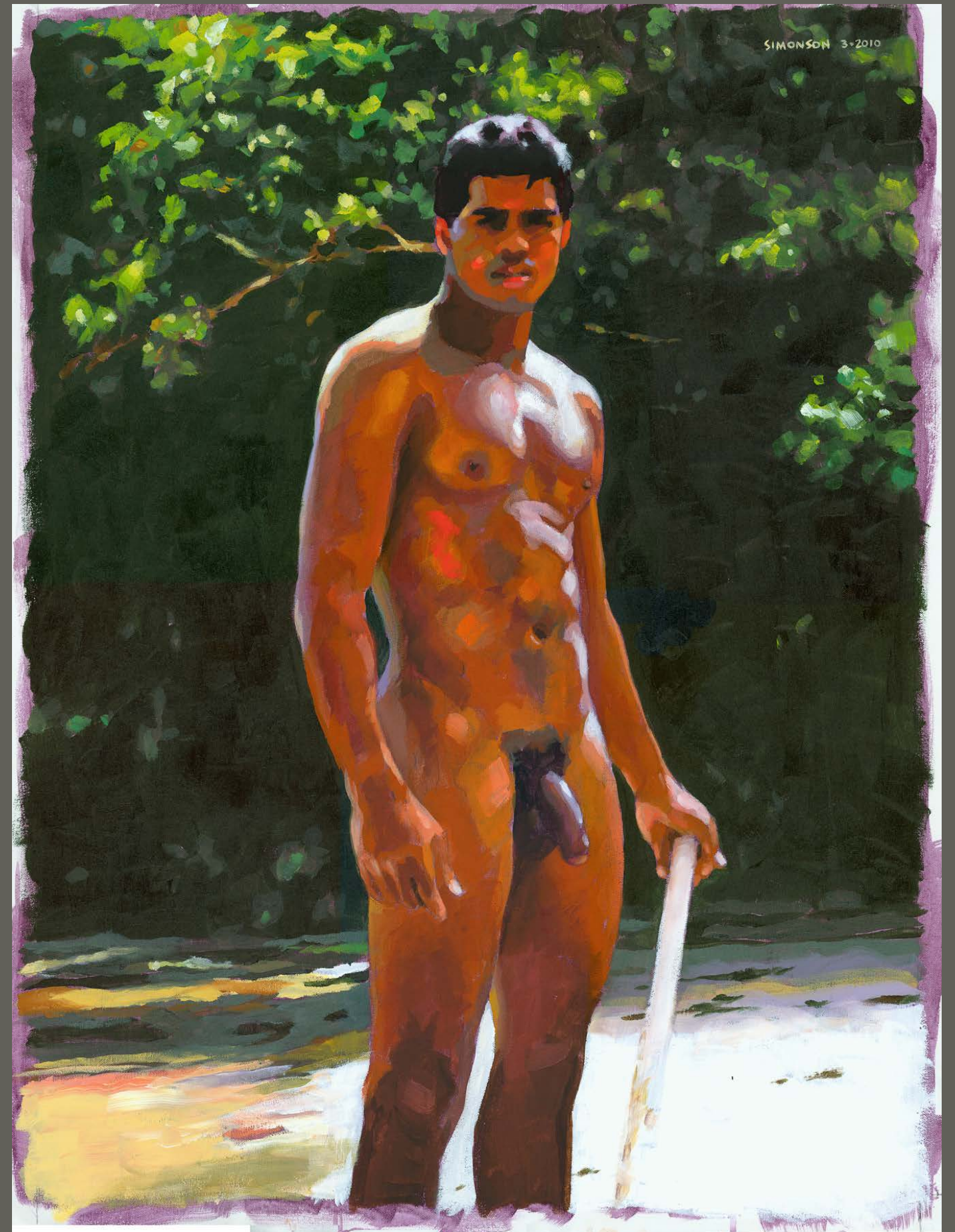


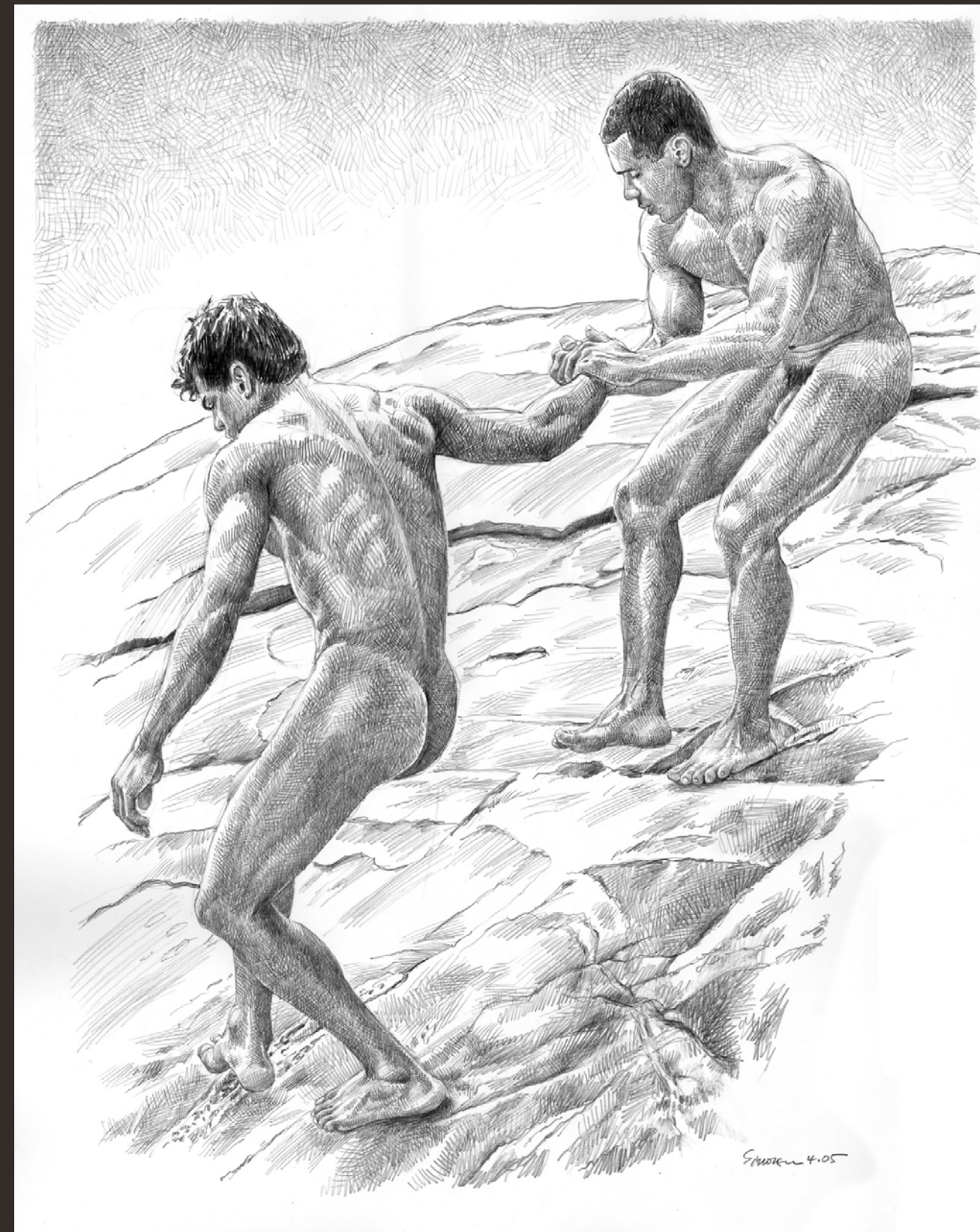


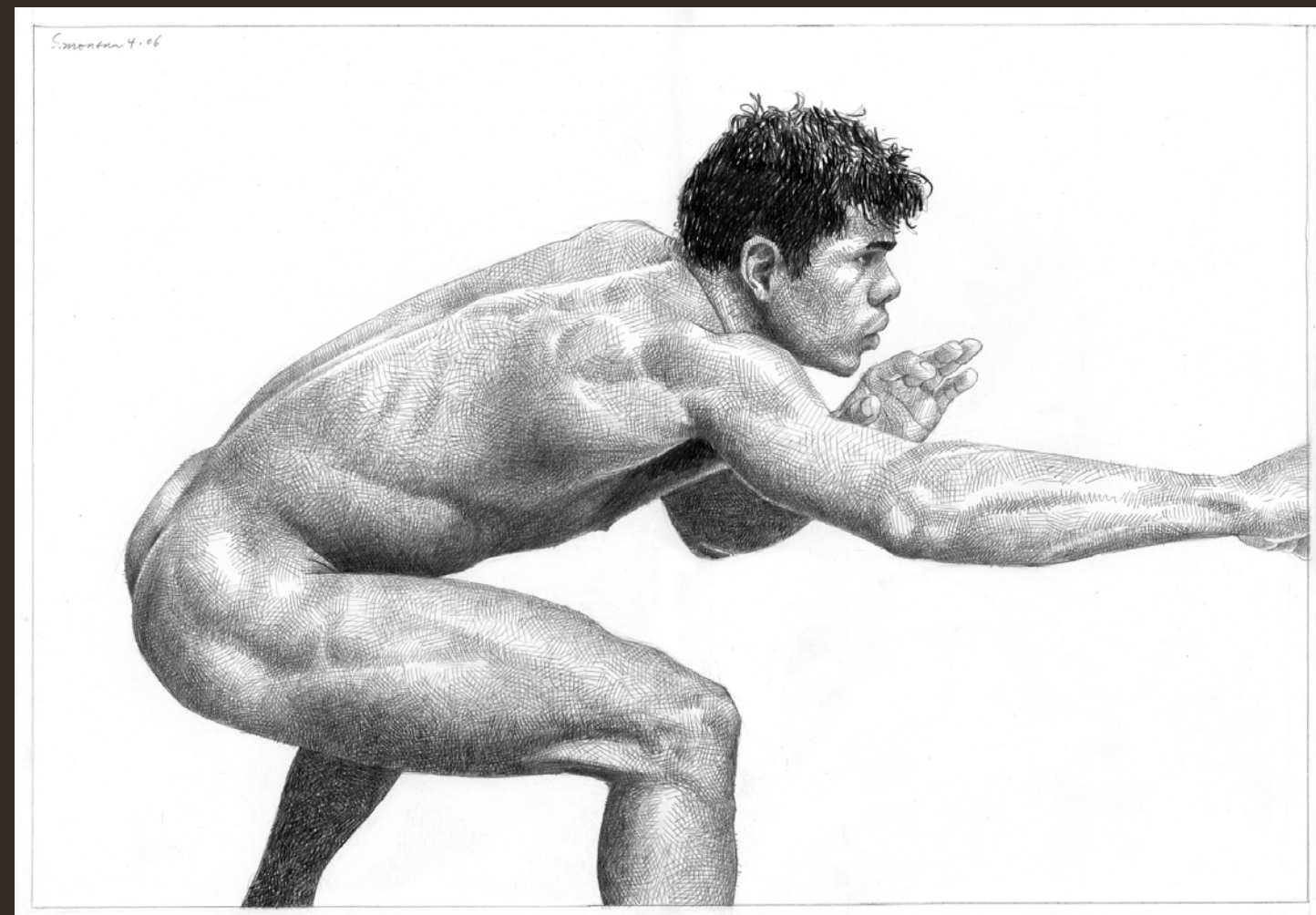


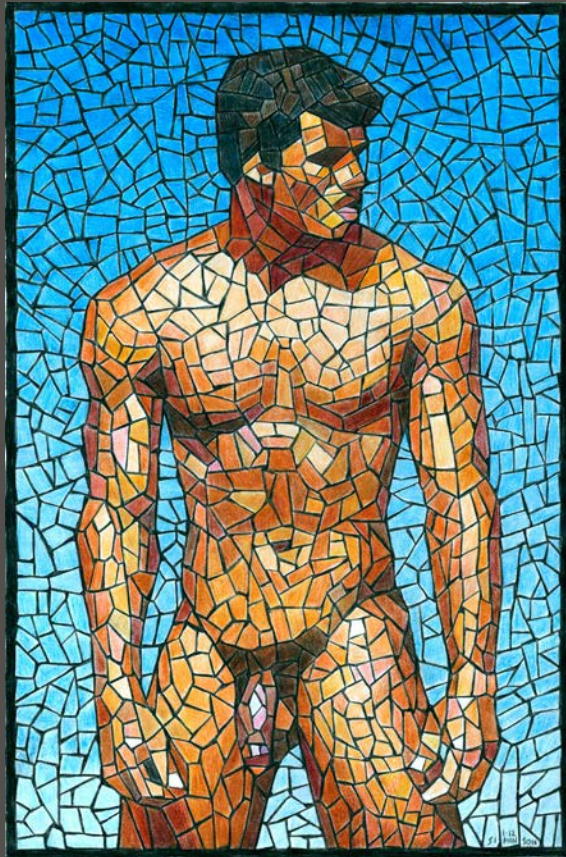
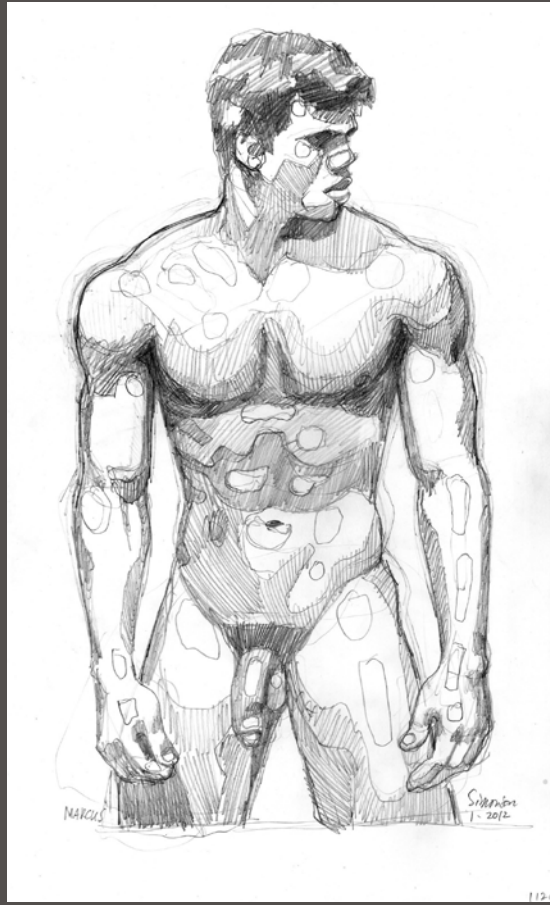


