



MARK THOMAS GIBSON
RESTING SPACE

June 13 - July 11, 2020



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M+B

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARK THOMAS GIBSON

Resting Space

June 13 – July 11, 2020



M+B is pleased to announce representation of Mark Thomas Gibson. To mark the occasion, the gallery is proud to present *Resting Space*, an online exhibition of new works by Gibson that are a timely response to current global and national events.

Typically, in a Foundation 2-D course in art school, students are taught about the principle of Resting Space—an empty space where the eye can safely rest, away from the composition's primary focus. This open space allows the viewer to take a break from the subject of the work.

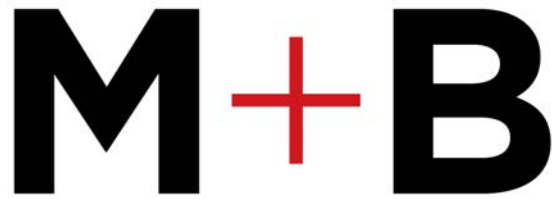
*When I conceived of this body of work, the collective "We" were in the middle of the greatest global pandemic in one hundred years. During this time, We noticed how little We notice anything. We noticed that We had lost the mountains in our landscapes behind smog-covered skies. We noticed that technology wasn't all what We thought it was cracked up to be. We noticed a disproportionate number of black and brown people were dying from this virus. We noticed the lowest paid were taking the highest risk. We noticed that there were some in the United States of America who were more than willing to prioritize capitalism over human life. We noticed elections do matter. So much was happening in the Resting Spaces within our society, and I came to view the principle of Resting Space with an entirely new perspective. Instead of interpreting "empty" or "open" space as unattended or not accounted for, I now believe that it is a constructive staging ground where the real activity occurs. Drawing is all about possibility: taking the risk to go into the unknown for the promise of what might be revealed. **There is no Resting Space.***

*These drawings were sent to the gallery in Los Angeles from my studio in Philadelphia the week before the video of George Floyd's murder in Minneapolis emerged. This overt racism and cruelty is nothing that We, The People, haven't seen before in America. We often have a short memory in this country; but a long history of this grotesque truth is embedded in who we are as a nation. Each time I put pen to paper, so to speak, it seems that another one of these all too common tragedies has occurred and revealed another irredeemable fracture. **There is no Resting Space.***

As long as there is no resting space for me, there is no resting space for you. We are all in THIS together.

Take notice, protest and vote.

— Mark Thomas Gibson (2020)



Mark Thomas Gibson's personal lens on American culture stems from his multipartite viewpoint as an artist—as a black male, a professor, an American history buff and comic book aficionado. These myriad and often colliding perspectives fuel his exploration of contemporary culture through languages of painting and the comic book vernacular, revealing a vision of a dystopic America where every viewer is implicated as a potential character within the story.

Mark Thomas Gibson (b. 1980, Miami, FL) received his BFA from The Cooper Union in 2002 and his MFA from Yale University School of Art in 2013. Gibson's work was most recently on view in a solo presentation at The Armory Show with M+B, curated by Jamillah James, and the solo show *The Dangerous One* at the Rosenwald-Wolf Gallery at University of the Arts in Philadelphia. He has also exhibited at Fredericks & Freiser in New York and Loyal in Stockholm, and participated in the group exhibitions *Shifting Gaze: A Reconstruction of the Black and Hispanic Body in Contemporary Art*, Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art, Virginia Beach; *The Curator's Eggs*, Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York; *Woke!*, Contemporary Art Museum, University of South Florida, Tampa; and *A Being in the World*, Salon 94, New York. In 2016, Gibson co-curated the traveling exhibition *Black Pulp!* with William Villalongo at 32 Edgewood Gallery at the Yale School of Art. The show examined evolving perspectives of Black identity in American culture and history from 1912 to 2016, and garnered reviews in *The New York Times* and *Art in America*. The artist released his first book, *Some Monsters Loom Large* in 2016 with funding from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts. The book was recently re-issued in a second edition in partnership with International Print Center, New York. Gibson's second book *Early Retirement* was released in 2017 with Edition Patrick Frey in Zurich and was acquired by the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Gibson teaches at Tyler School of Art and Architecture, Temple University and lives and works in Philadelphia, PA.

For press inquiries, please contact info@mbart.com. For all other inquiries, contact Shannon Richardson at shannon@mbart.com or Jonlin Wung at jonlin@mbart.com.

