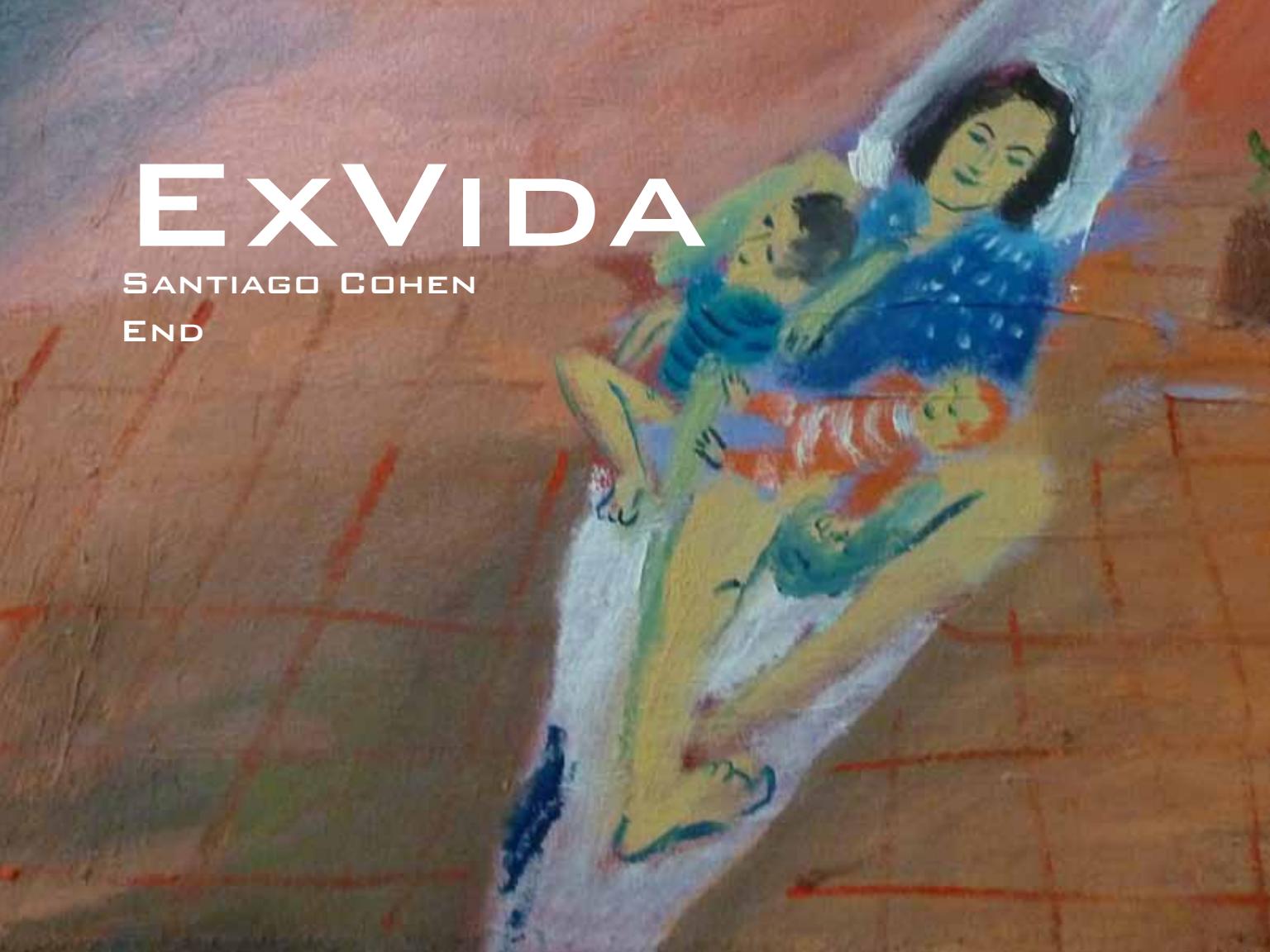


ExVIDA

SANTIAGO COHEN
END



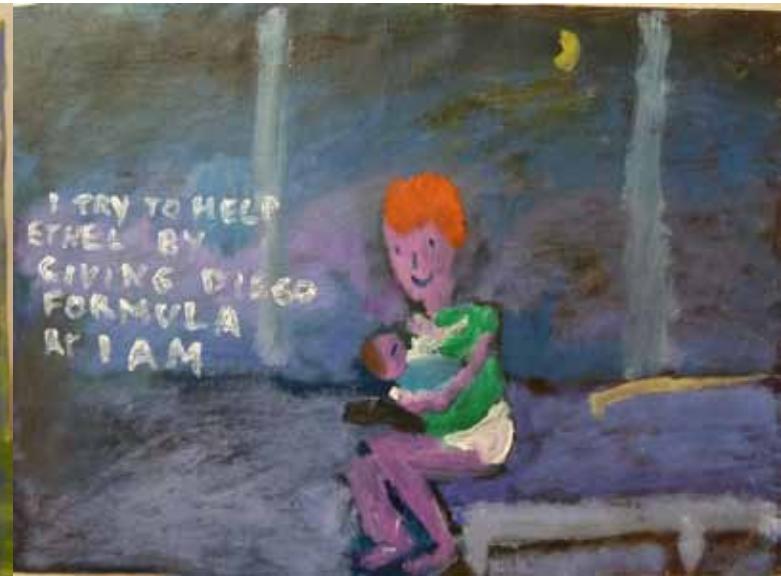