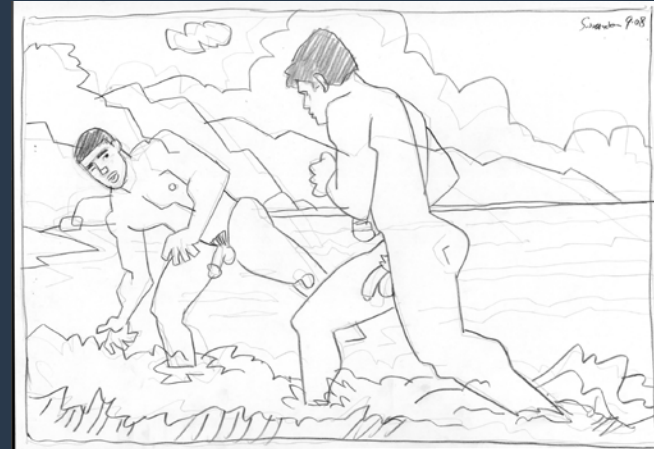


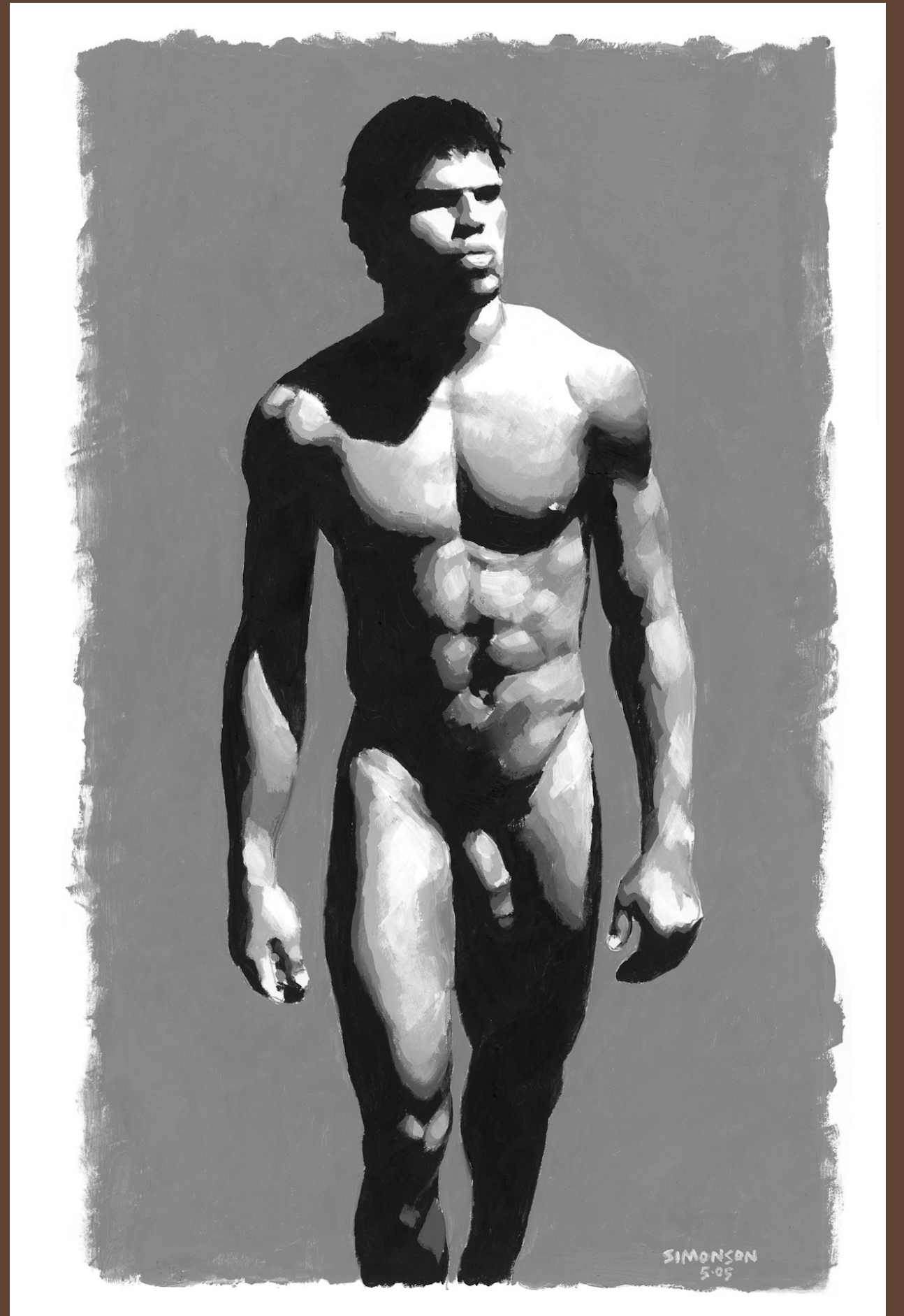


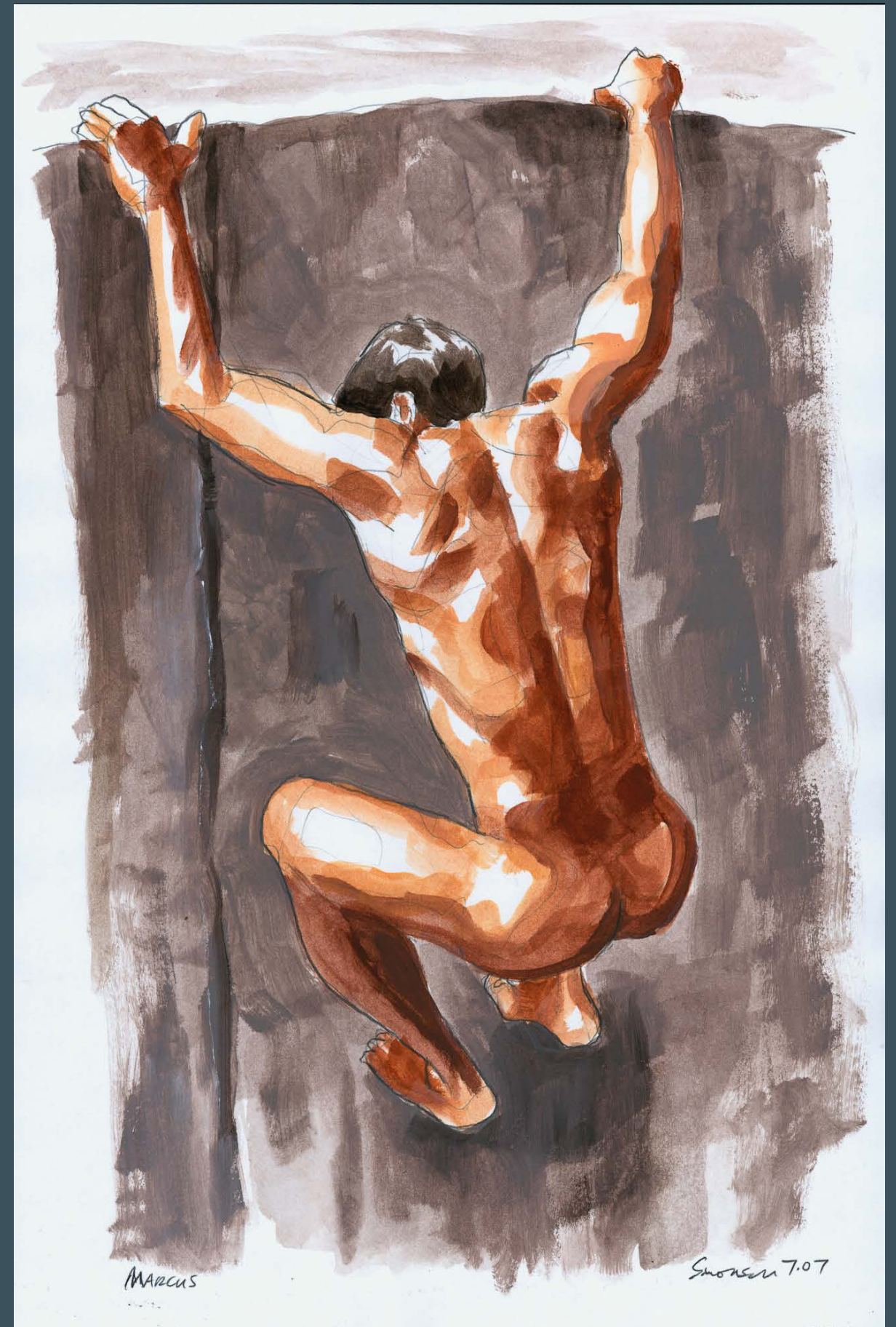
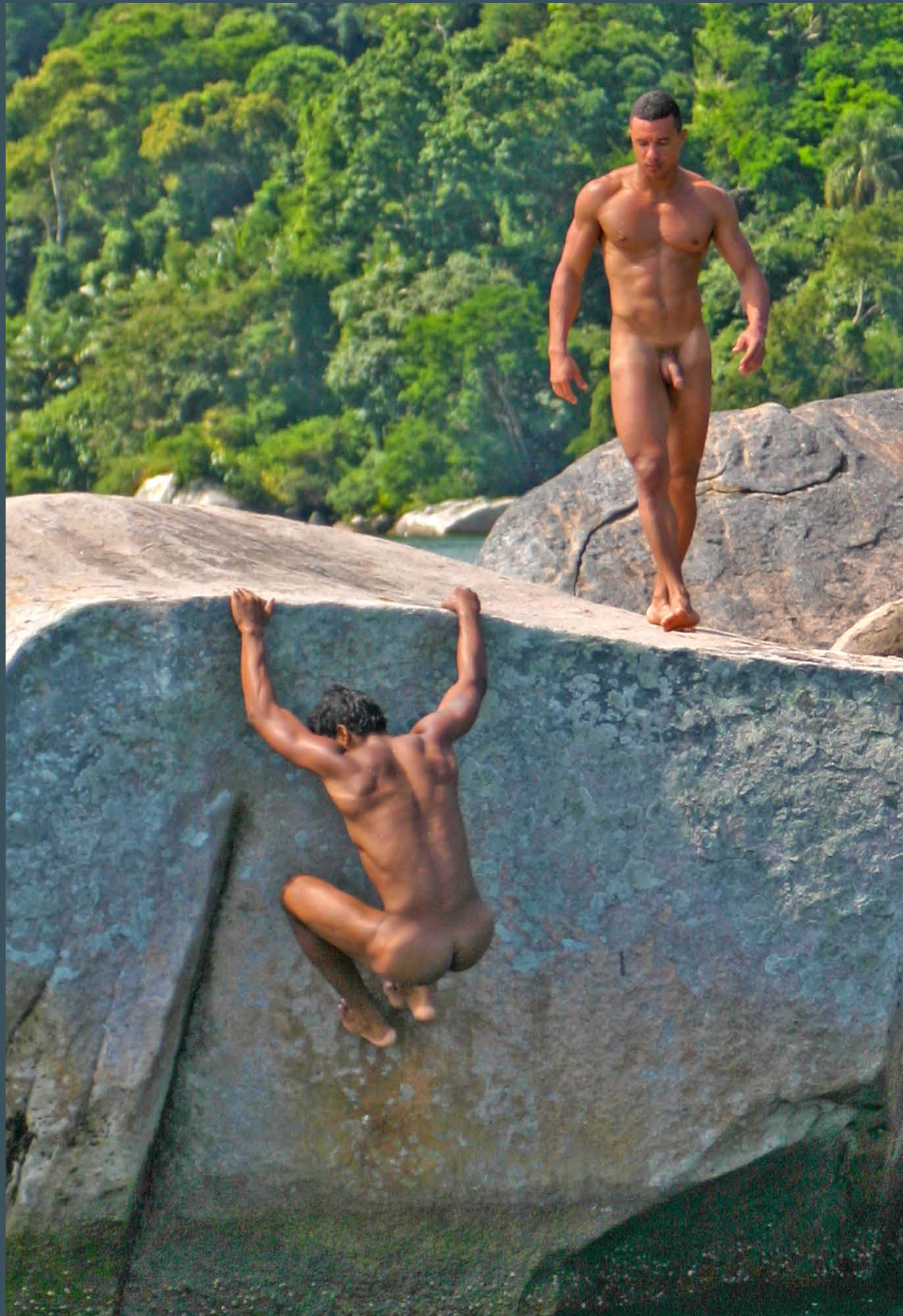




