

**DOROTHY DEHNER (1901-1994)****The Courtship**

Signed lower right, "Dorothy Dehner '49"

ink on paper

17 1/4 x 26 in. (24 5/8 x 32 3/8 x 1 1/2 in.)

1949

31321

**PROVENANCE:**

The Estate of the Artist

**EXHIBITION:**

Twining Gallery, New York, Dorothy Dehner: Sculpture and Works on Paper, 1988, no. 7 (reproduced in catalogue). Exhibition traveled to Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C., Dorothy Dehner, March 10 - May 20, 1990. Kraushaar Galleries, New York, Significant Others: Artist Wives of Artists, January 9 - February 13, 1993

Kraushaar Galleries, New York, Dorothy Dehner, The Creative Process, 1930 - 1950, February 24 - April 10, 2015

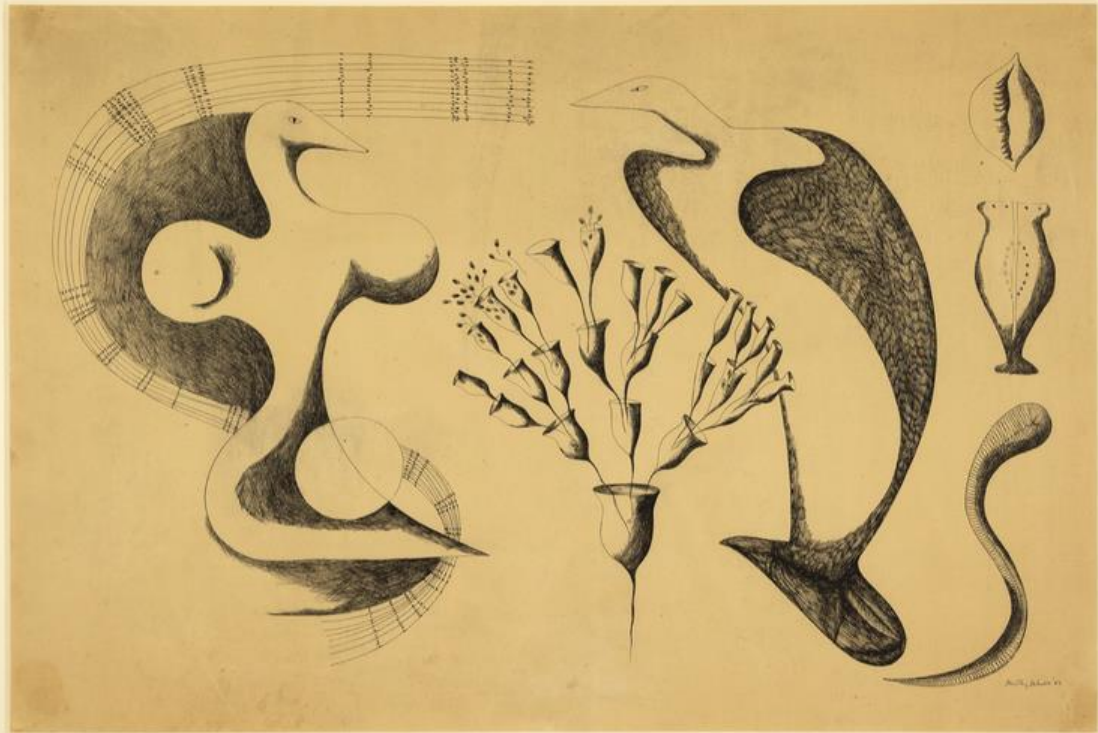
Dorothy Dehner was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1901. Dehner moved to Pasadena, California, in 1915 and attended the University of California, Los Angeles, where she studied modern dance. In 1922, after resolving to become an actress, she moved to New York to study at the American Academy of Dramatic Art. A trip to Europe in 1925 provided opportunities to see work by important modern artists such as Picasso and Matisse; this inspired her to pursue a career as an artist, with a strong interest in sculpture. Returning to New York, she enrolled at the Art Students League, but became disenchanted when exposed to the more traditional and formal styles espoused by her instructors. At this time, she turned to painting in a more modern style, reflecting her interest in the more progressive and abstract style of cubist art.