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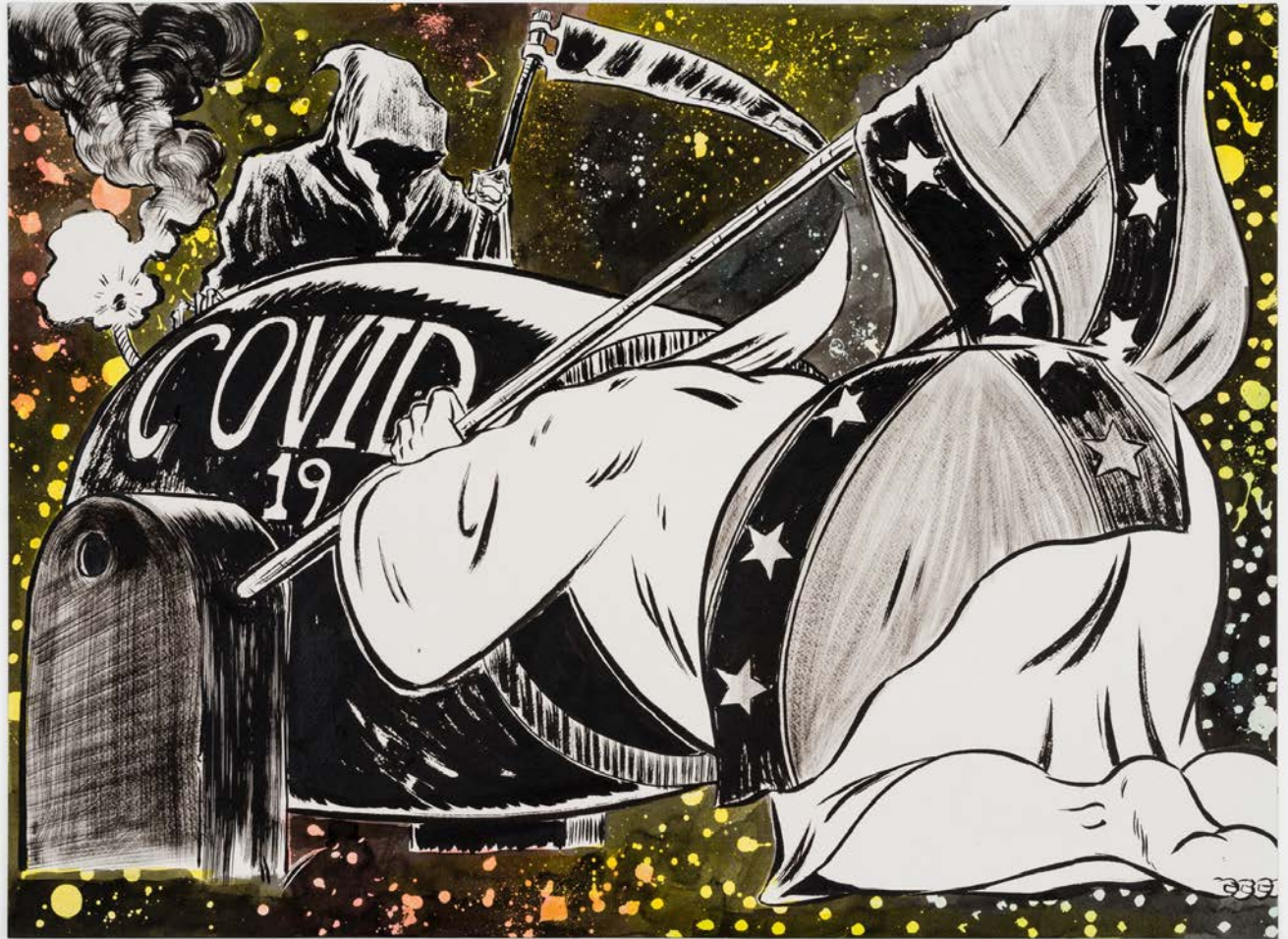


MARK THOMAS GIBSON

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Mark Thomas Gibson

Assume the Position, 2020

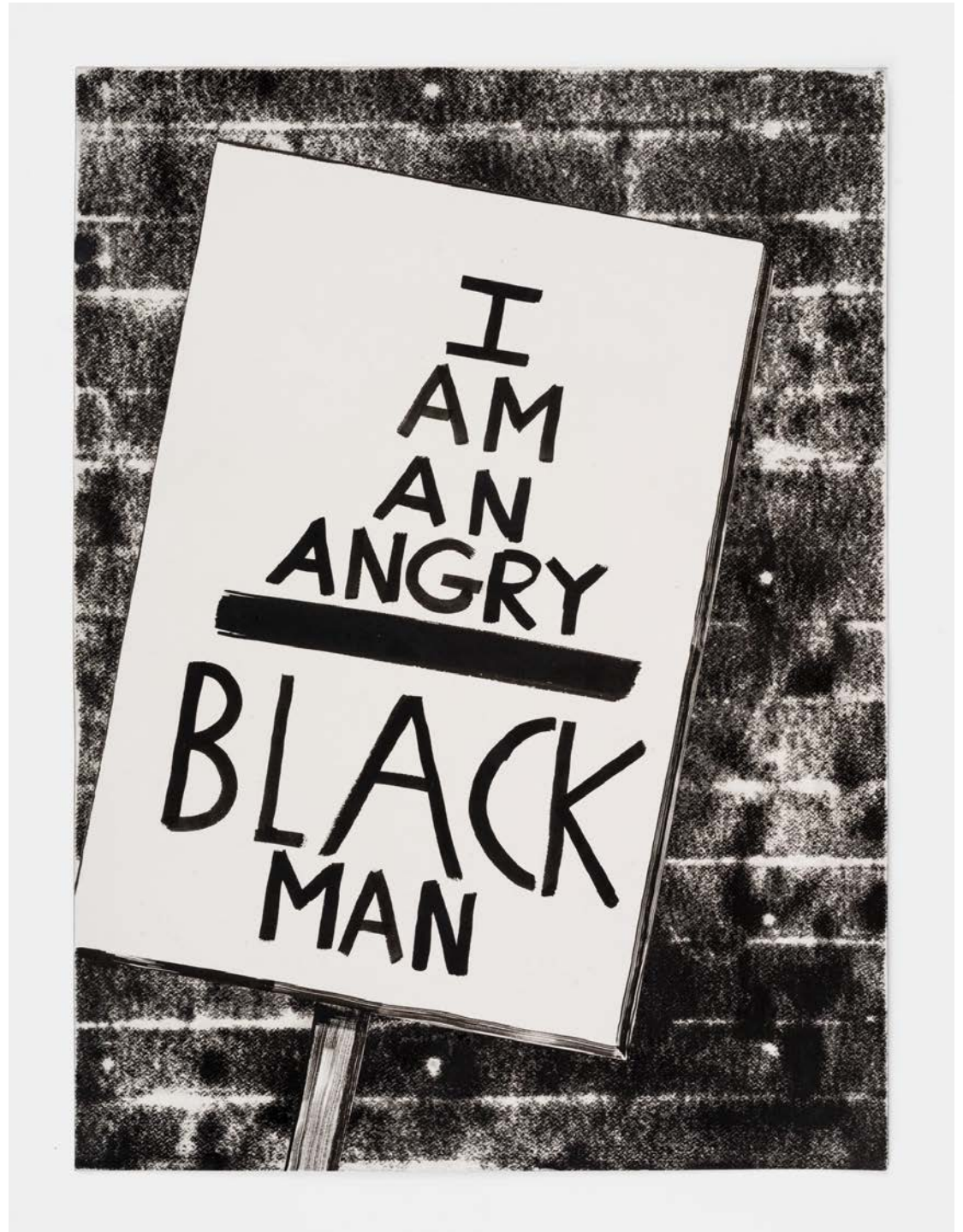
ink on paper collage

22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)