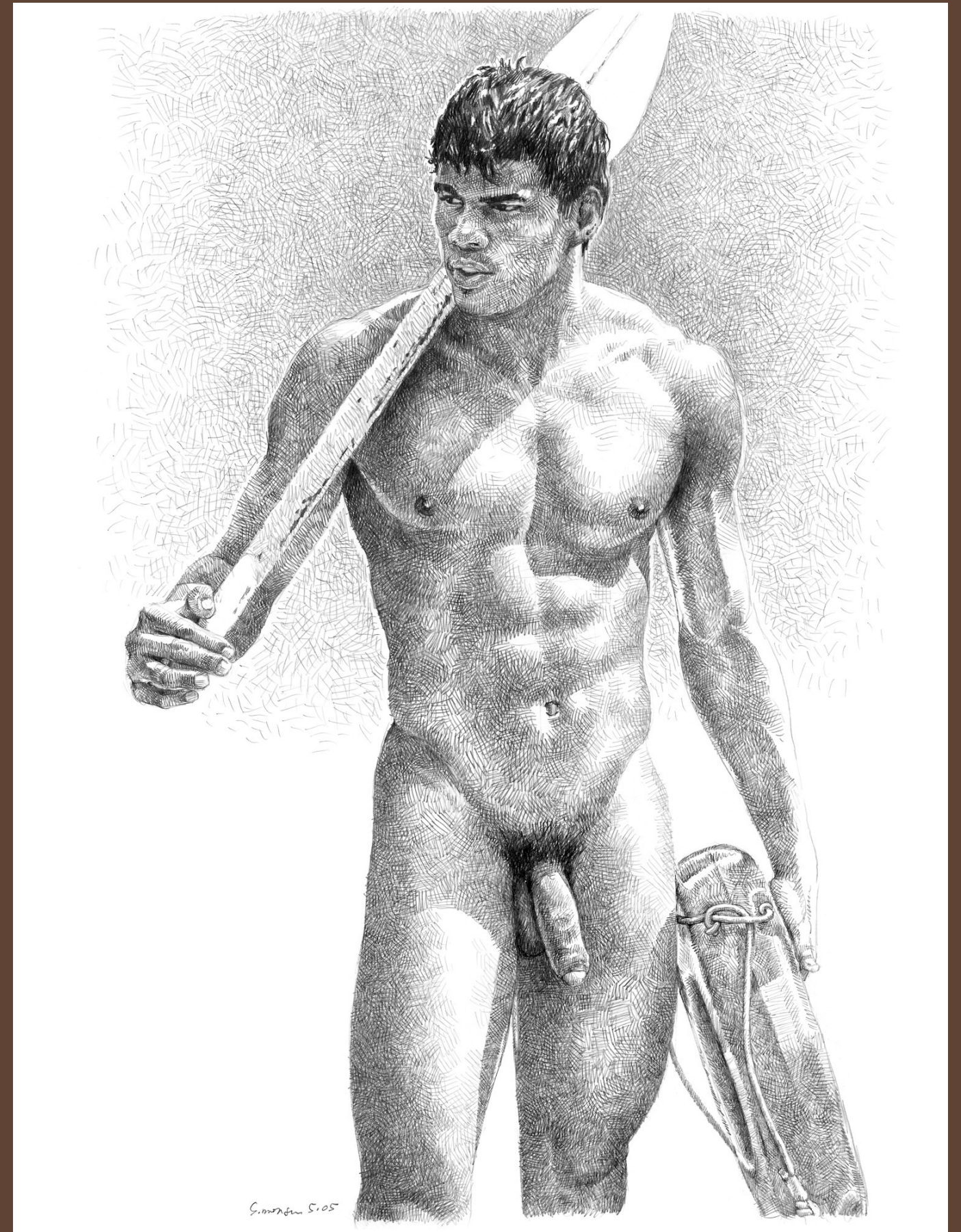










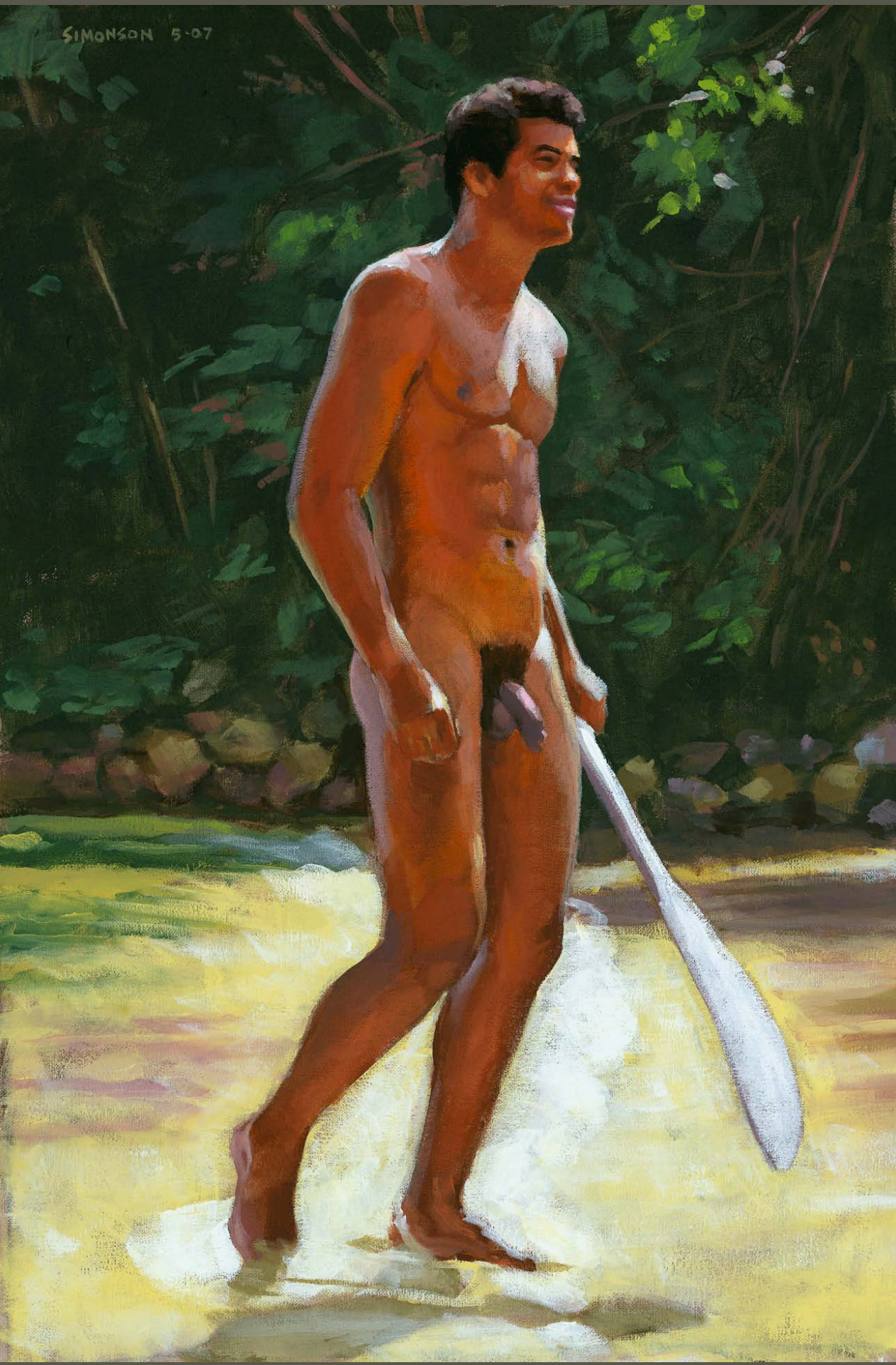




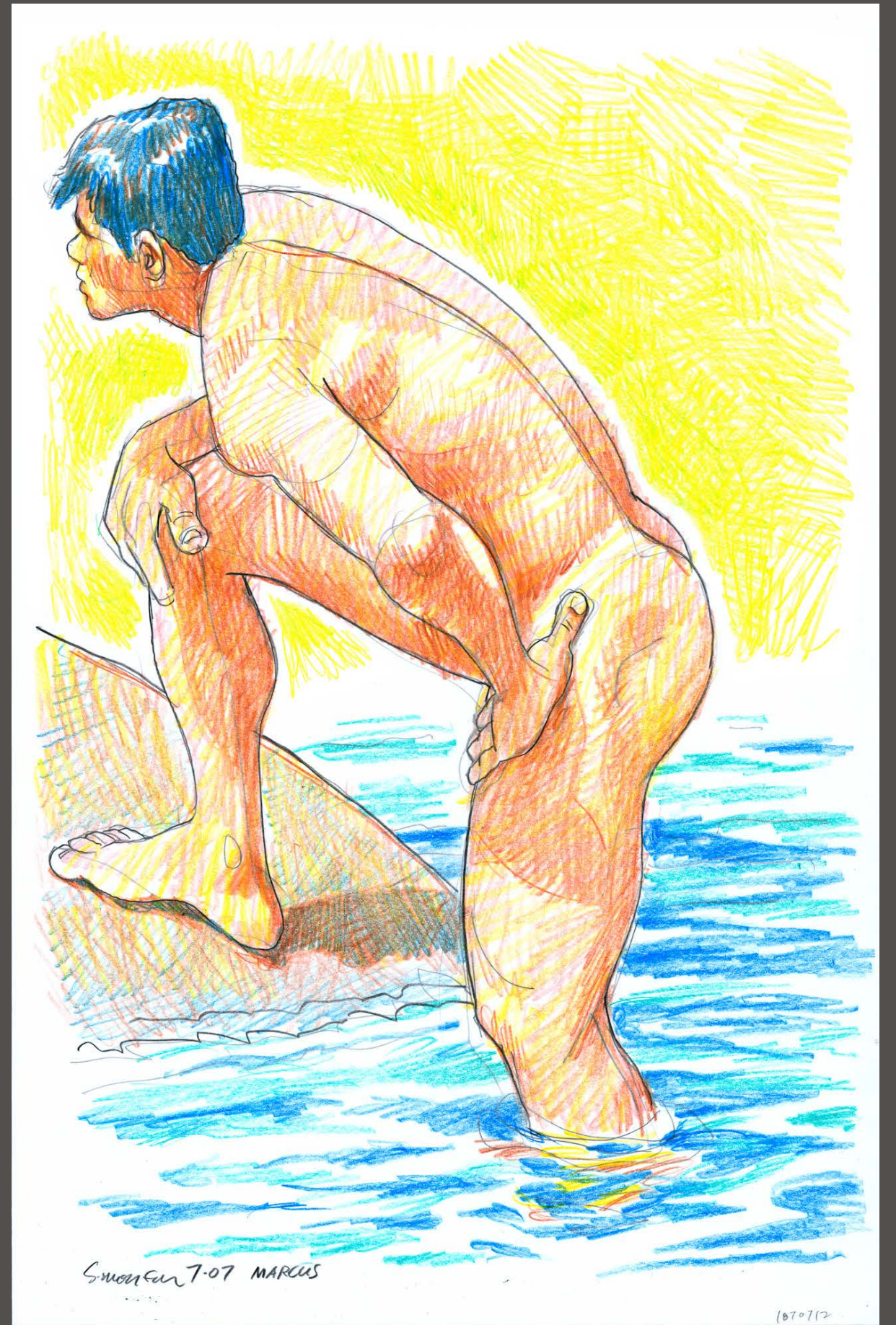




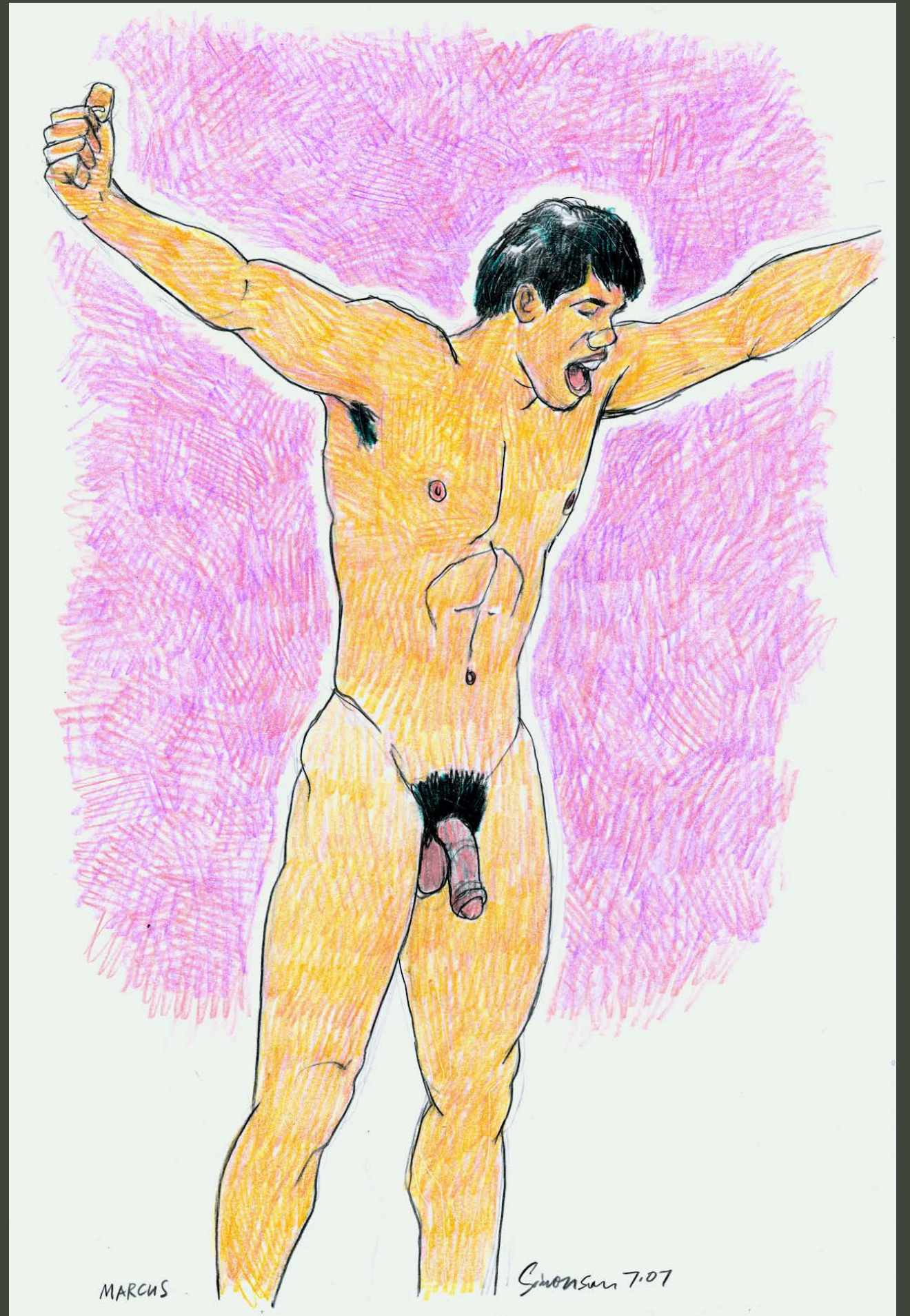
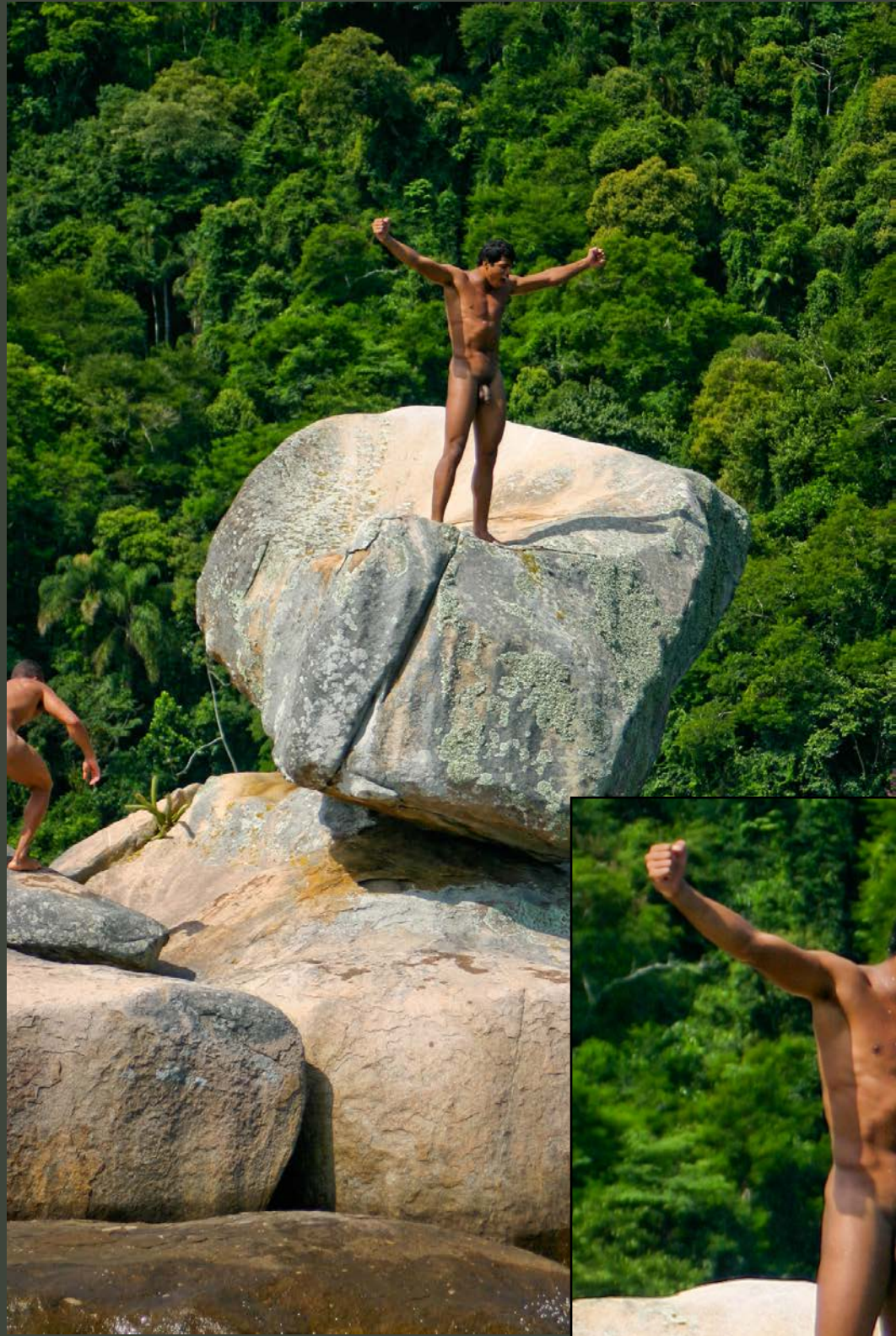