In 1940, Dehner married artist David Smith and moved to Bolton Landing, a farm outside of New York City. During these years, her art became secondary to her duties as a wife, but she was able to continue to paint some works, many in a relatively realist manner. Her paintings entitled "Life on the Farm" served as a diary of her time in Bolton Landing and became a psychological reflection of her life. In 1950 she had her first solo exhibition featuring her ink drawings at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. This show was a turning point in Dehner's life. Soon after, Dehner divorced her husband and focused solely on her artistic career.

In 1952 Dehner once again began working with three-dimensional forms. During the 1950s and 1960s, she made sculpture in bronze as well as direct metal constructions. Eventually she began working with wood, experimenting with her forms and incorporating jagged elements, and finally, making block-like, towering structures. From 1952 to her death in 1994, Dehner had more than 50 solo exhibitions of her work in various media within the United States and executed numerous public commissions for such organizations as the New York Medical College, Rockefeller Center, and the

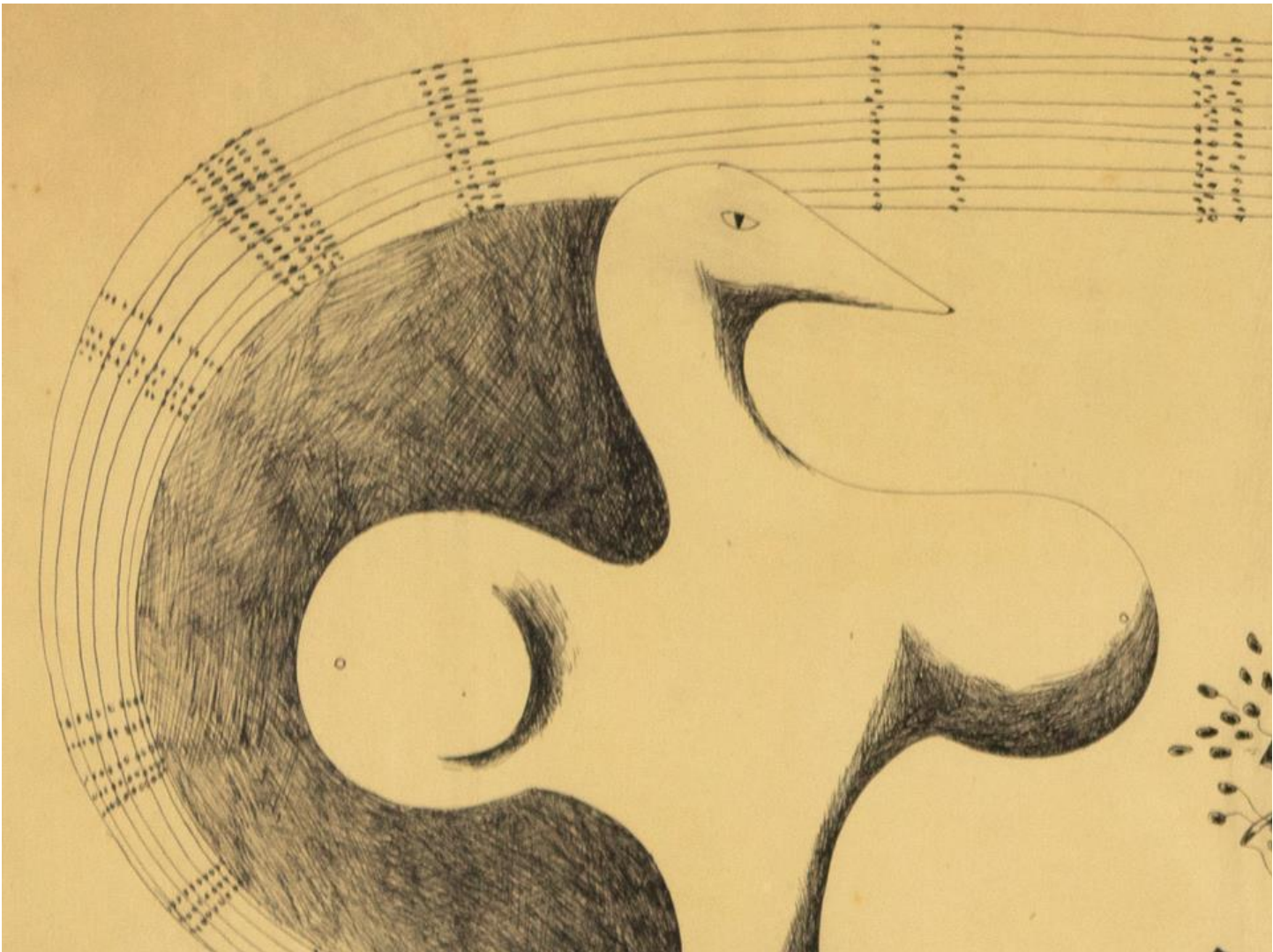
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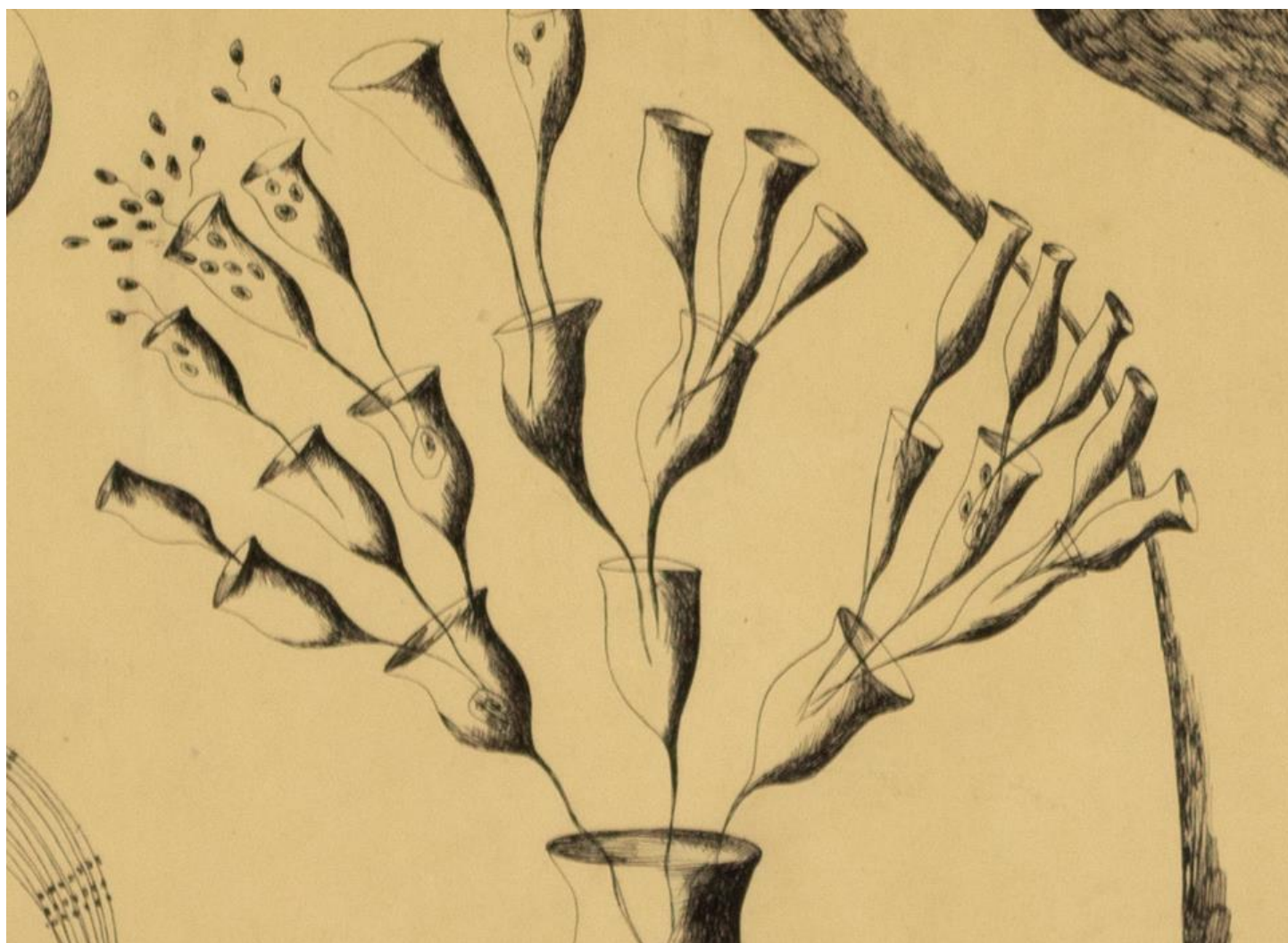
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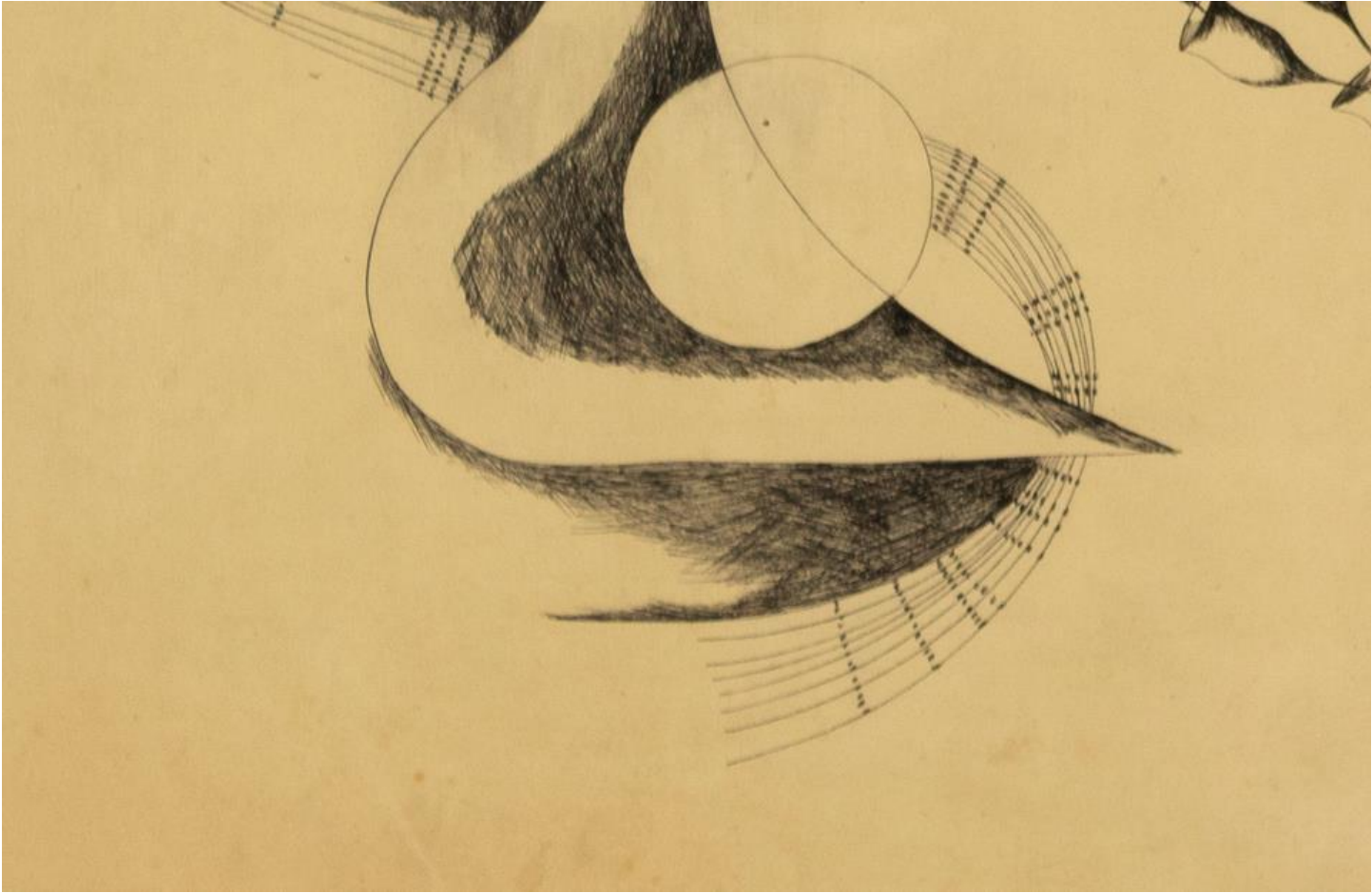