(MTG.20.029.22)



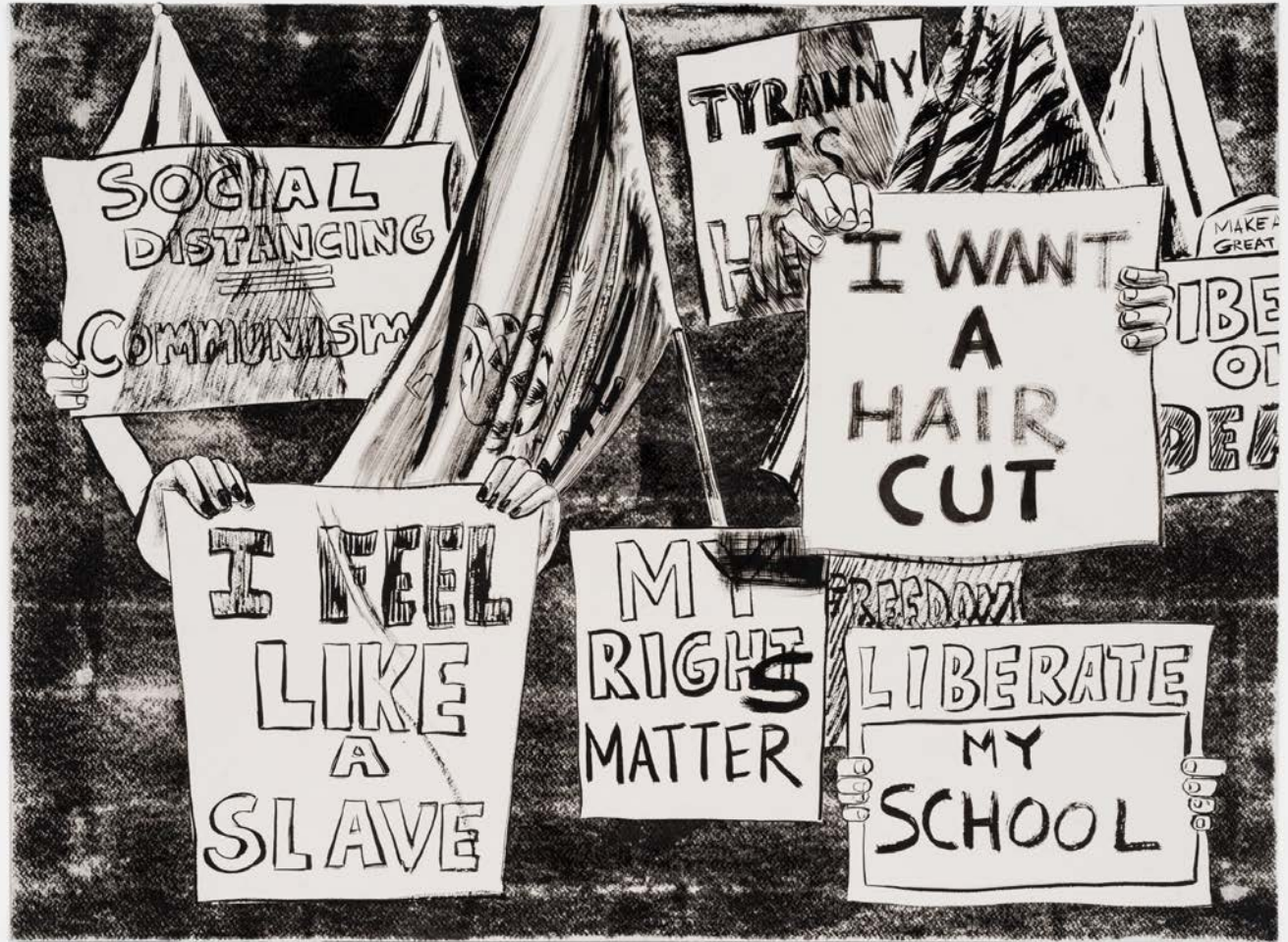
Mark Thomas Gibson
Assume the Position, 2020
(detail)



Mark Thomas Gibson
I AM AN ANGRY BLACK MAN, 2020
ink on paper collage
30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)
(MTG.20.026.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson
Capture The Flag, 2020
ink on paper
30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)
(MTG.20.040.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson

Me, Me, Me, Me, 2020

ink on paper

22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)

(MTG.20.028.22)

SOCIAL
DISTANCING

COMMUNISM

HE

I WANT
A
HAIR
CUT

I FEEL
LIKE
A

SLAVE

MY
RIGHTS
MATTER

FREEDOM

LIBERATION

MY
SCHOOL

Mark Thomas Gibson
Me, Me, Me, Me, 2020
(detail)