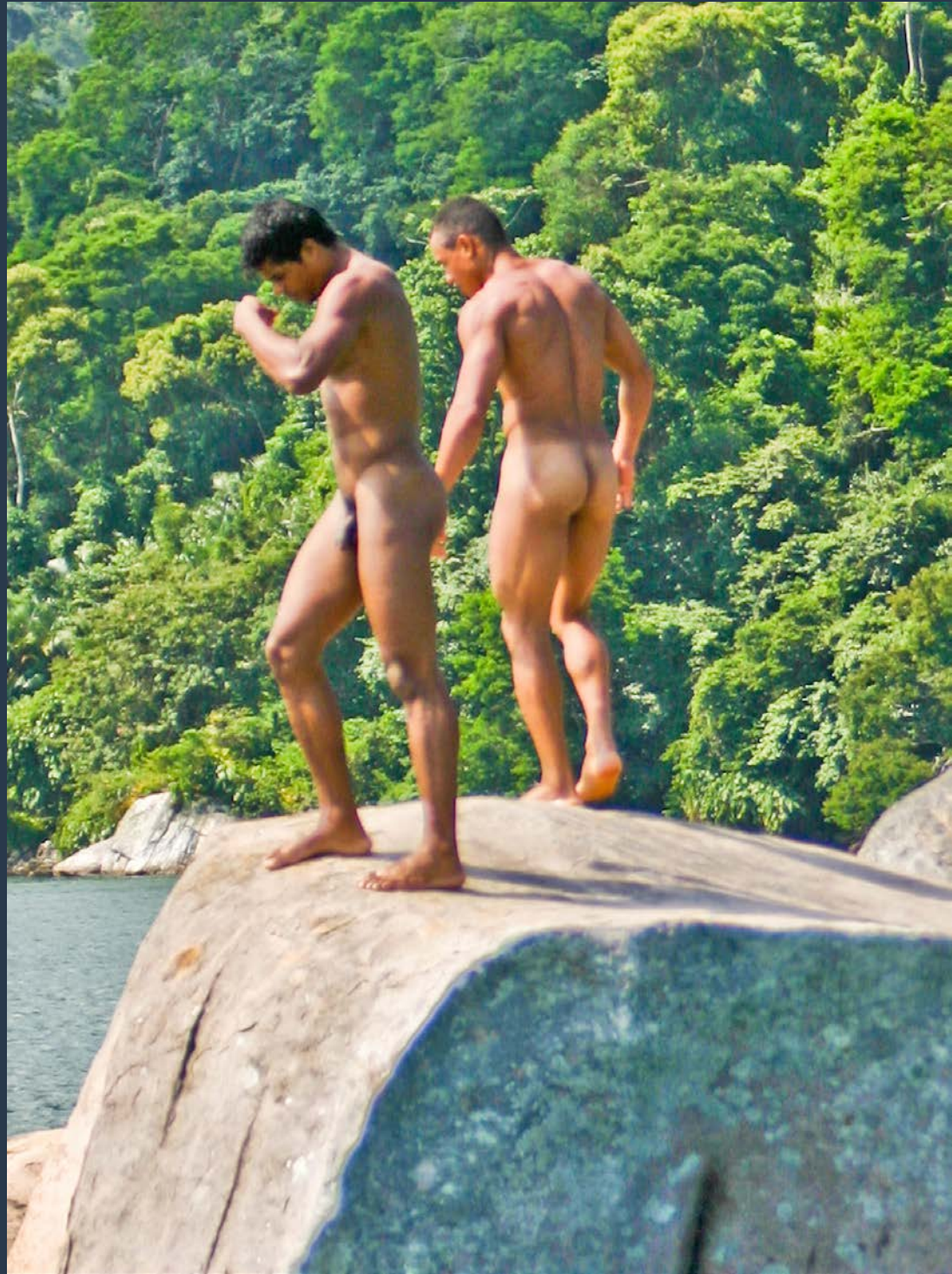


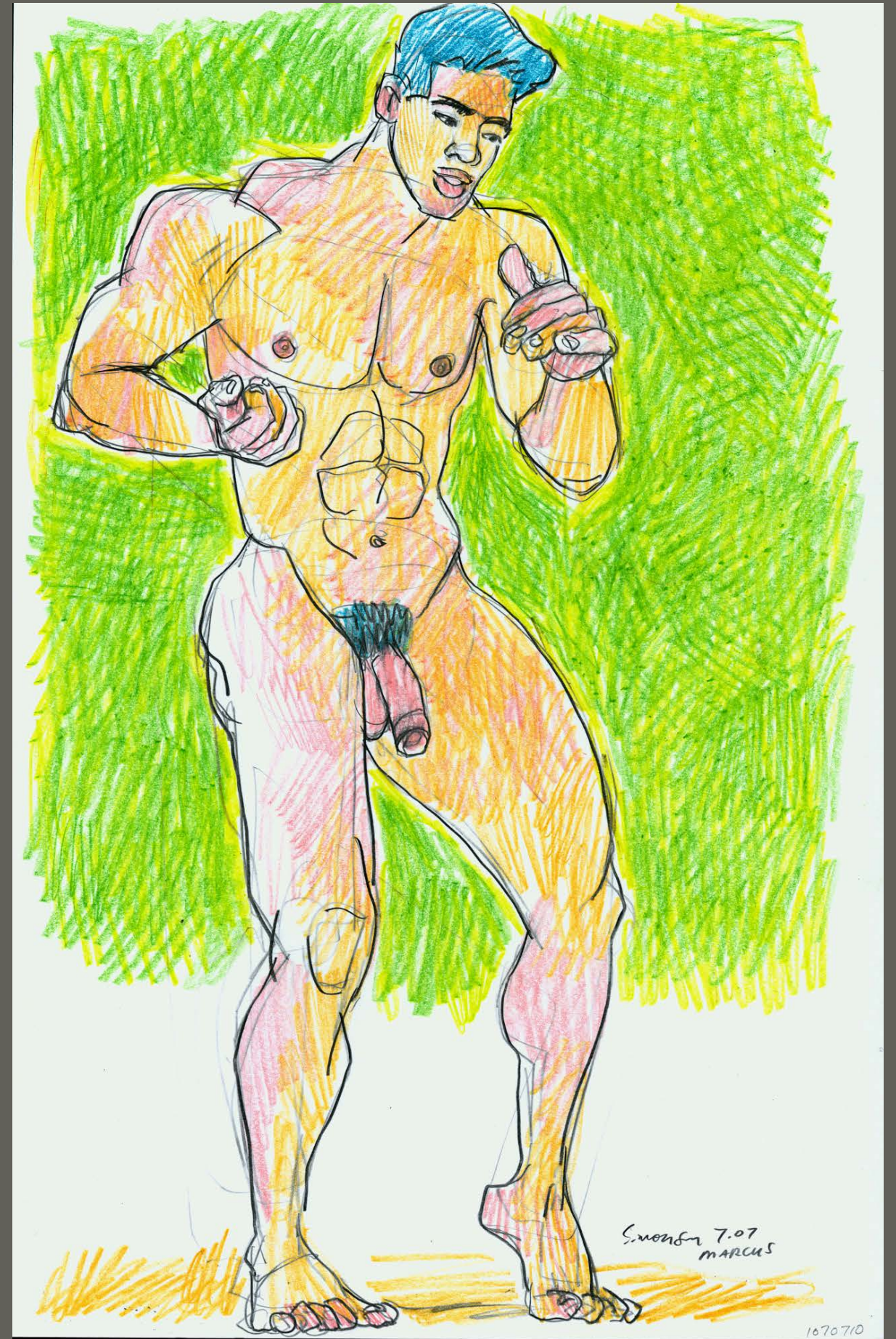


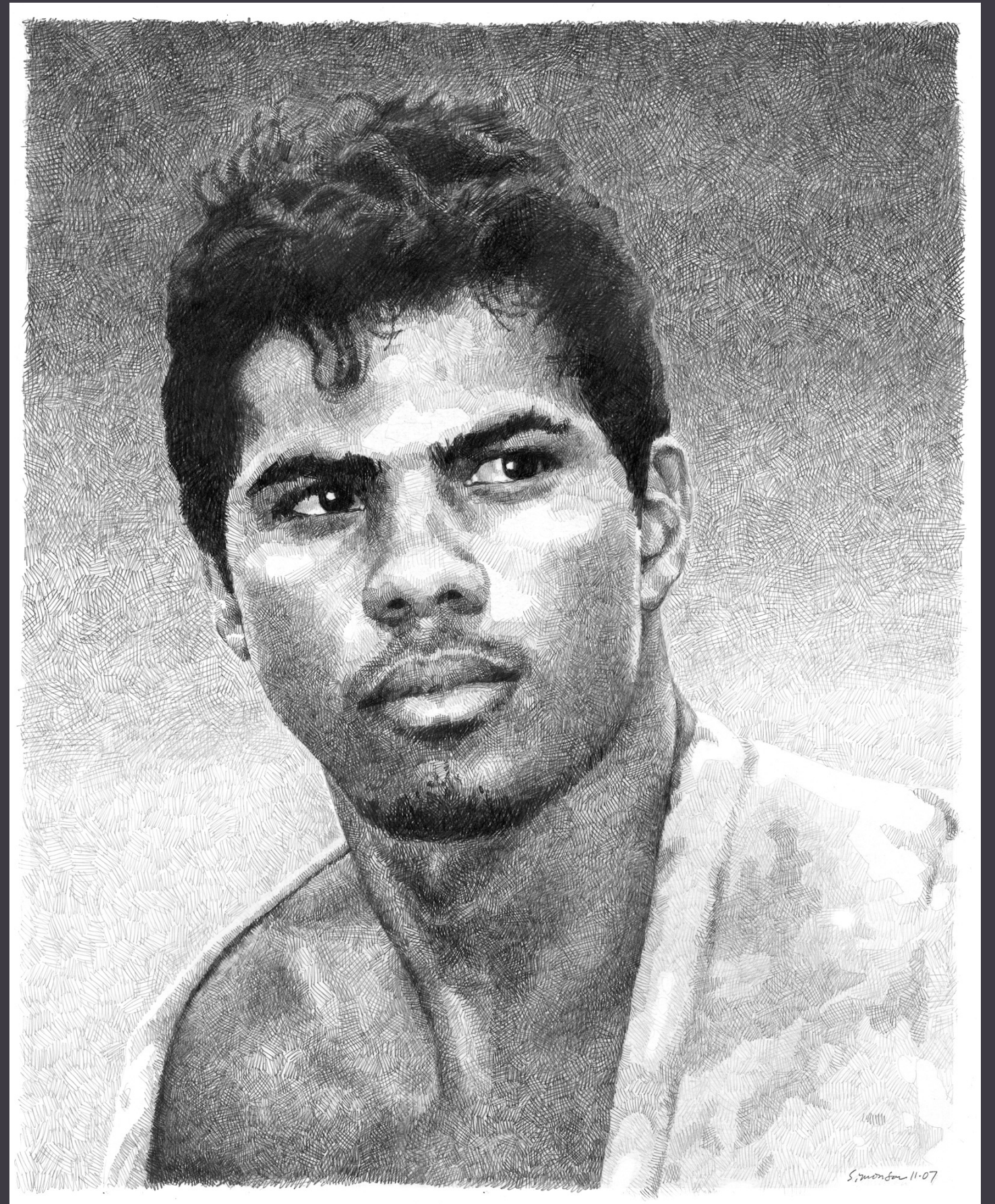


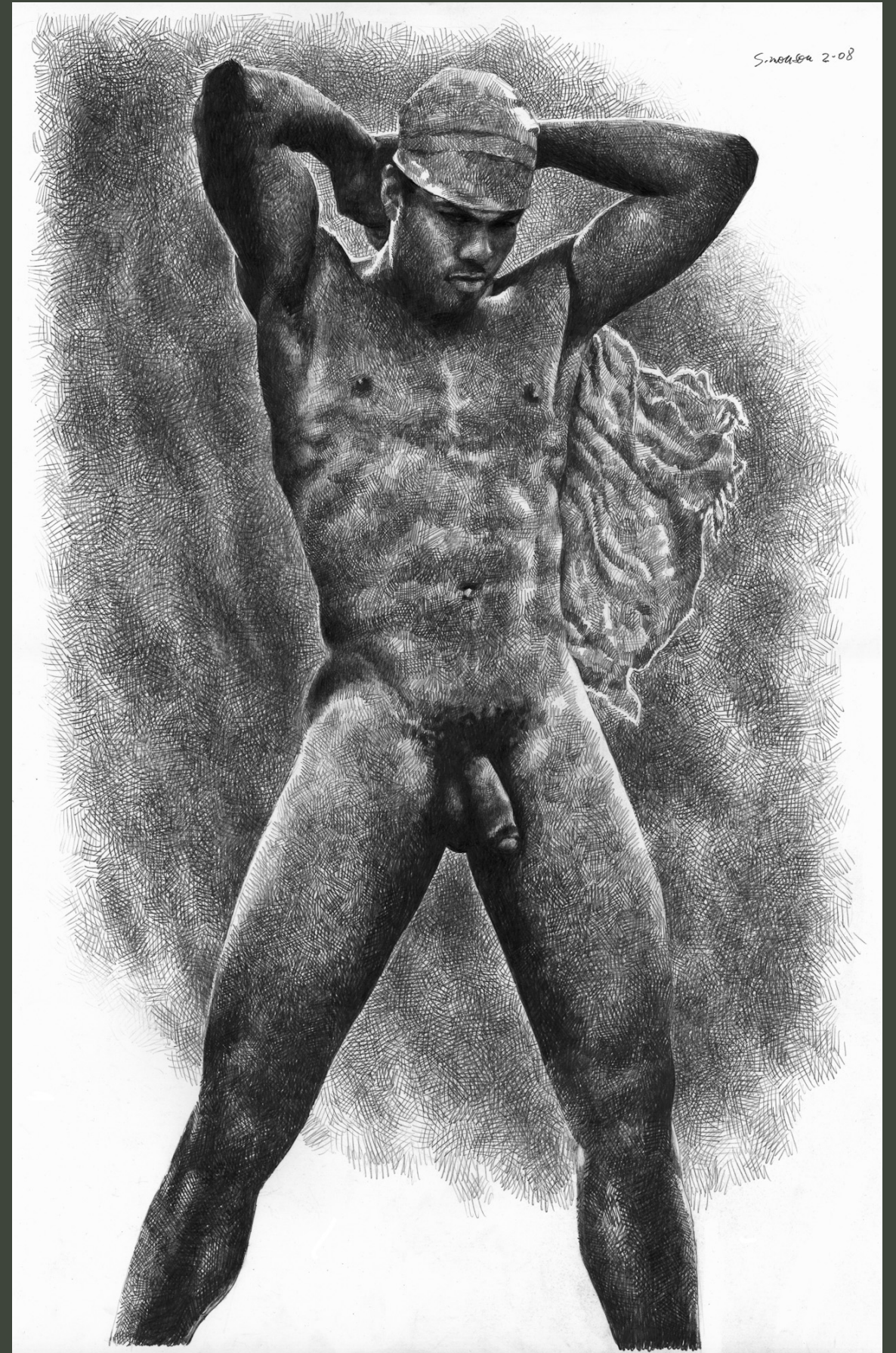




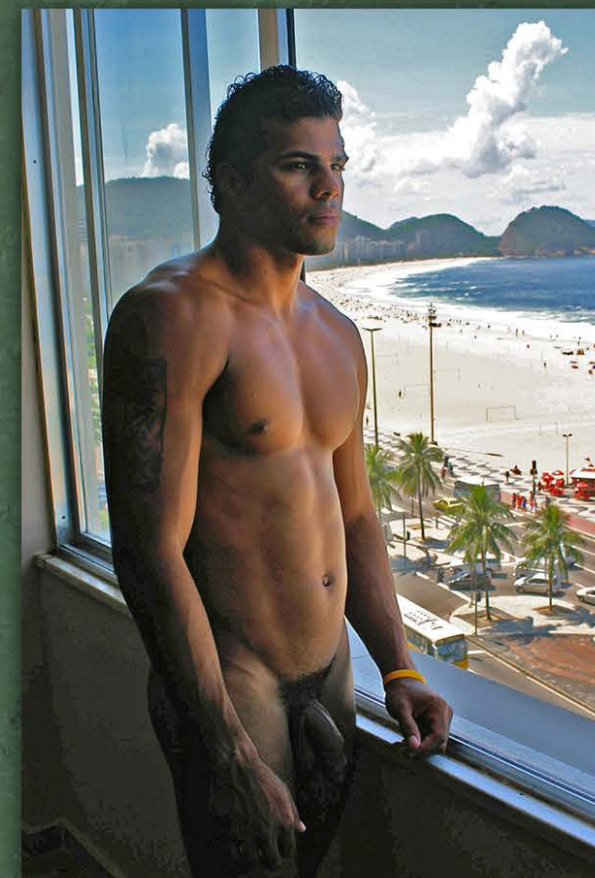








