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## HI-05 Helen Dupré Moseley: Painter, Author, Roller-Coaster Fan, and Air Stewardess of Flying Saucers

Lizzie Richards

Karen H. Goodchild Dr.  
*Wofford College*

Youmi Efurd Dr.  
*Wofford College*

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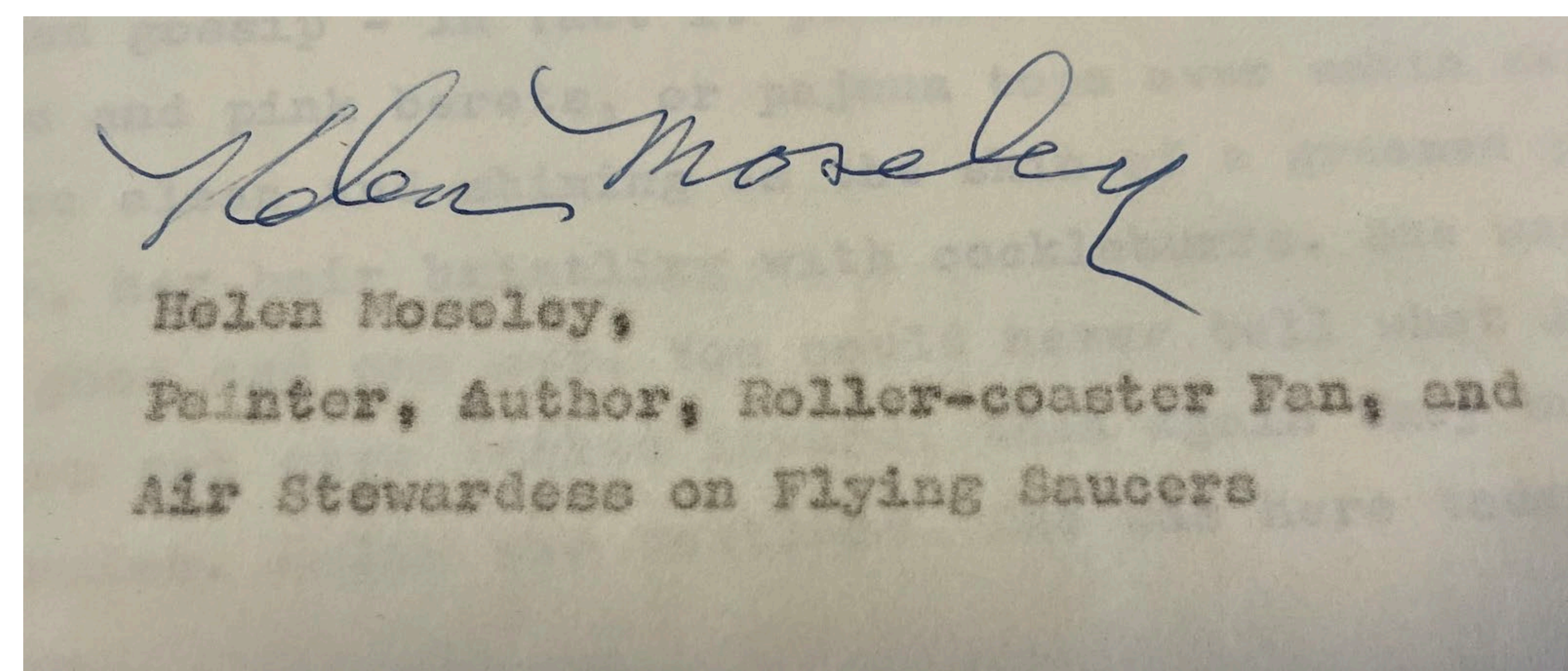