Mark Thomas Gibson

America Presents

The Fifth Horseman, 2020

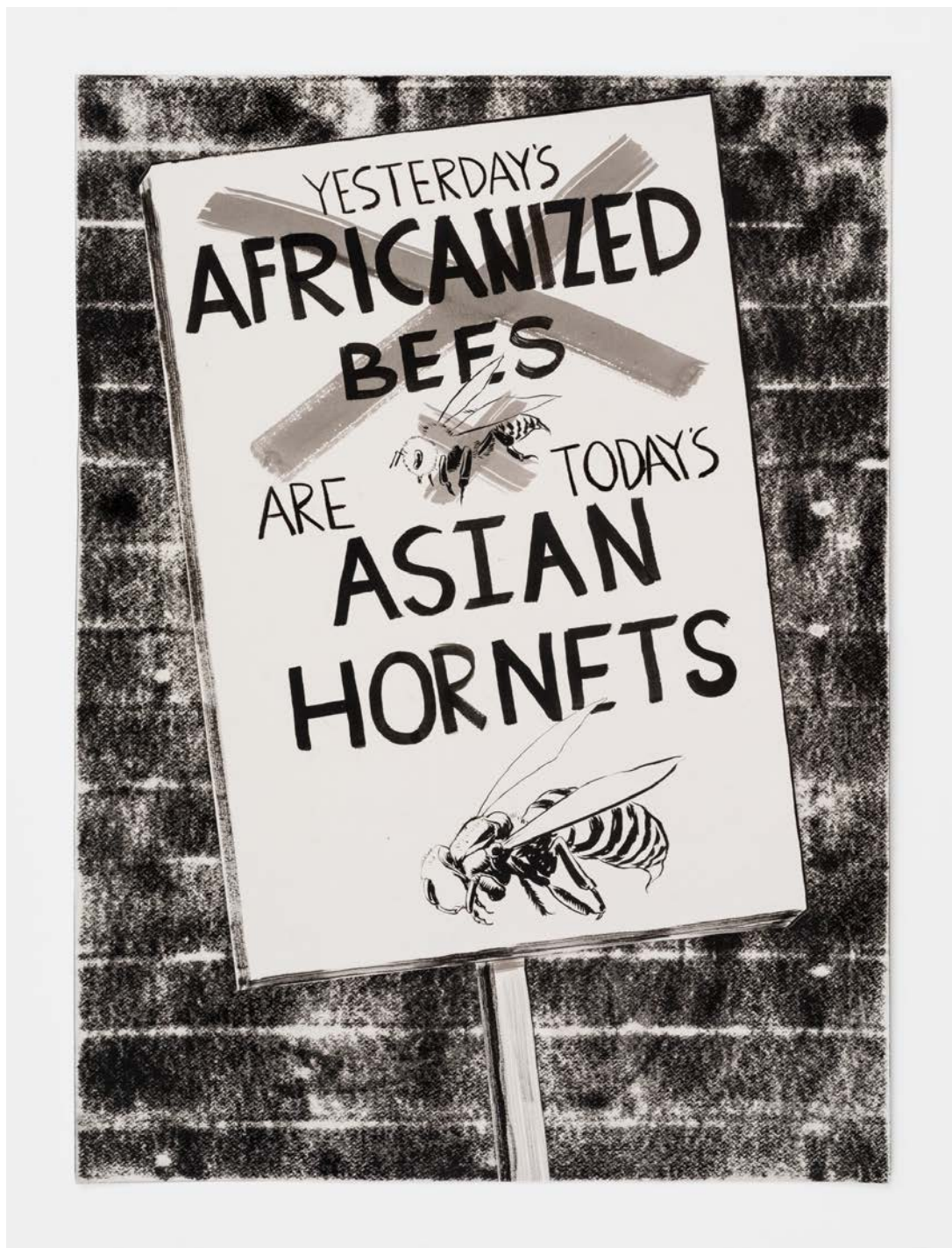
ink on paper collage

22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)

(MTG.20.043.22)



Mark Thomas Gibson
America Presents
The Fifth Horseman, 2020
(detail)



Mark Thomas Gibson

BEWARE, 2020

ink on paper collage

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.024.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson
The Razor Blade Handle, 2020
ink on paper collage
22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)
(MTG.20.041.22)