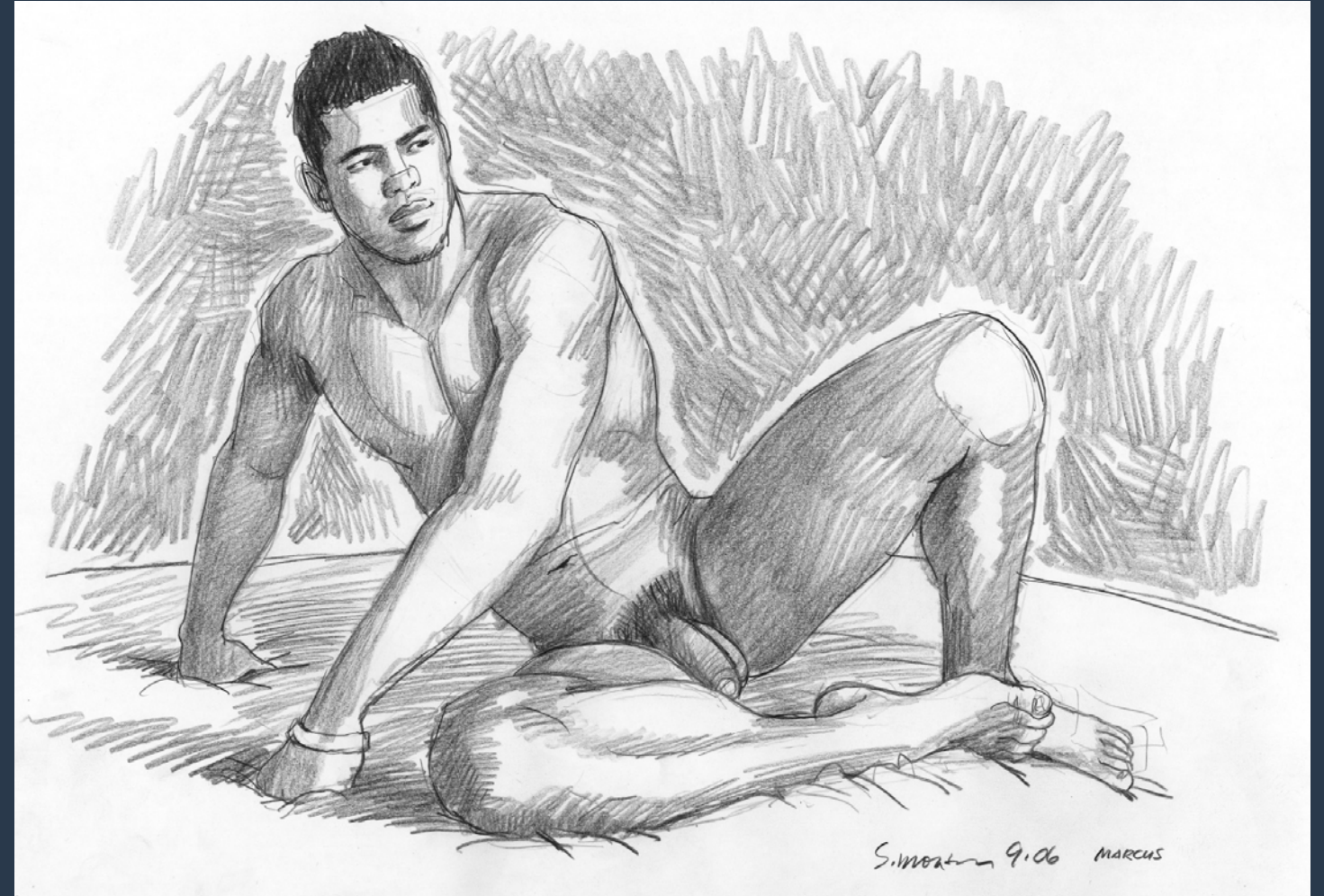
# THE THIRD PHOTOSHOOT: COPACABANA

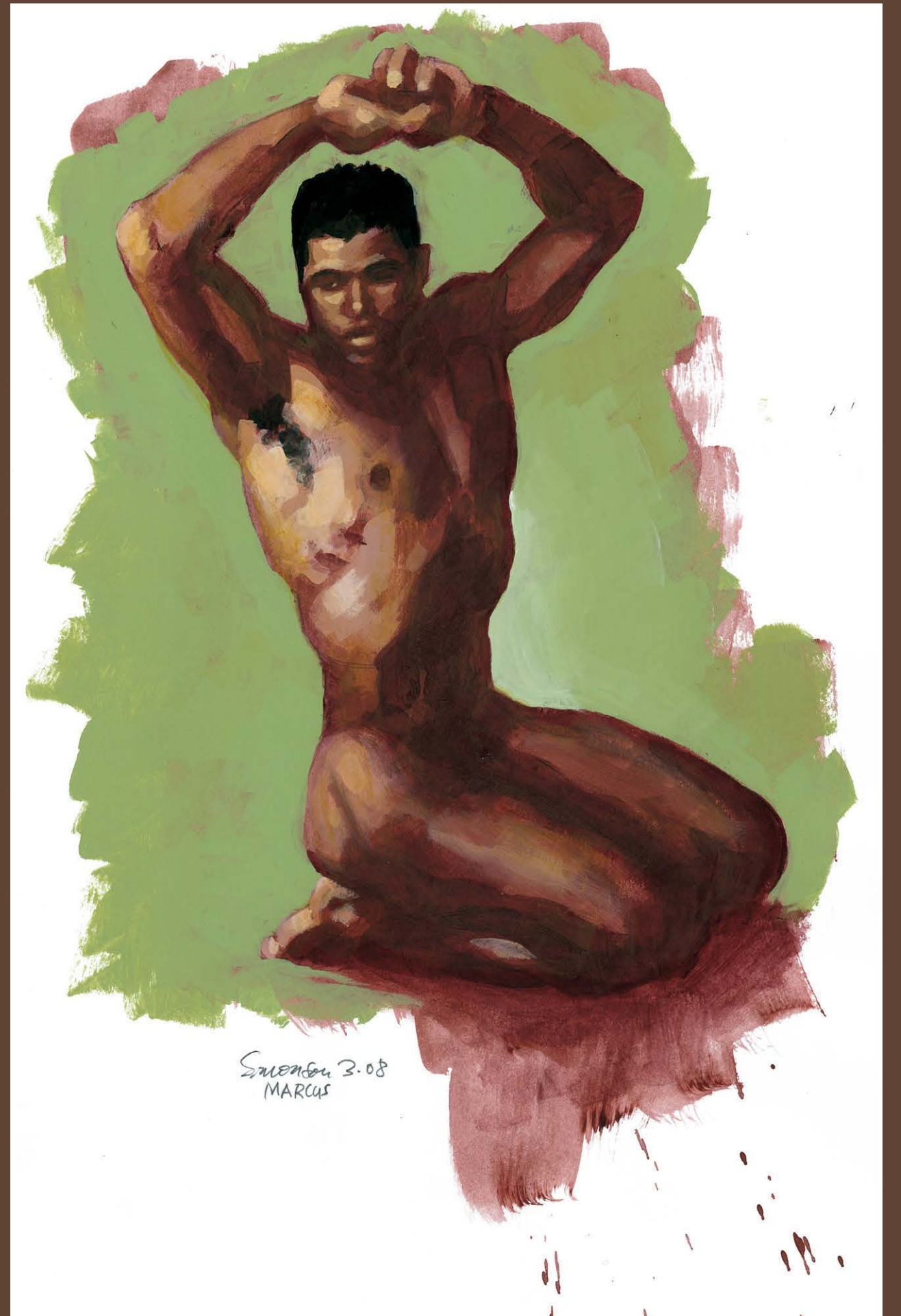


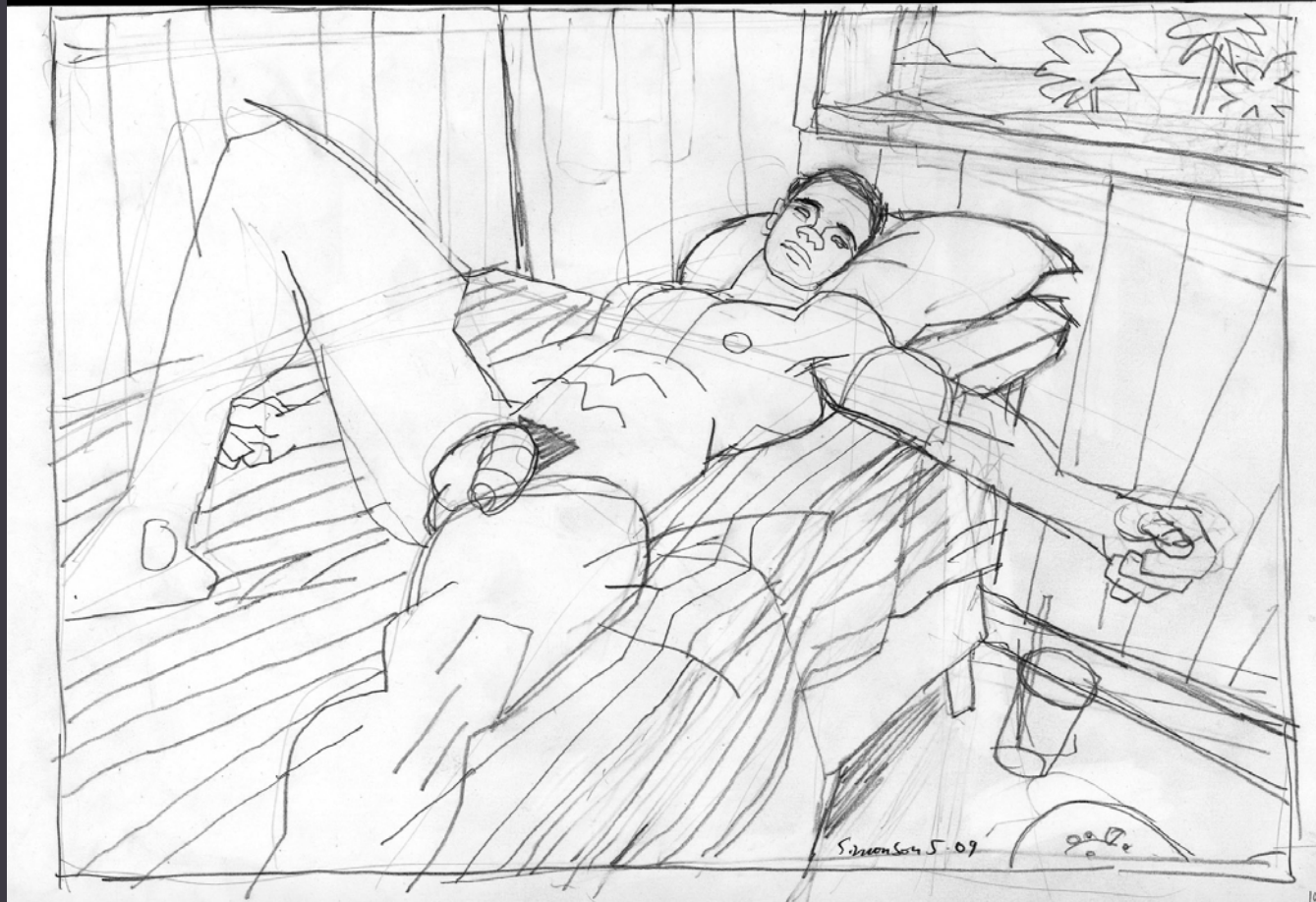
**Rio de Janeiro,  
April 2006**