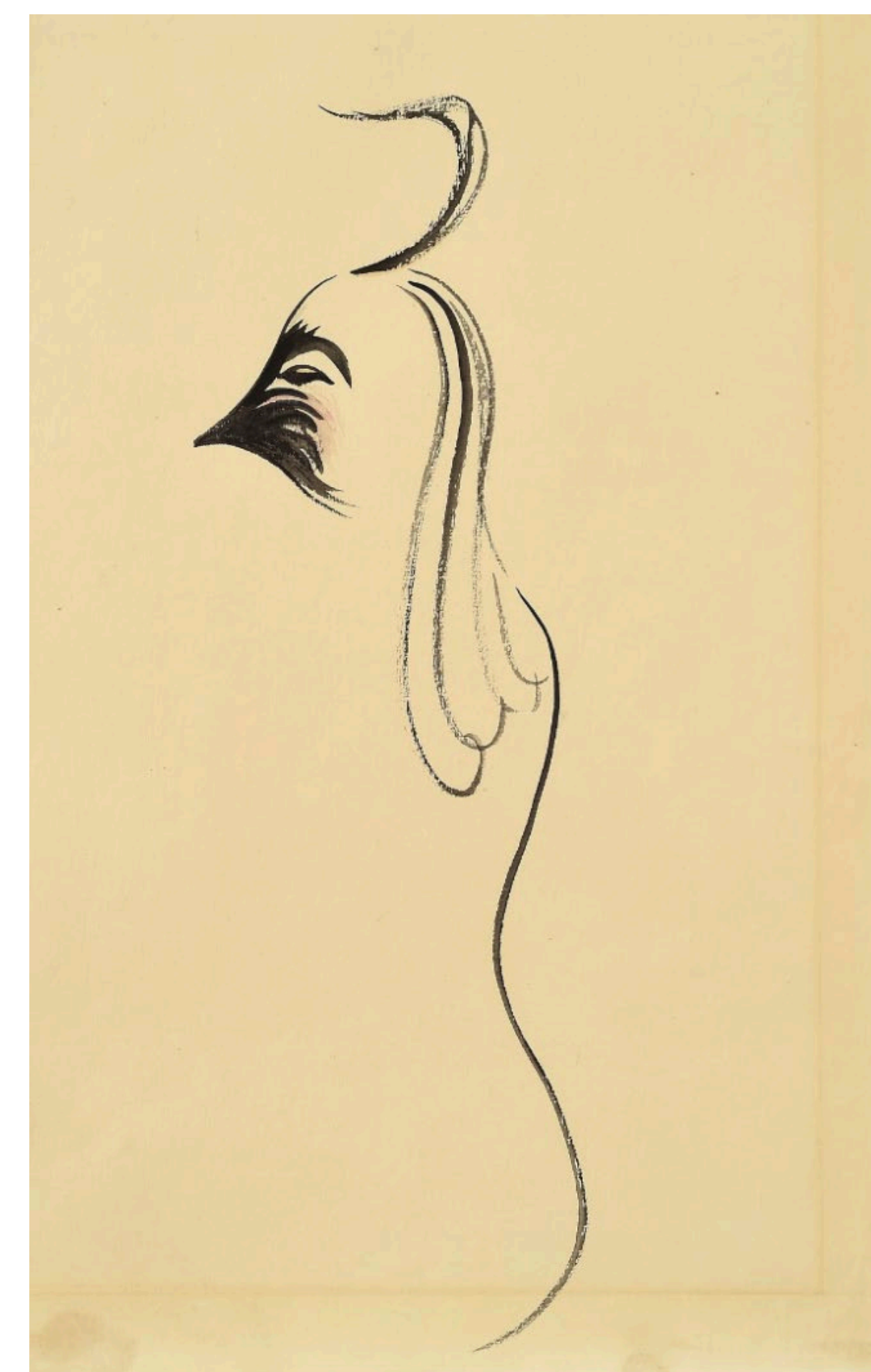
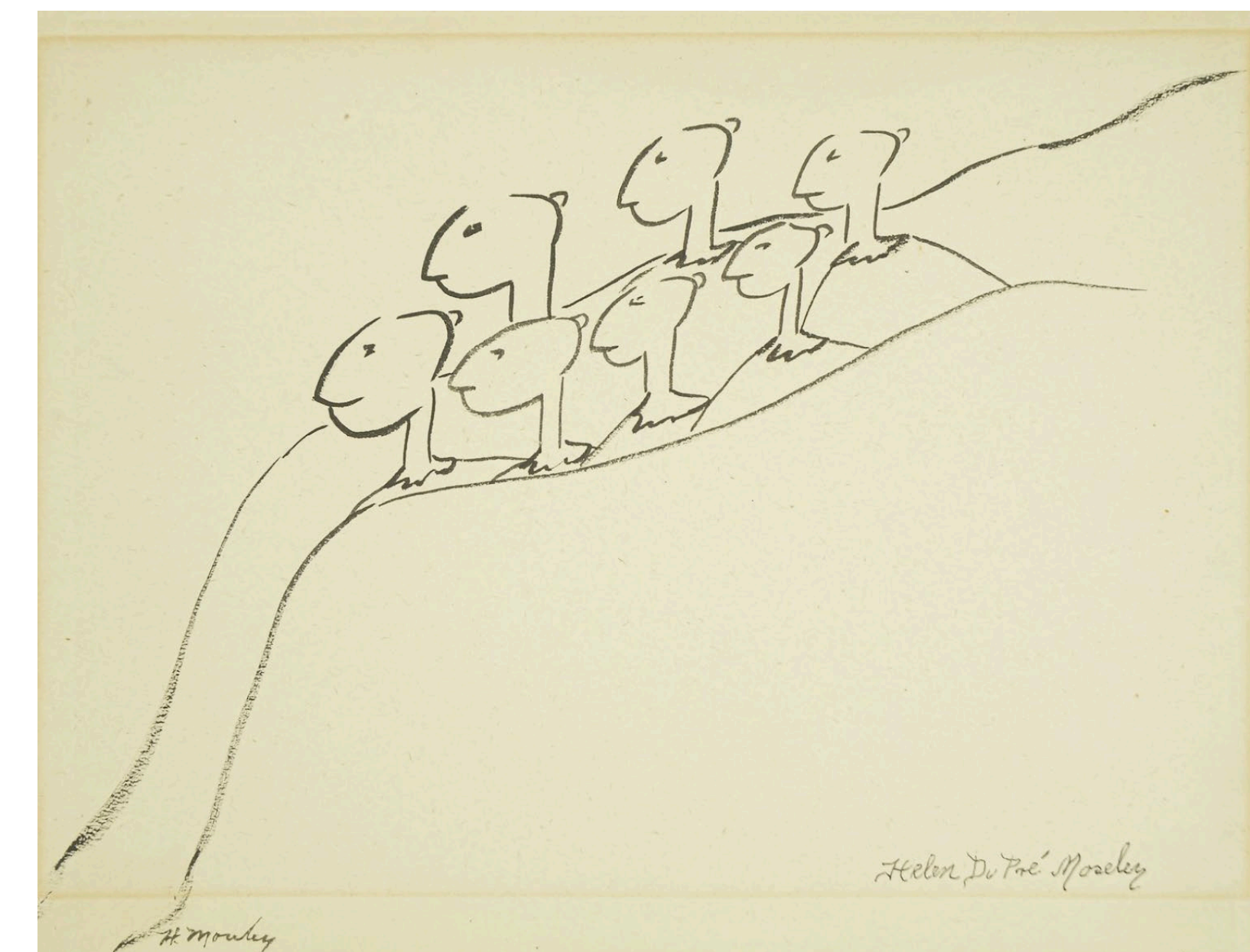
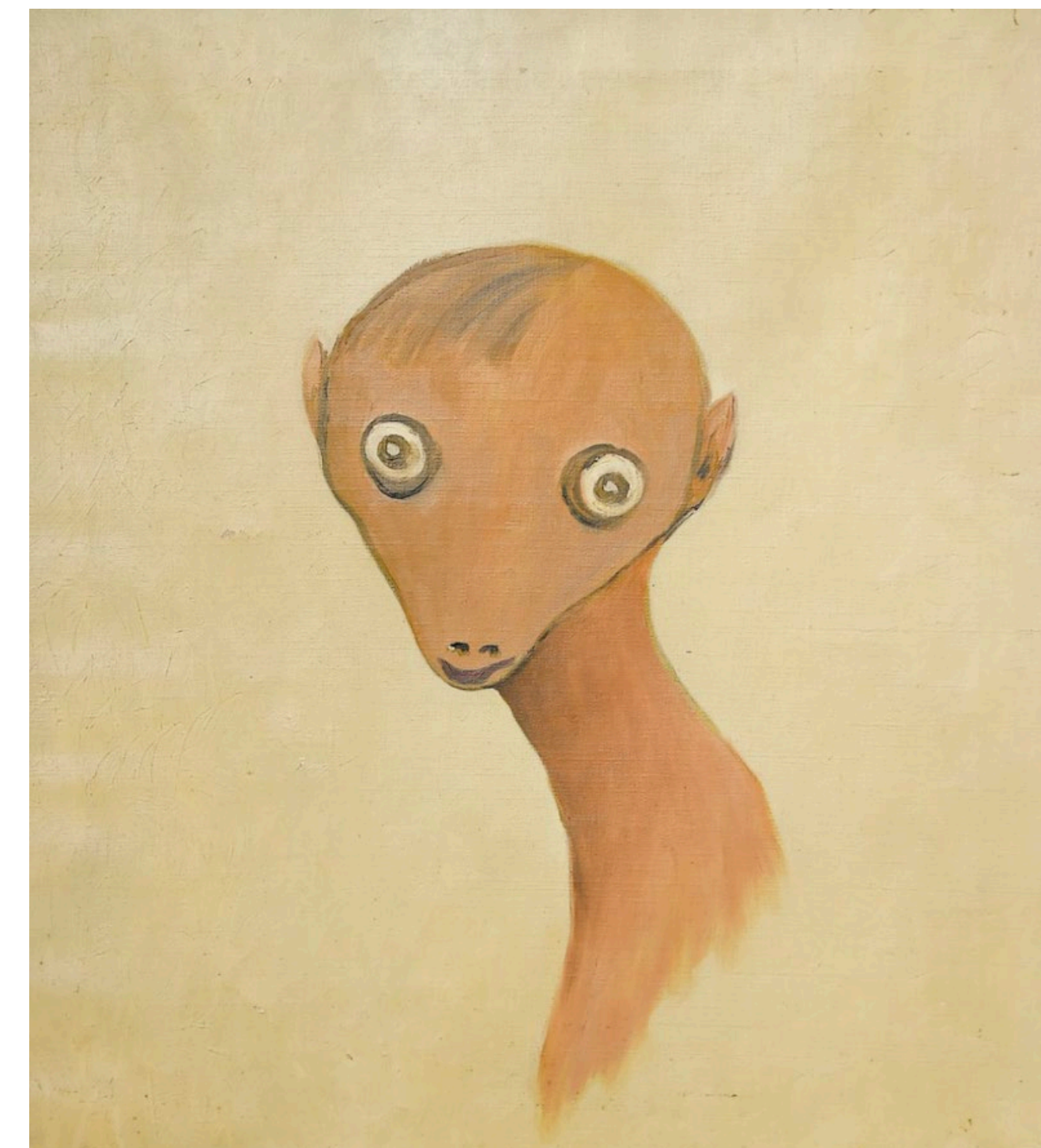
## Introduction