Mark Thomas Gibson

Spring Break 2020, 2020

signed, titled and dated verso

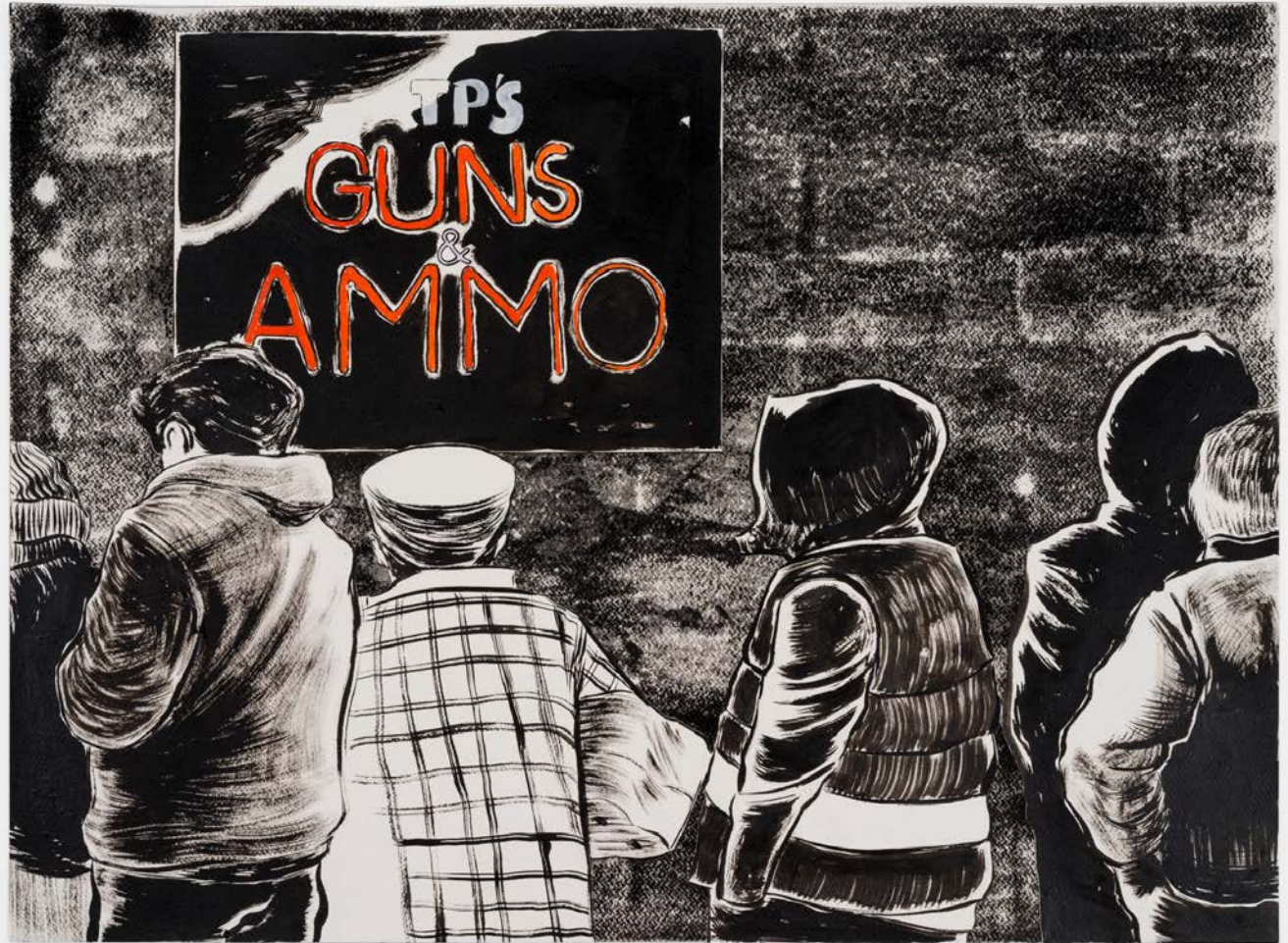
ink on paper collage

22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)

(MTG.20.021.22)



Mark Thomas Gibson
Spring Break 2020, 2020
(detail)



Mark Thomas Gibson
Grabbing Essentials, 2020
ink on paper collage
22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)
(MTG.20.051.22)

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Mark Thomas Gibson

Turn It Over, 2020

ink on paper collage

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.027.30)





Mark Thomas Gibson

Always Rising, 2020

ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.039.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson
Always Rising, 2020
(detail)

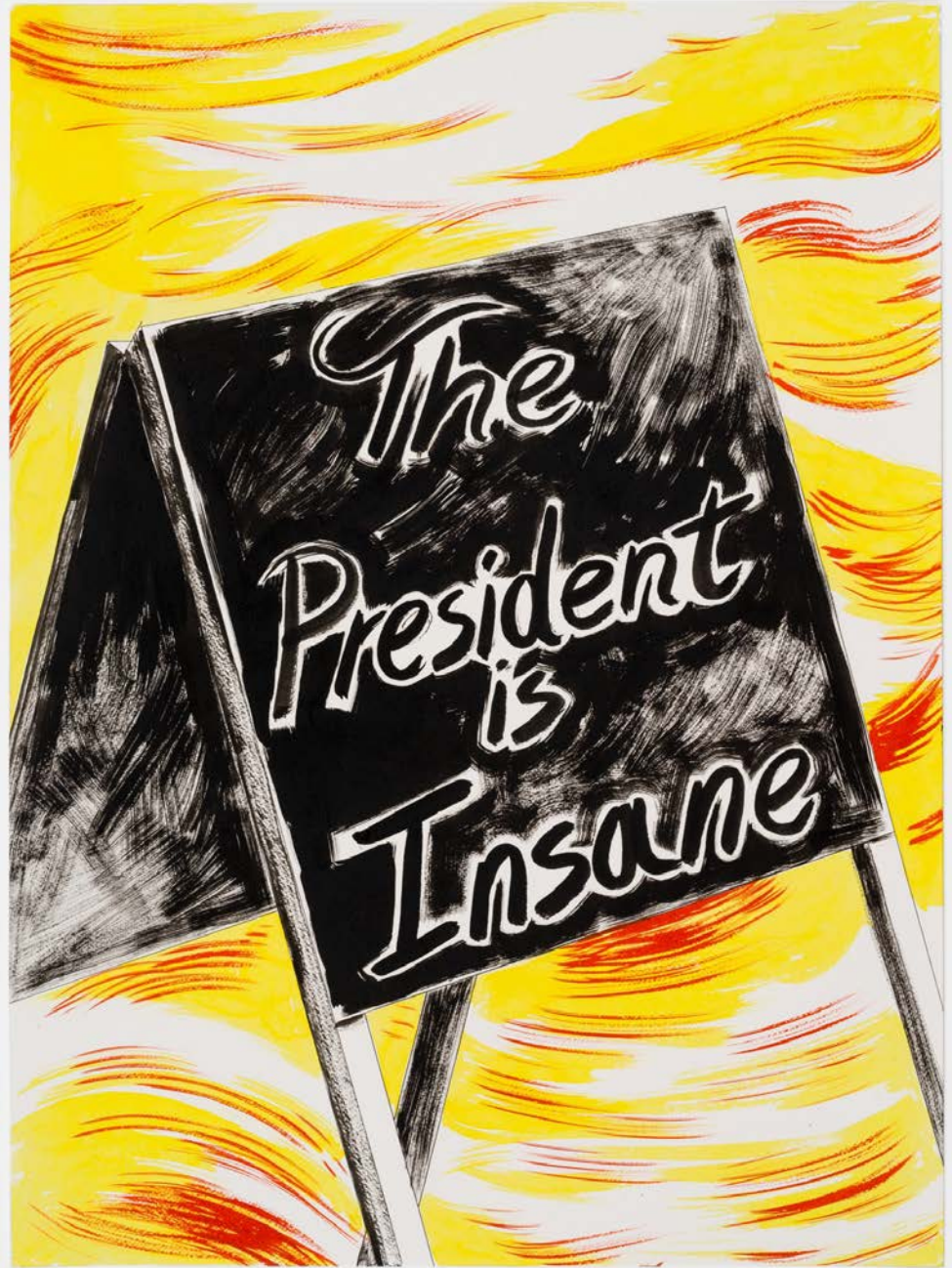


Mark Thomas Gibson
Precious Moments, 2020
ink on paper collage
22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)
(MTG.20.042.22)



Mark Thomas Gibson
Precious Moments, 2020
(detail)