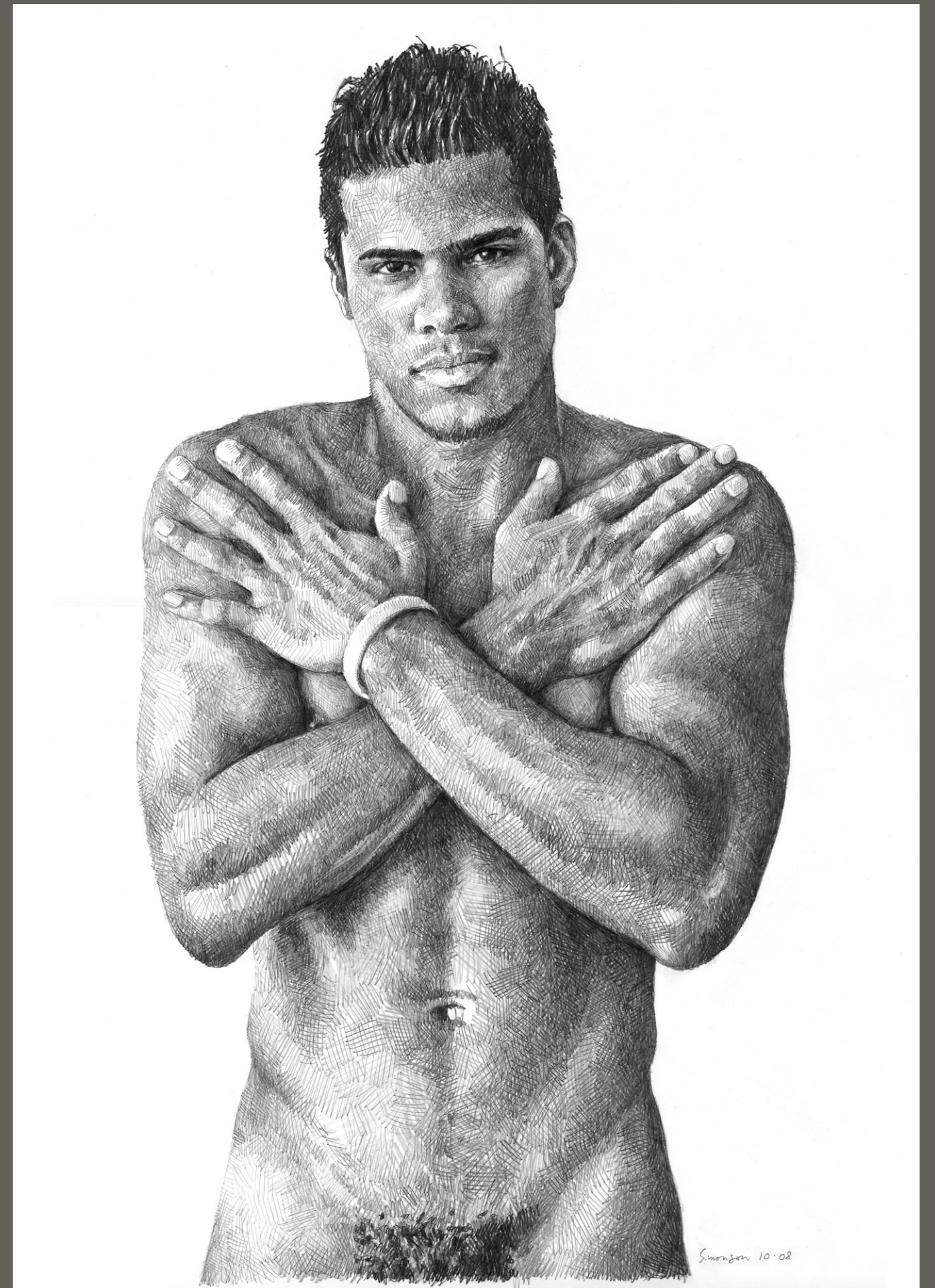


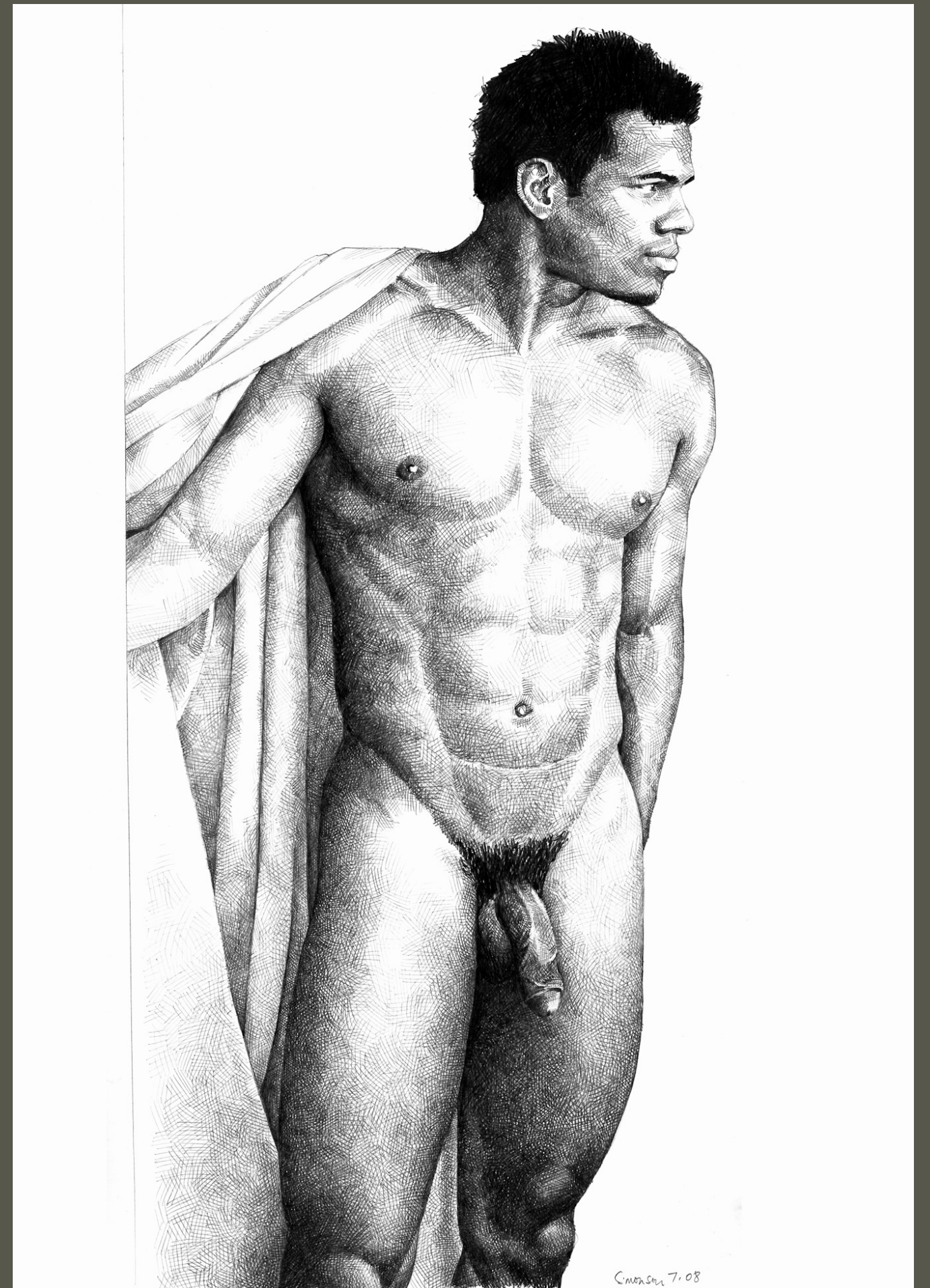


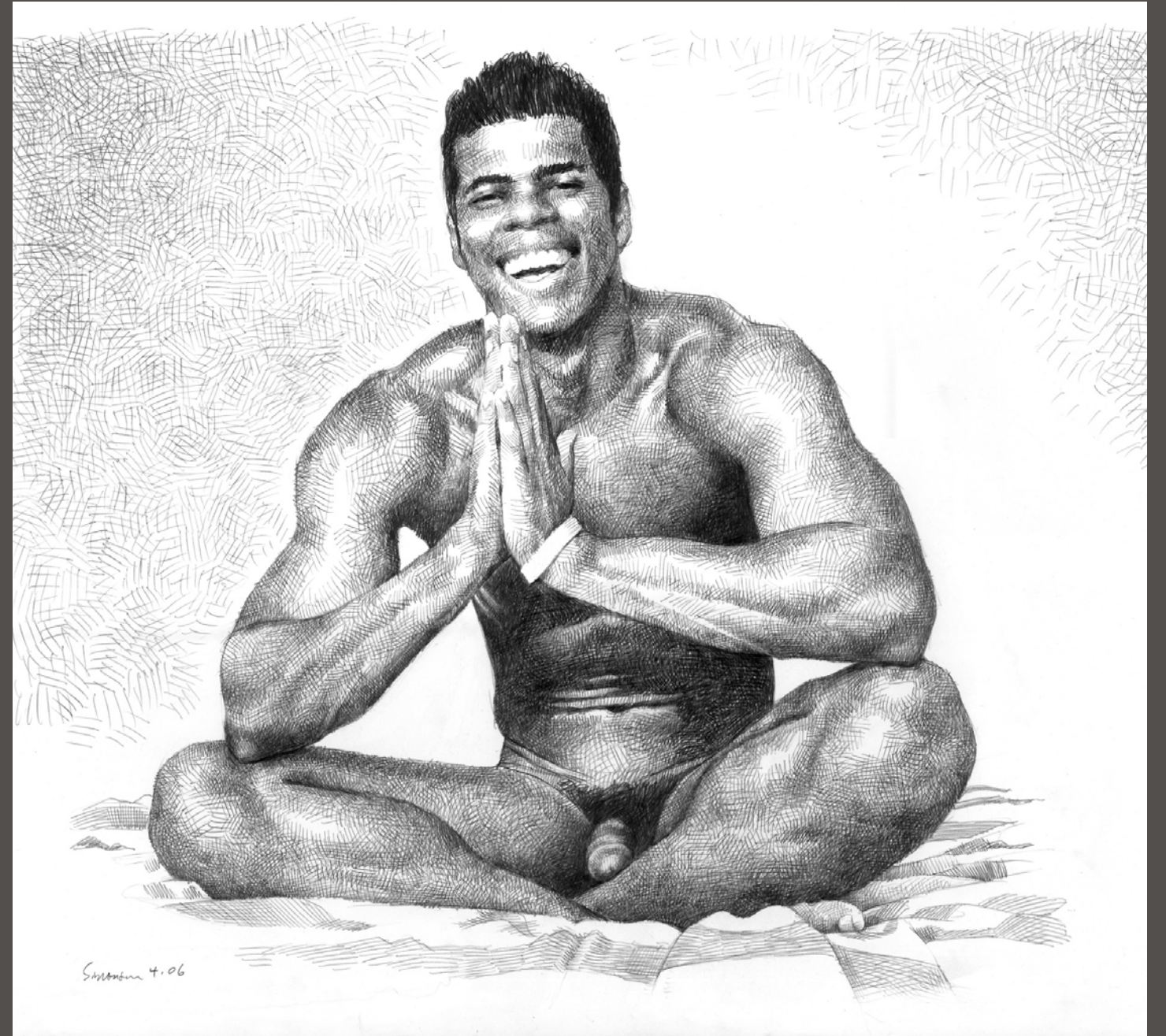




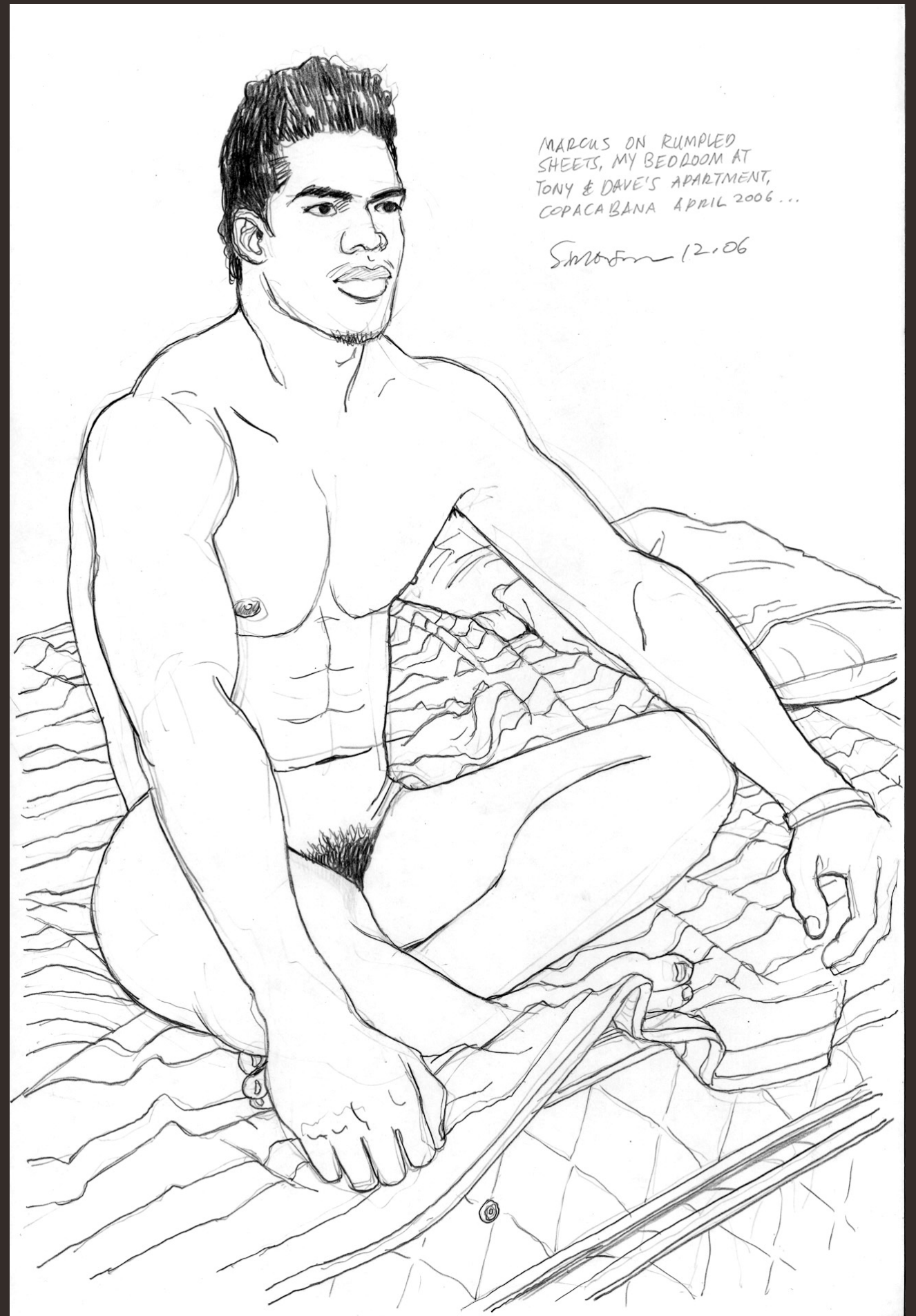


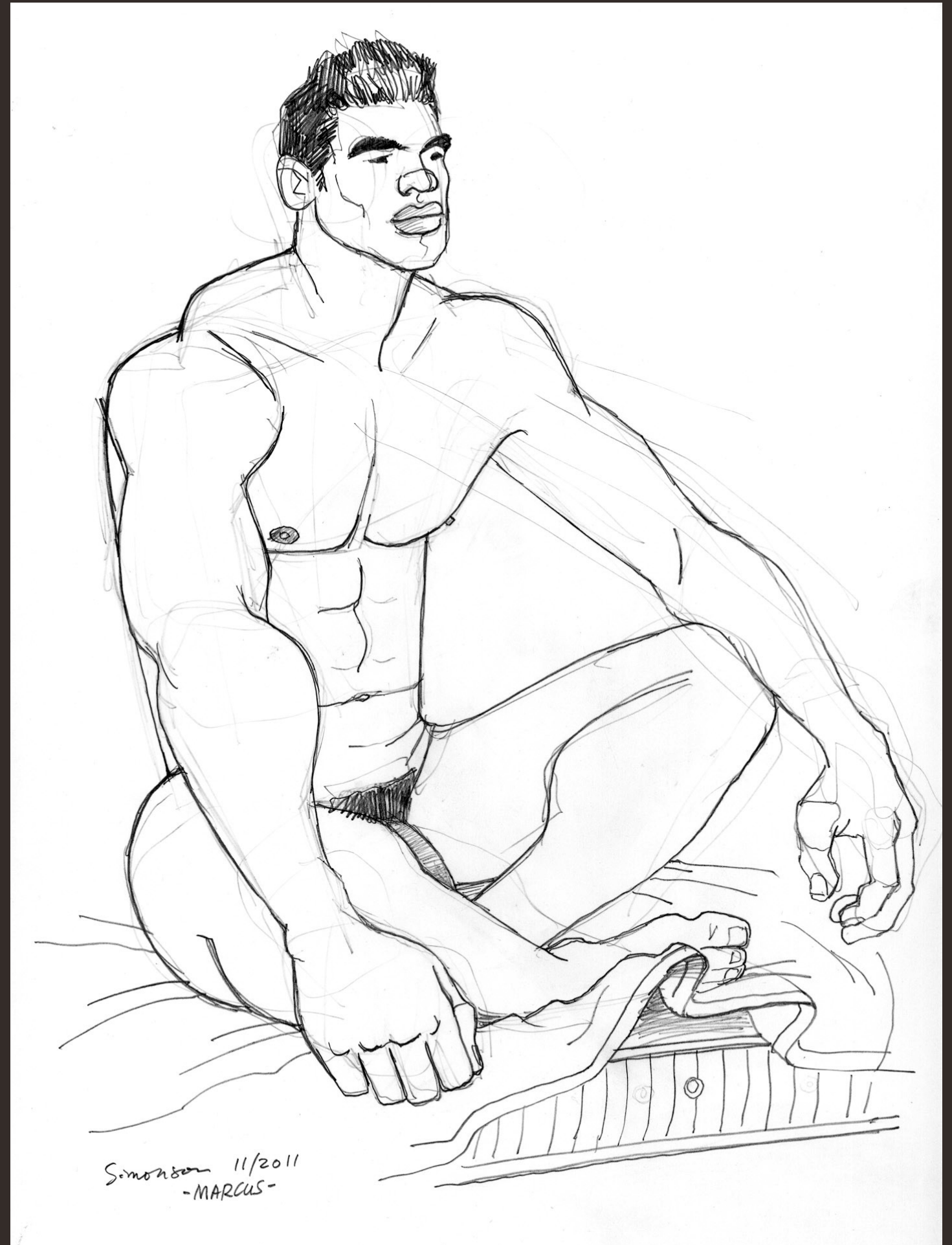