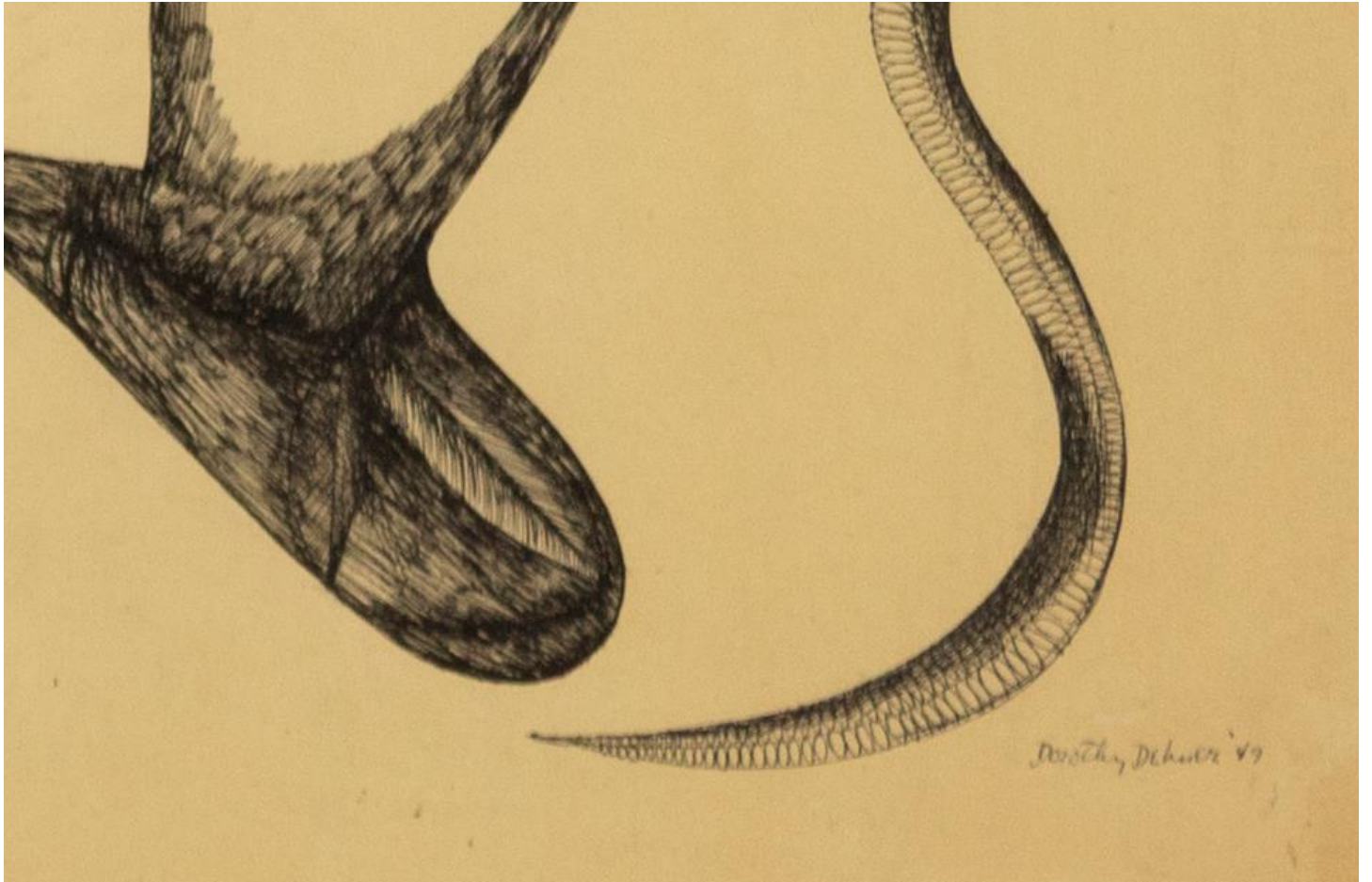


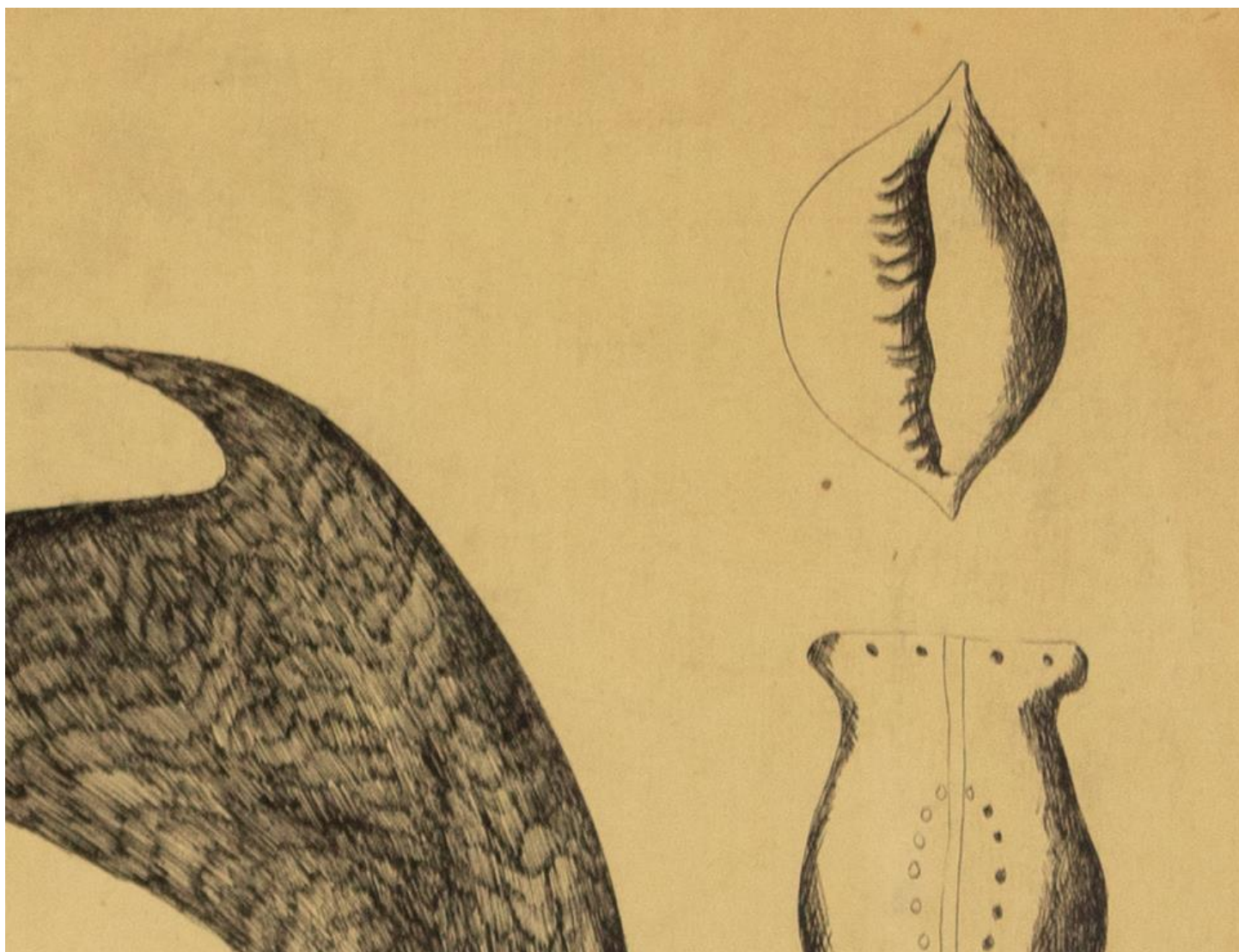














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**Dorethy Dehoue (1952 - 1996)**  
The Curved Line, 1996  
Oil on canvas  
17.25 x 28 inches  
43.8 x 71.1 cm

Oil on Canvas - Other Work, NY, 1997

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