ACTIVELY MARKY LOOKED UP



Mark Thomas Gibson

The President is Insane, 2020

ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.046.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson
Feeding Grounds, 2020
ink on paper collage
22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)
(MTG.20.037.22)



Mark Thomas Gibson

The Unity, 2020

ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.038.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson
The Unity, 2020
(detail)

Mark Thomas Gibson

The Lovers (Part 1), 2020

ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.034.30)





Mark Thomas Gibson
The Lovers (Part 1), 2020
(detail)

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Mark Thomas Gibson

The Lovers (Part 2), 2020

ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.035.30)



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Mark Thomas Gibson

The Lovers (Part 3), 2020

ink on paper

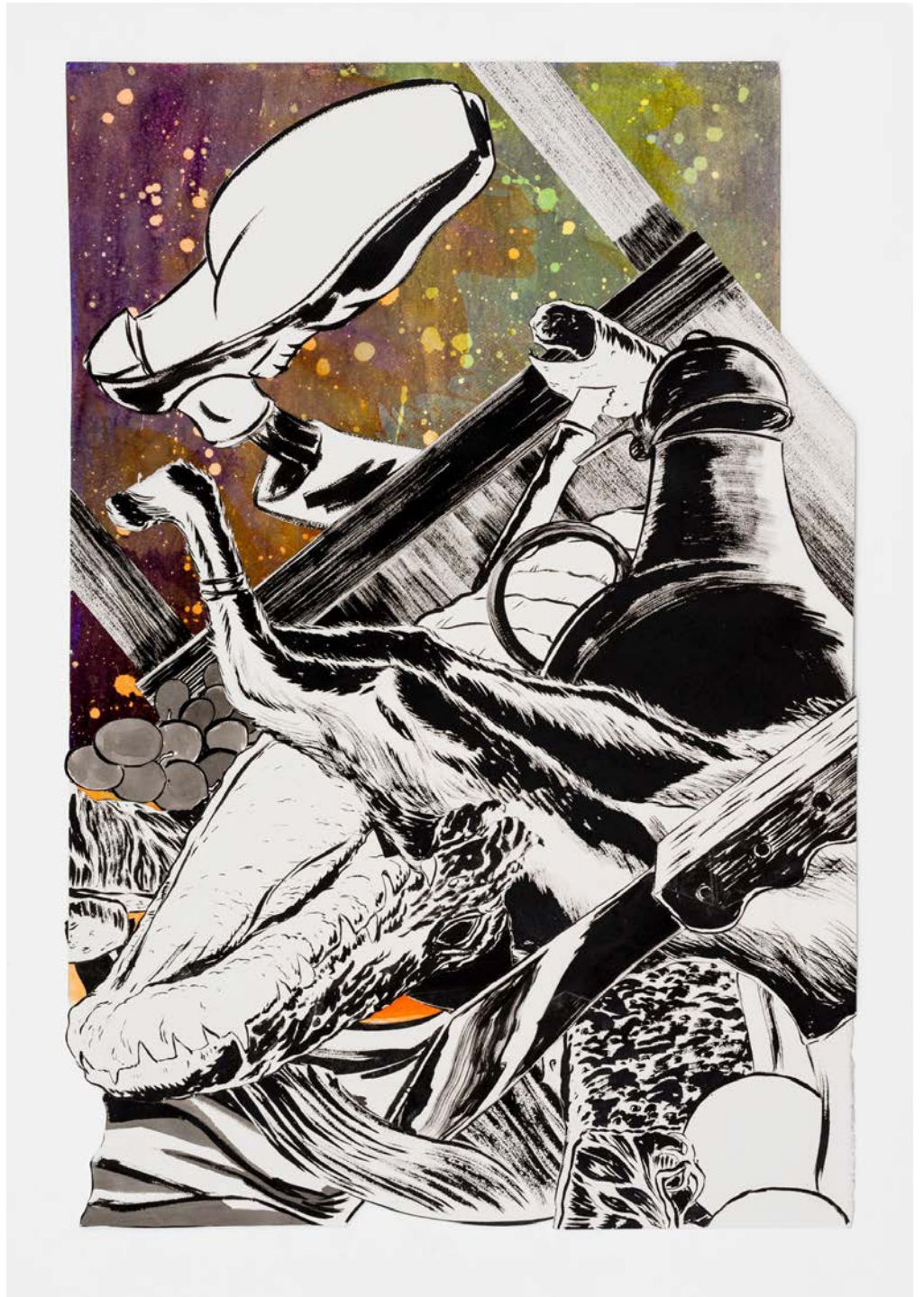
30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.036.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson
The Lovers (Part 3), 2020
(detail)

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Mark Thomas Gibson

Still Life with Kick, 2020

ink on paper collage

36 x 24 inches (91.4 x 61 cm)

(MTG.20.022.36)



Mark Thomas Gibson
Still Life with Kick, 2020
(detail)