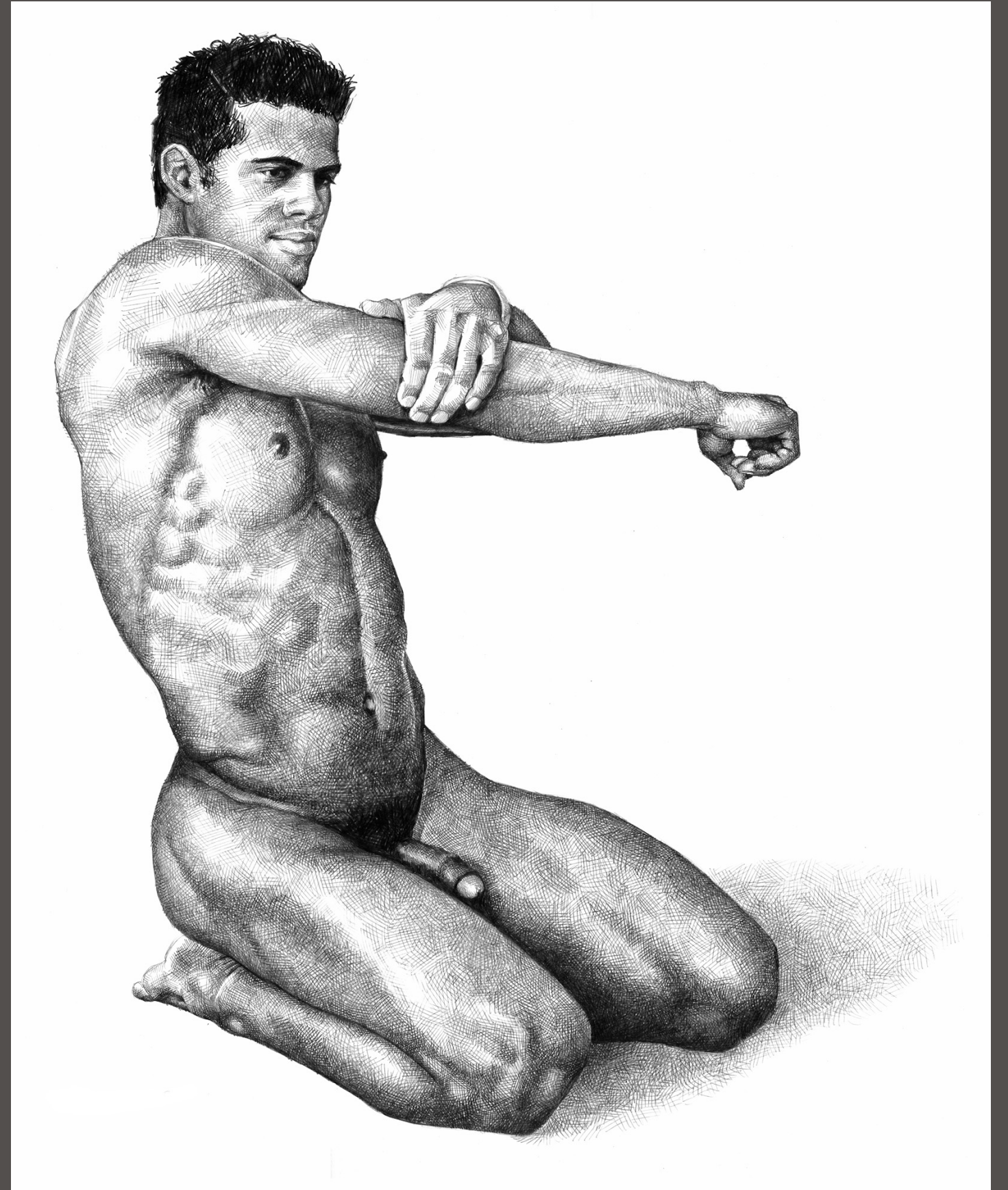


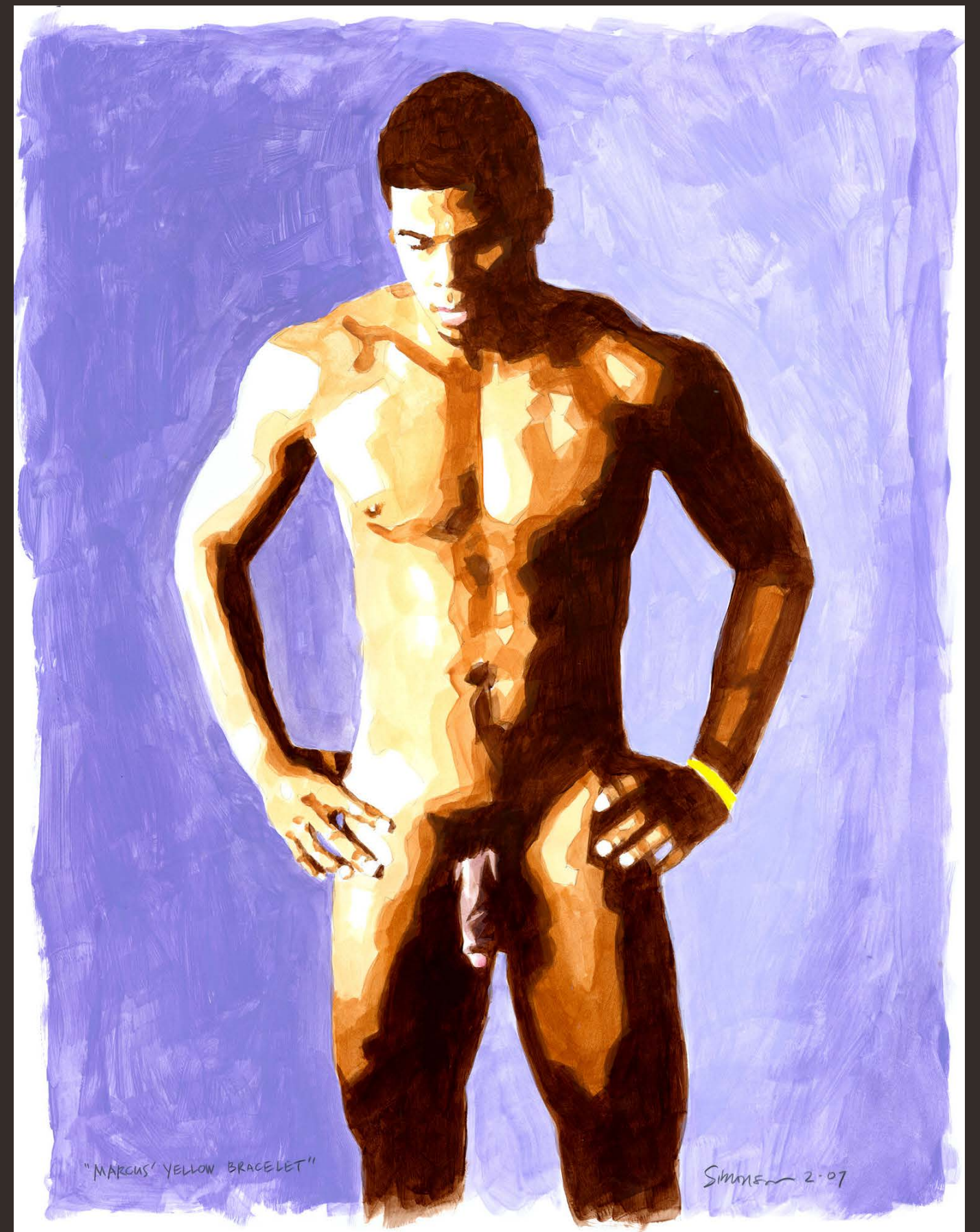


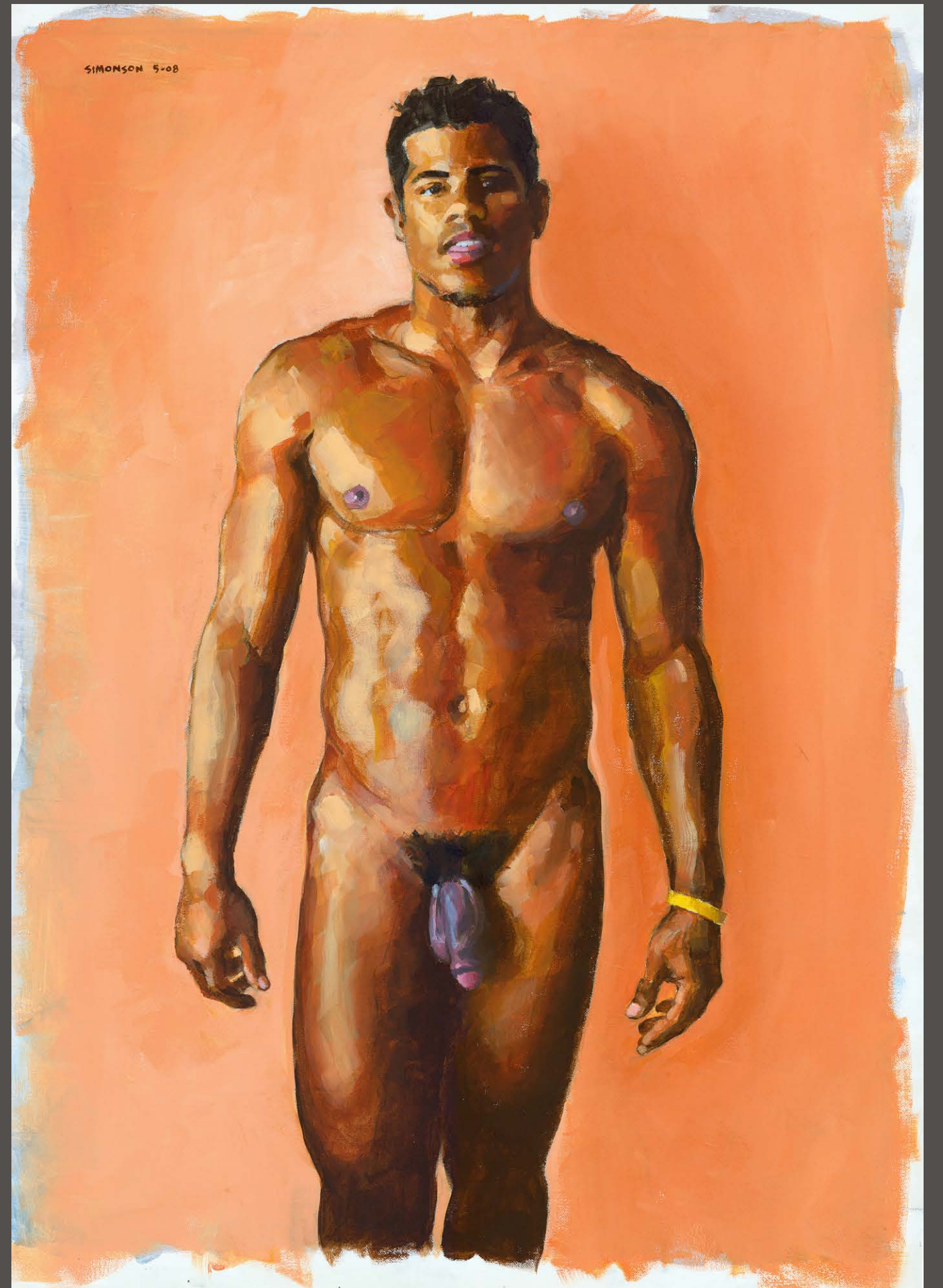




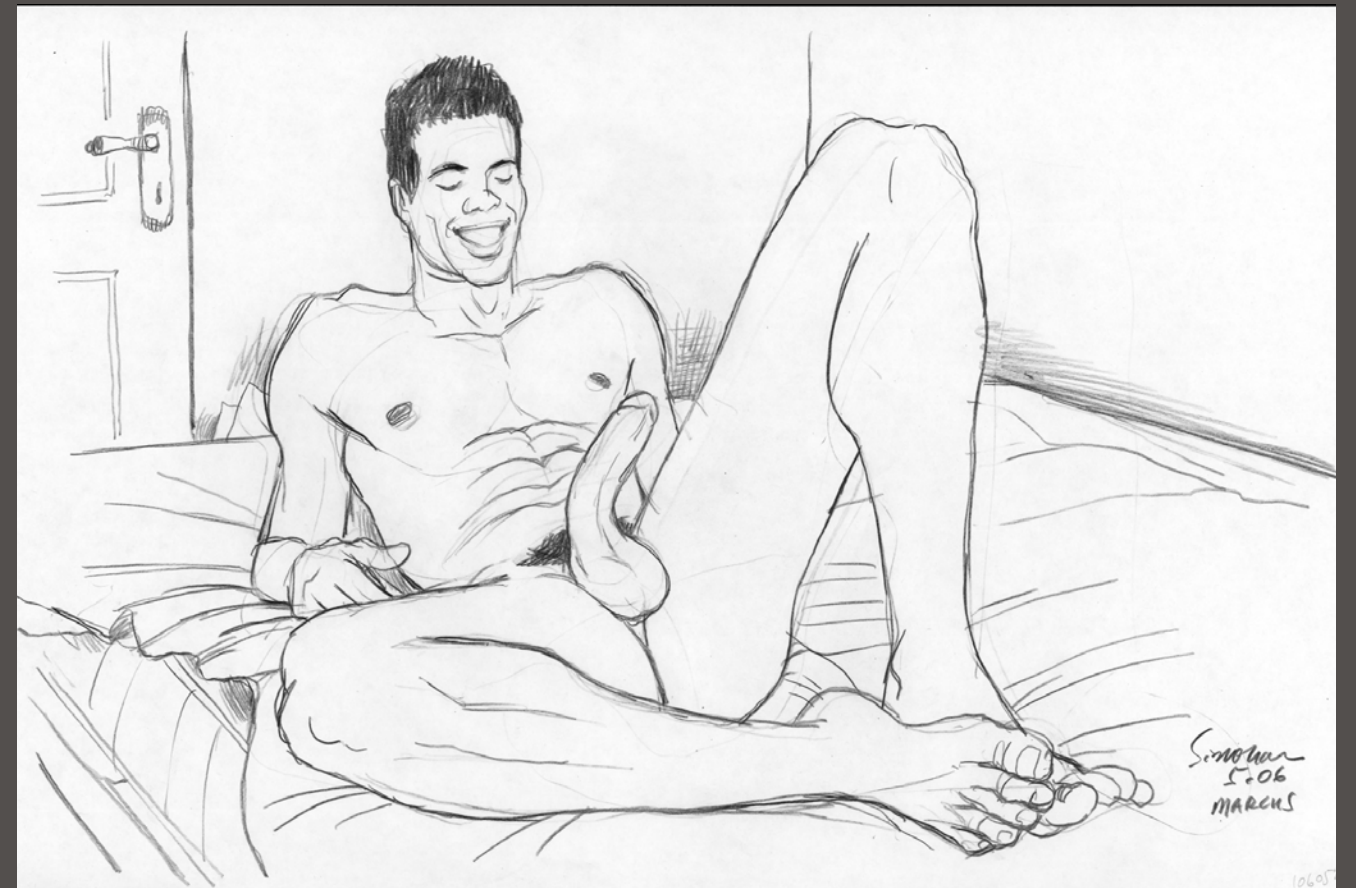
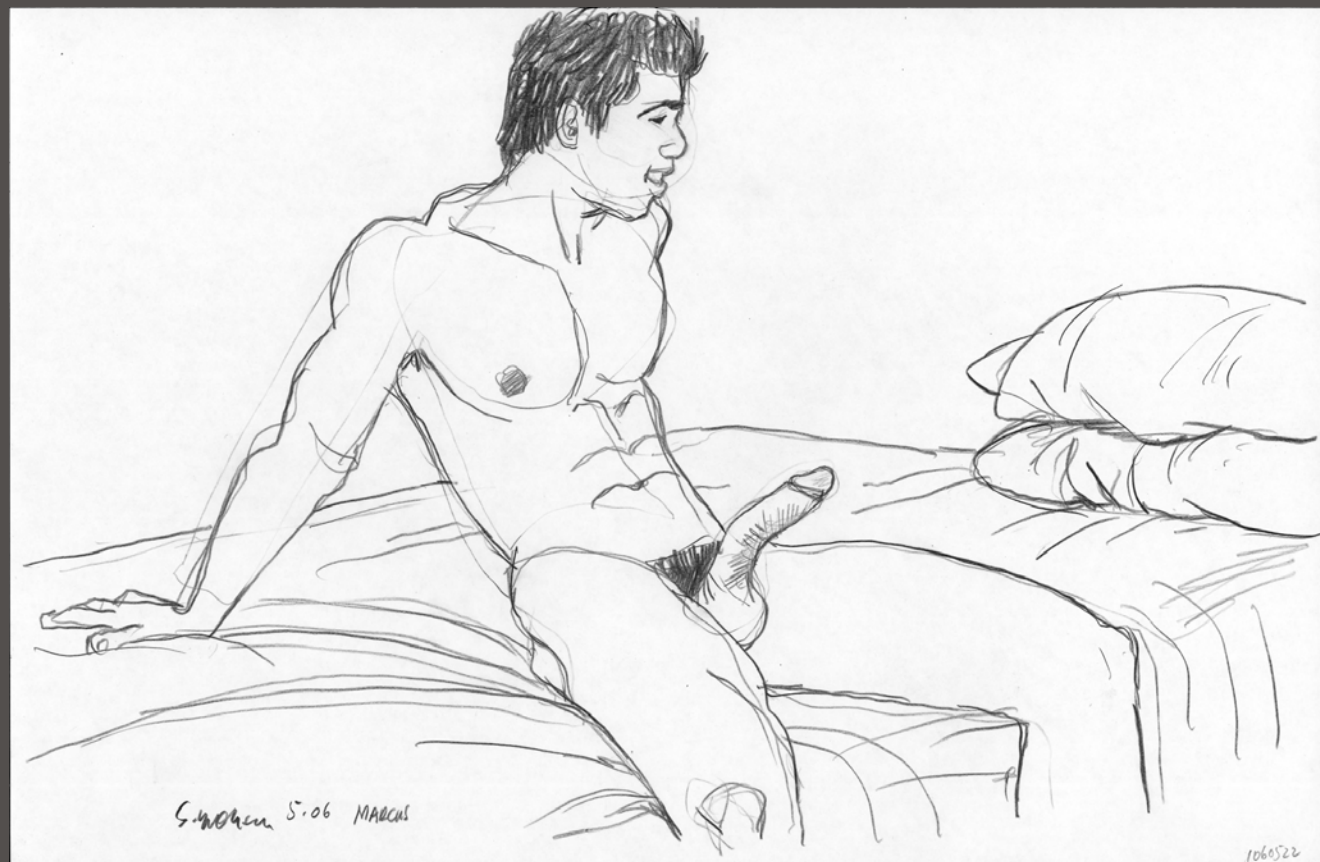