- Wofford College acquired 386 works by Helen Dupré Moseley, an artist from Spartanburg South Carolina who lived from 1887-1984 but did not begin creating art until the 1930s or 40s.
- The purpose of this archival research is to construct an artistic biography of Moseley that will be used as a guide to curating a show exhibiting her works
- An exhibit will be shown in the spring 2023 semester, including wall texts and a catalogue essay

## Methods

- Conducted archival research at the Spartanburg County Public Library
- Read through and organized many diaries, creative writing, letters, essays, photographs, and Moseley/Dupré family scrapbooks
- Visited local galleries and research institutions to view her works and trace provenance and acquisition of her pieces
- Conducted interviews with curators who put together shows and were able to meet the Moseley family

## Some Pieces to be Exhibited



## Discussion

- Her creative writing gives a sense of her fanciful imagination and witty sense of humor which can be translated to her art as well
- Previous research on Moseley suggests she never received critical acclaim for her art, however she did gain recognition in Spartanburg and New York.
- Although she said her art was a hobby, this research suggest it meant more than that

## Overview and Significance

- The Dupré family is well known in Spartanburg and Moseley grew up on the Wofford campus
- Moseley was already distinguishable among Spartanburg, since she was the first woman postmaster appointed by President FDR and was able to distinguish herself through her art despite her belief that art was merely a "hobby"
- She had her work exhibited on many occasions and her work resides in many private collections primarily in the Southeast