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Mark Thomas Gibson

Grab the Flag, 2020

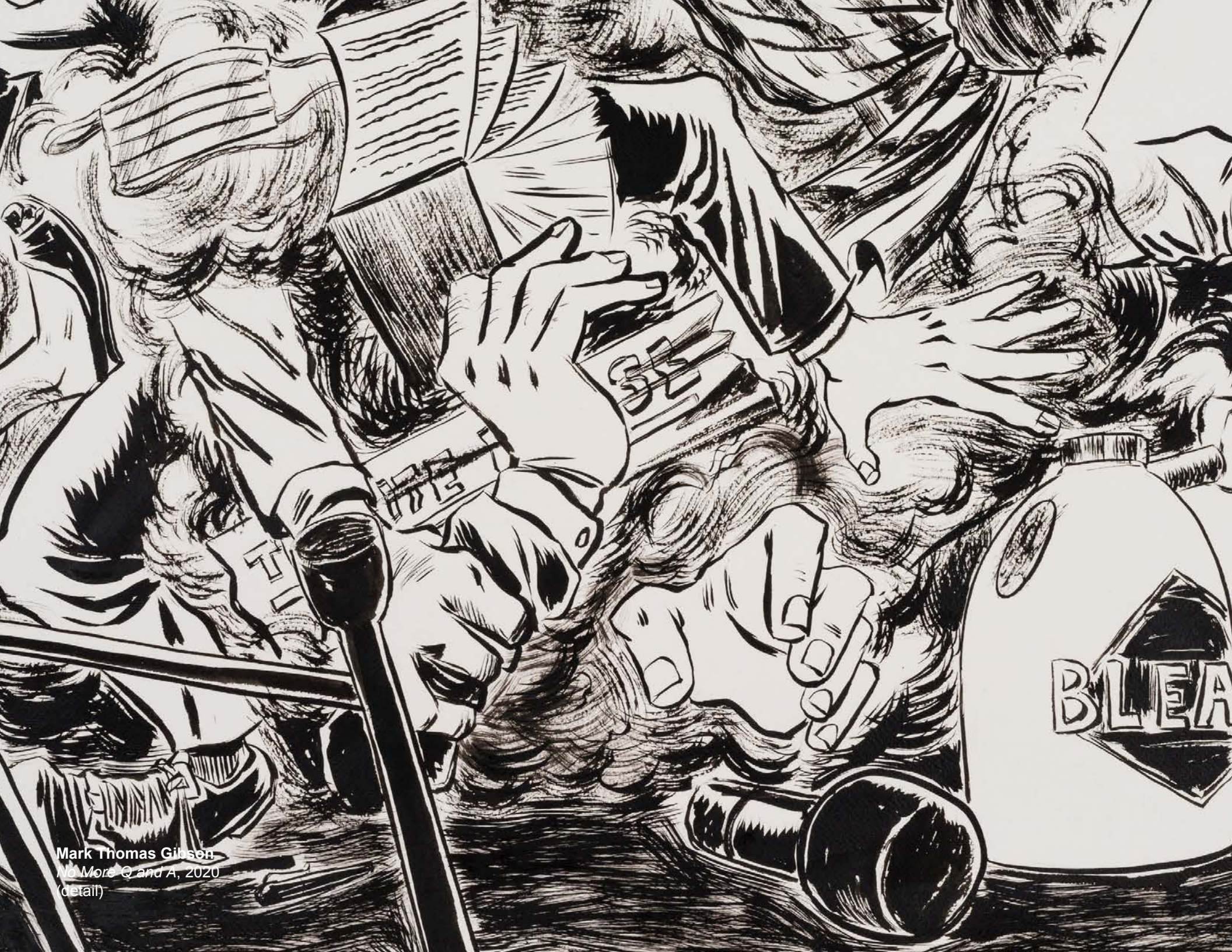
ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.047.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson
No More Q and A, 2020
ink on paper
22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)
(MTG.20.032.22)



Mark Thomas Gibson
No More Q and A, 2020
(detail)

Mark Thomas Gibson

He Golfed While We Burned, 2020

ink on paper collage

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.025.30)





Mark Thomas Gibson
Swimming with the Enemy, 2020
ink on paper
22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)
(MTG.20.030.22)



Mark Thomas Gibson

Lost Glove, 2020

ink on paper collage

22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)

(MTG.20.044.22)

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Mark Thomas Gibson

Hey There, 2020

ink on paper collage

30 x 20 inches (76.2 x 50.8 cm)

(MTG.20.052.30)





Mark Thomas Gibson

Thing, 2020

ink on paper collage

22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)

(MTG.20.045.22)



Mark Thomas Gibson

The Inferno, 2020

ink on paper

22 x 30 inches (55.9 x 76.2 cm)

(MTG.20.049.22)