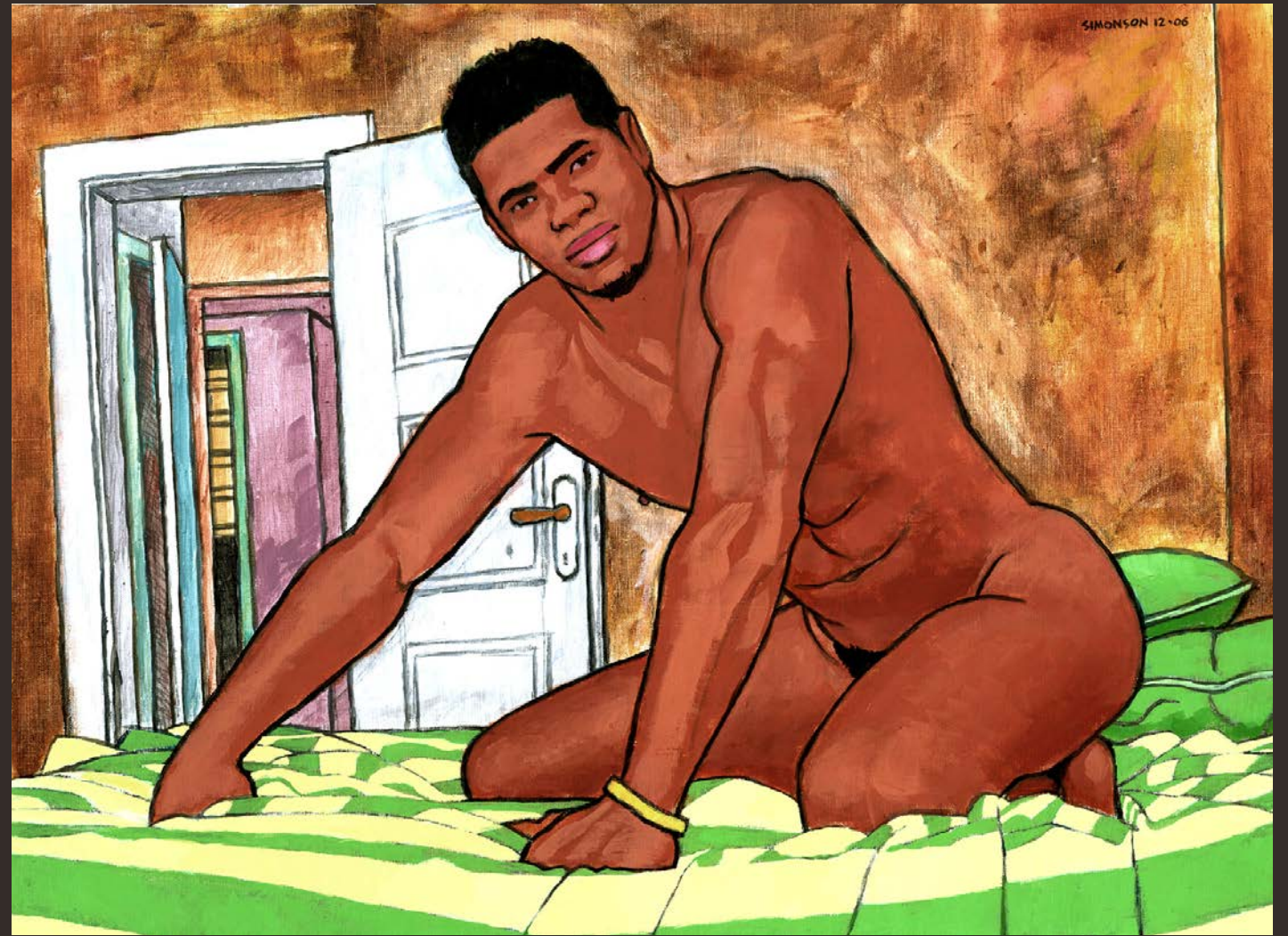


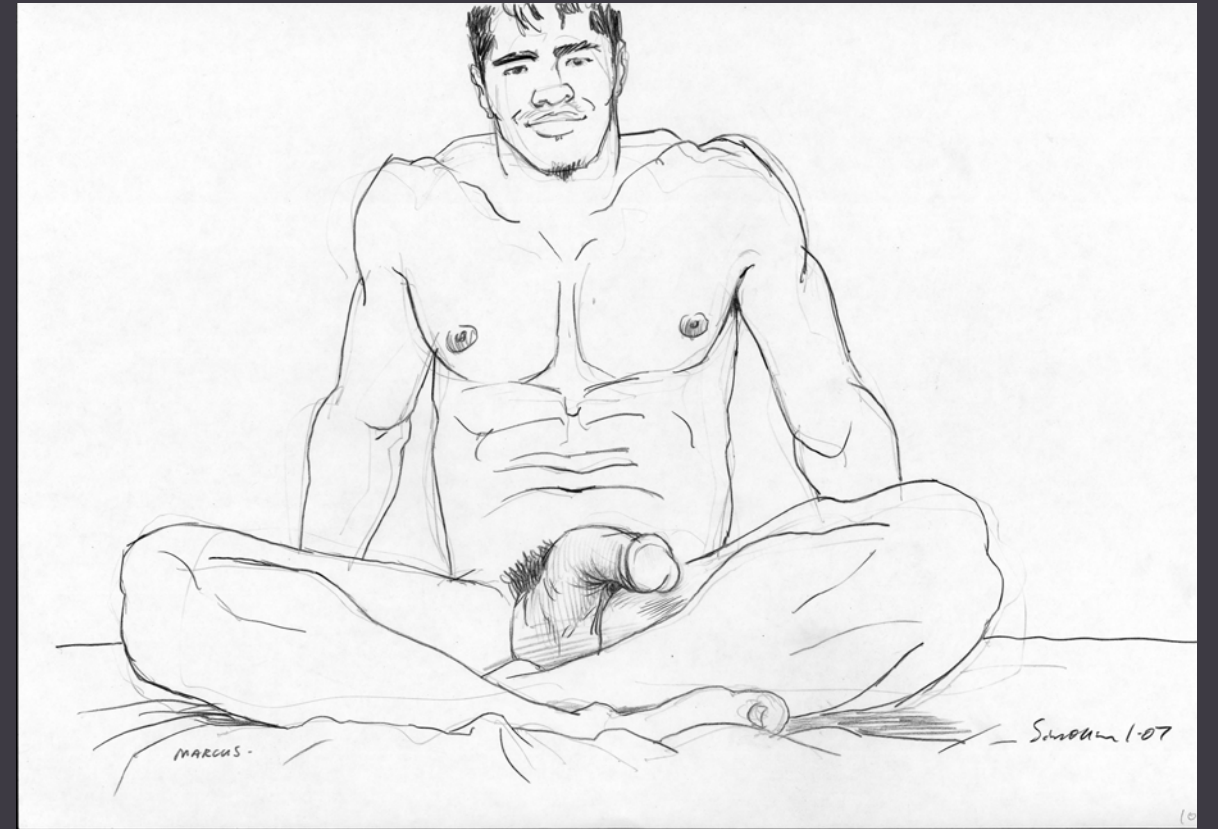


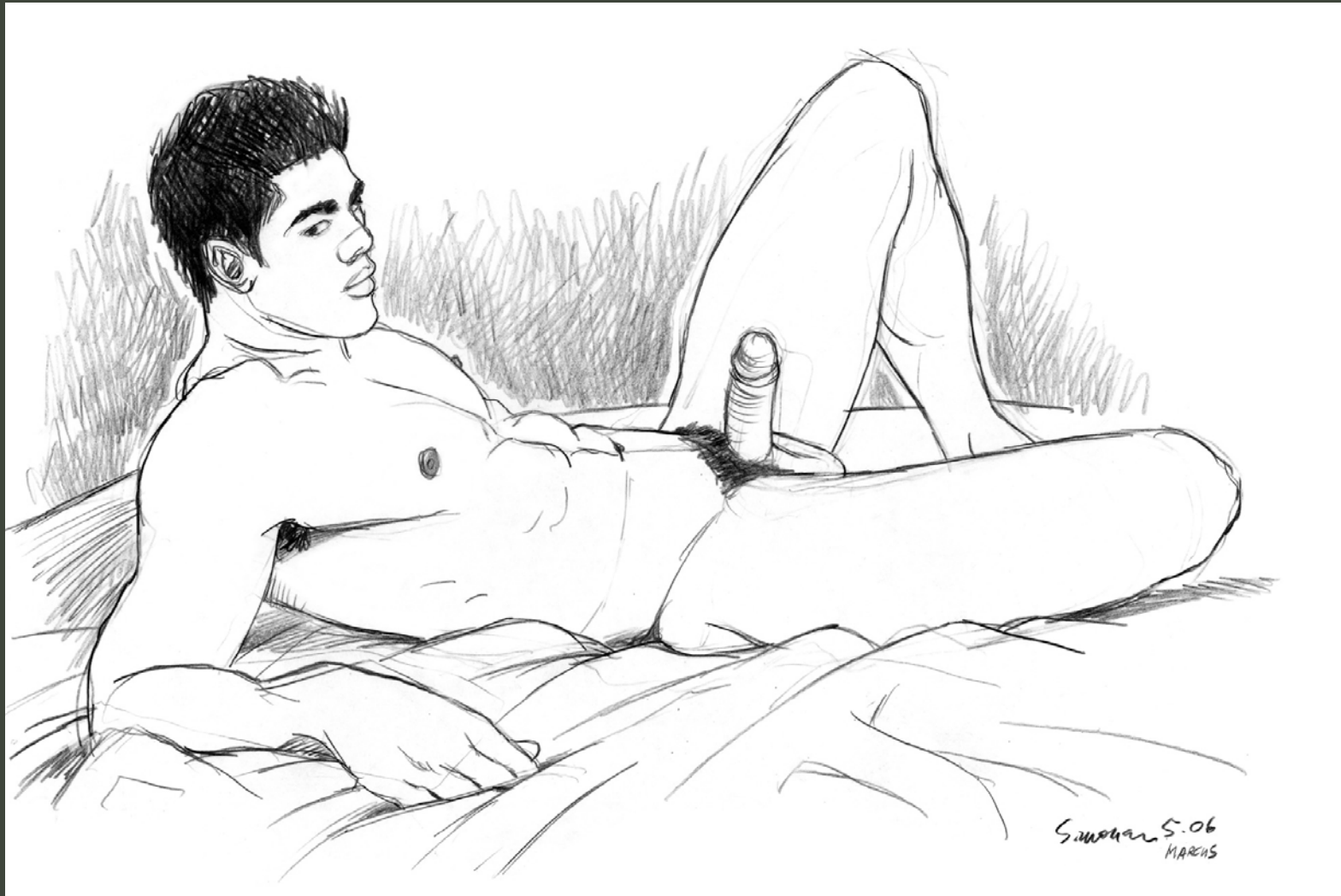






















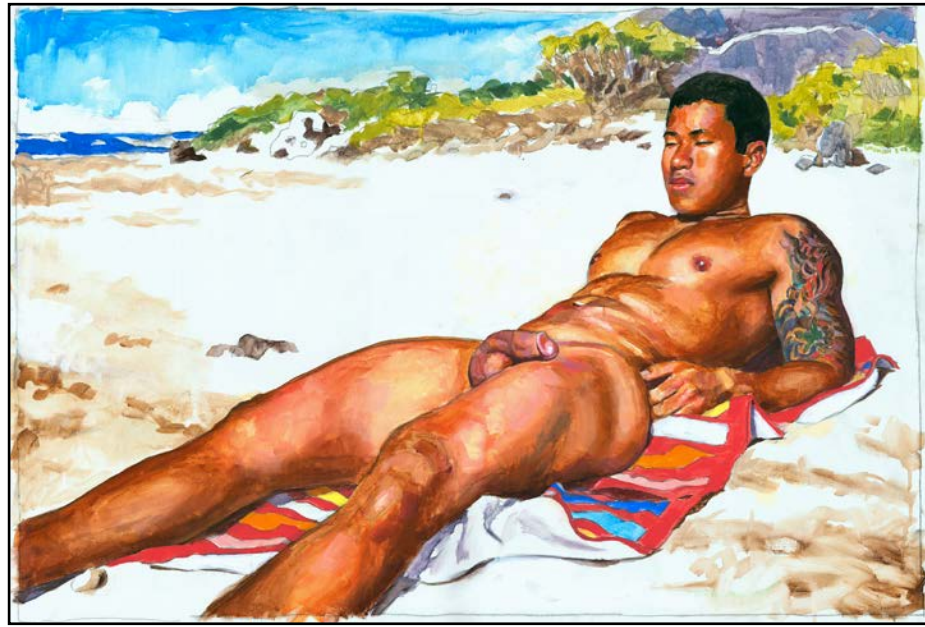
*With a model at a photo shoot in California.*



## **ABOUT THE ARTIST/ PHOTOGRAPHER**

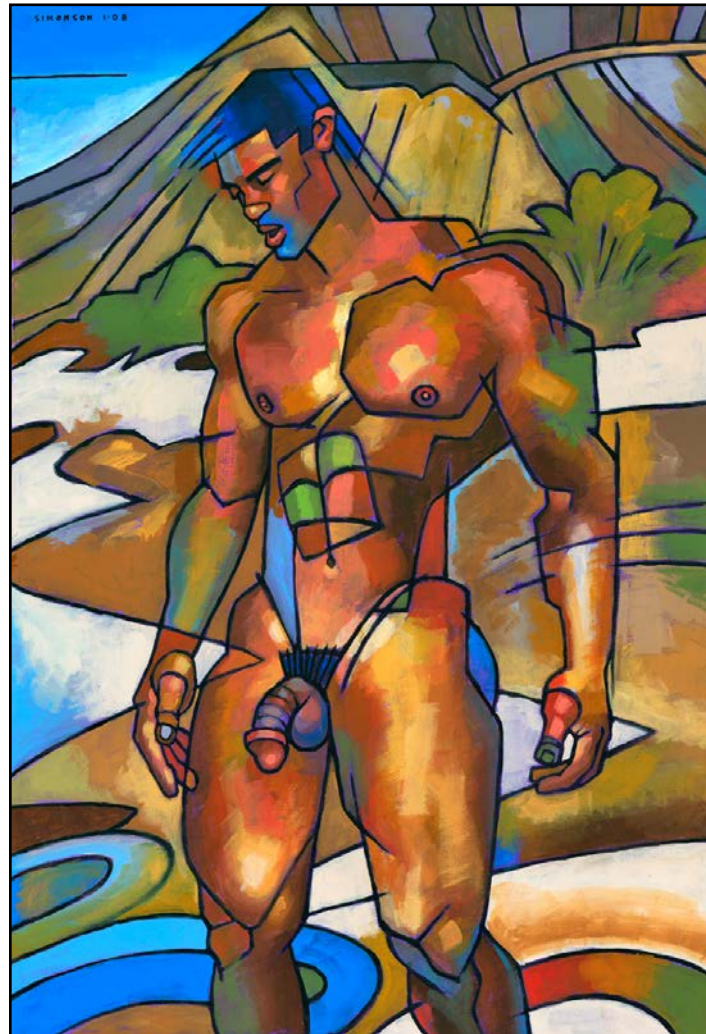
**D**ouglas Simonson has been making art since he was old enough to hold a crayon—and he began taking photographs not long after that. He grew up in the cattle country of western Nebraska, not happy about it. He didn't know he was gay, he just knew he didn't fit in.

Later, he figured it out, and from that revelation found his focus and his passion as an artist.

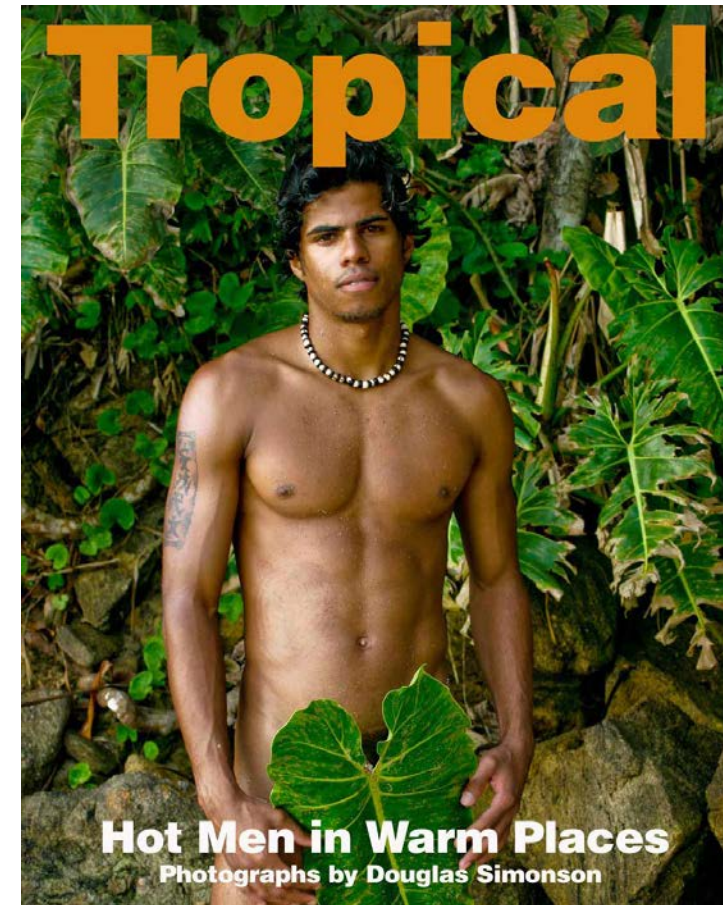


He moved to Hawaii in 1971 and lived there for 41 years, building a life and career based on his passion for the male nude and his ability to capture that subject in a myriad of approaches and media. As his skill grew, he was able to build a worldwide collectorship for his drawings and paintings. [Click here to visit the artist's fine-art website.](#)

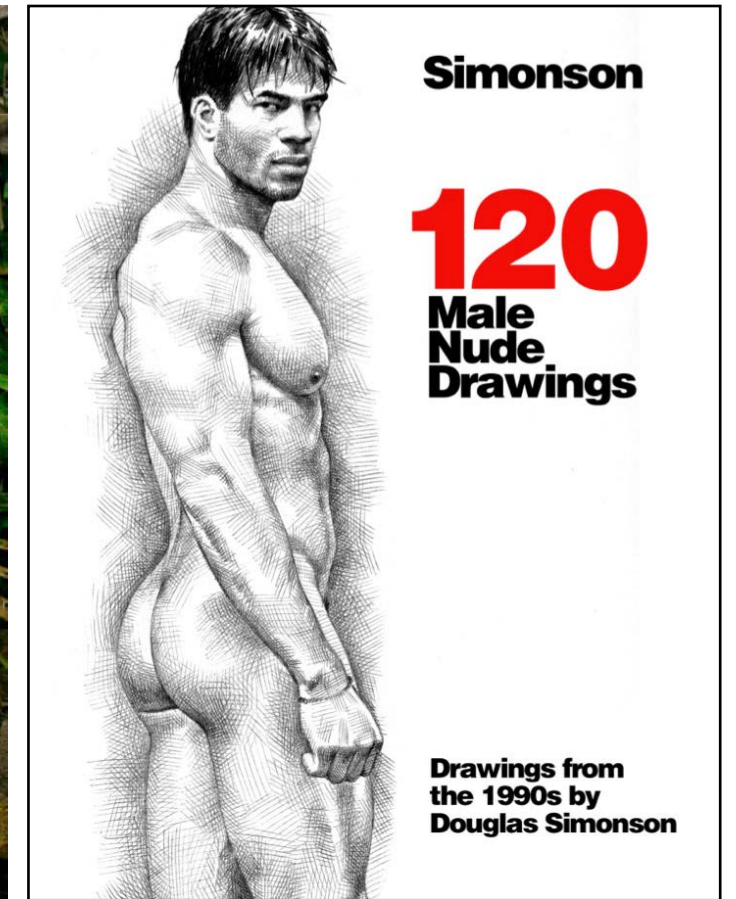
It wasn't until Simonson had been an artist for almost 30 years that he began to realize what a powerful body of work his photographs represented, and that they deserved to be shared. In 2008 he began exhibiting and selling his photographs, and they were an instant hit among his collectors. [Click here to see some of Simonson's currently available photographic prints.](#)



On this page, a few samples of Douglas Simonson's painting and drawing work. You can see more at [www.douglassimonson.com](http://www.douglassimonson.com).



Simonson has produced several e-books of his photographs, such as *Tropical*; he's also created books of his paintings and drawings, like *120 Male Nude Drawings*.



Not long after Simonson began exhibiting his photographs, he created his first e-book of photographs, called *Tropical*. He followed that with an e-book of early drawings and paintings called *Classic Simonson*. That was just the beginning; the artist has now created over forty e-books, and there always more in the works. [Click here to see Simonson e-books currently available for download or purchase on CD.](#)

Douglas Simonson is available for commission work, portraiture and otherwise. He's not a diva in this respect, welcoming the challenge of creating beautiful art while working



*Above, two Simonson portrait commissions reflecting the versatility the artist brings to any project.*

within specific requirements of color, size, and even, to some extent, style. [Click here to see a gallery of Simonson portraits from 1981 to 2019.](#)

In 2011, after 40 years of living in Hawaii, Douglas Simonson pulled up stakes and left the island state to begin an indefinite period of living on the road and traveling the world while creating art. Then in 2014 the artist decided to settle in the Mexican beach resort of Puerto Vallarta. Life on the road has stopped for the time being, but the adventures continue. You can stay tuned to the artist's odyssey by reading the [On the Road series of blogs in his Artist's Diary.](#)

While Simonson may be anywhere in the world as you read this, he can always be reached by e-mail. [Click here to send an e-mail to the artist.](#)



*The artist (far right, black speedos) relaxes during a photo shoot at Angra dos Reis, Brazil.*