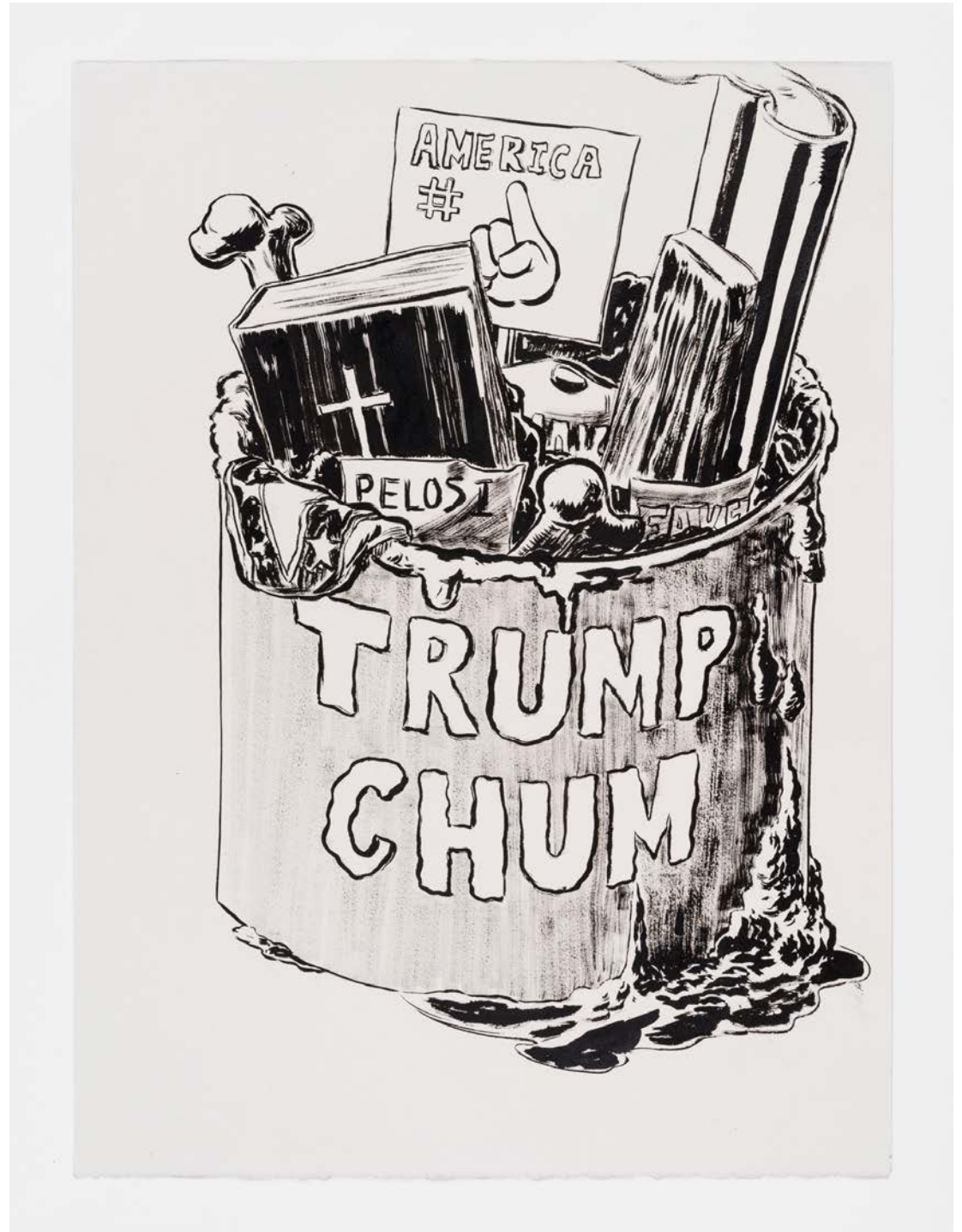
Mark Thomas Gibson

The Mob, 2020

ink on paper collage

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.048.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson

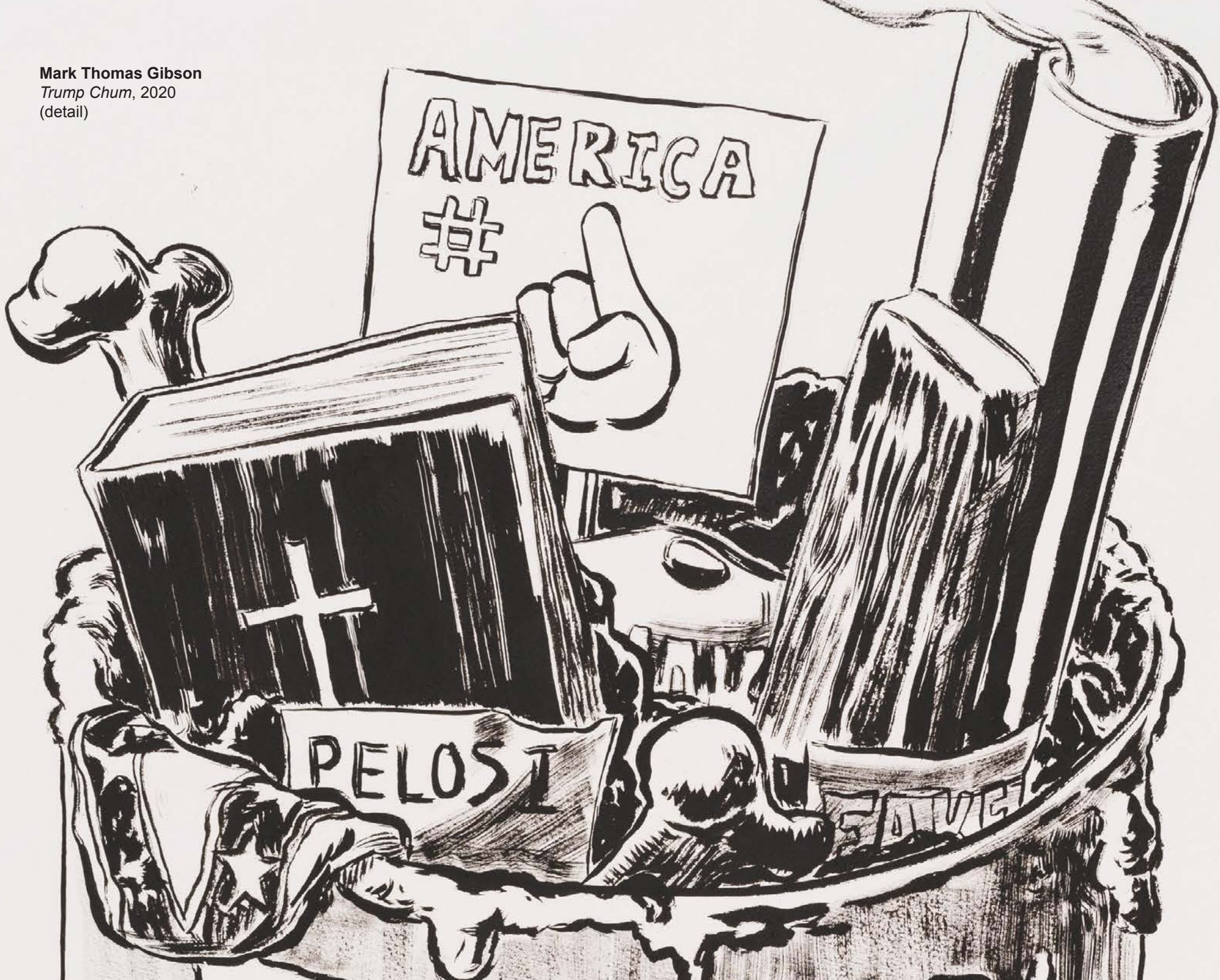
Trump Chum, 2020

ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.050.30)

Mark Thomas Gibson
Trump Chum, 2020
(detail)





Mark Thomas Gibson

They Called It Earth, 2020

ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.031.30)



Mark Thomas Gibson

Trump Flu, 2020

ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.033.30)

TRUMP

FLU



Mark Thomas Gibson
Trump Flu, 2020
(detail)

M+B

Mark Thomas Gibson

Touch of Evil, 2020

ink on paper

30 x 22 inches (76.2 x 55.9 cm)

(MTG.20.023.30)