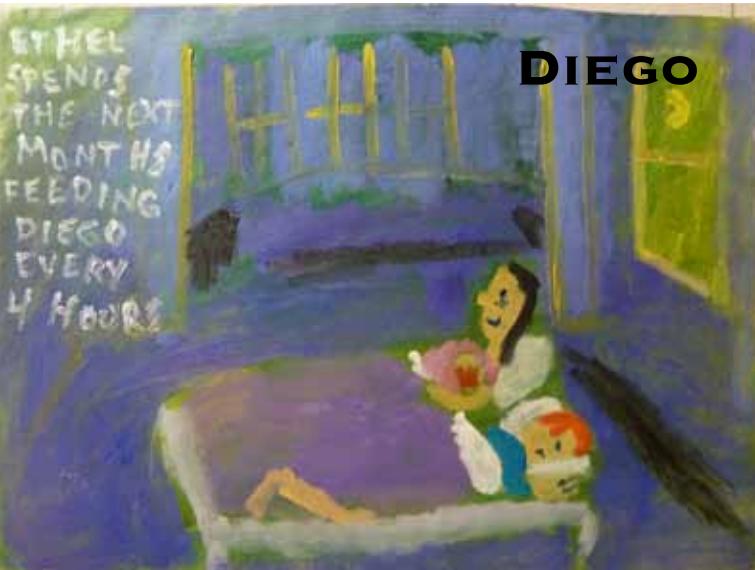
PART SEVEN

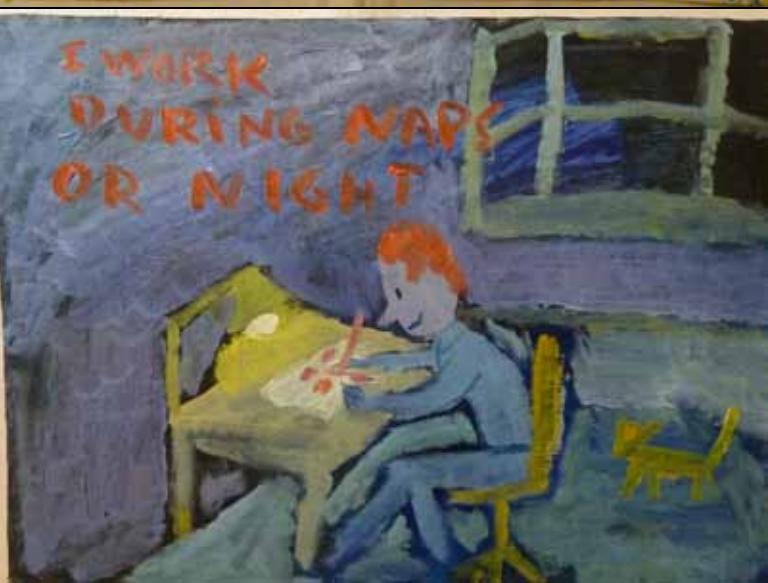
JUGGLING LIFE

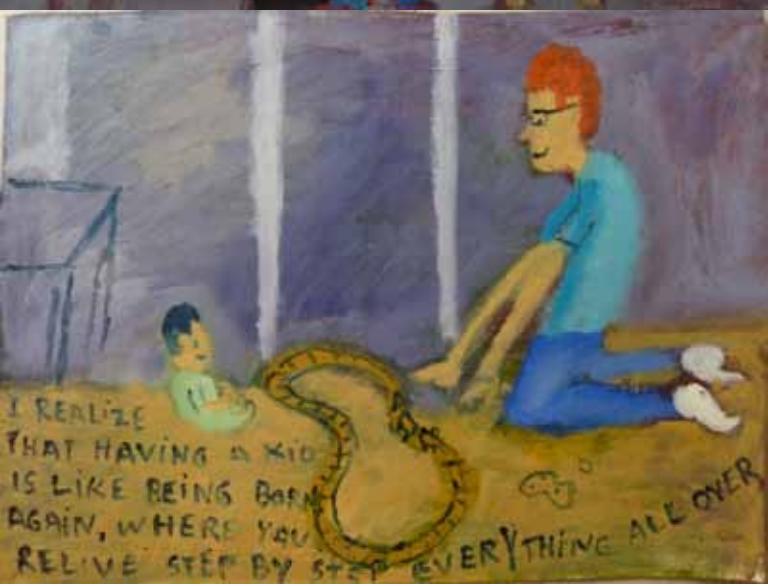
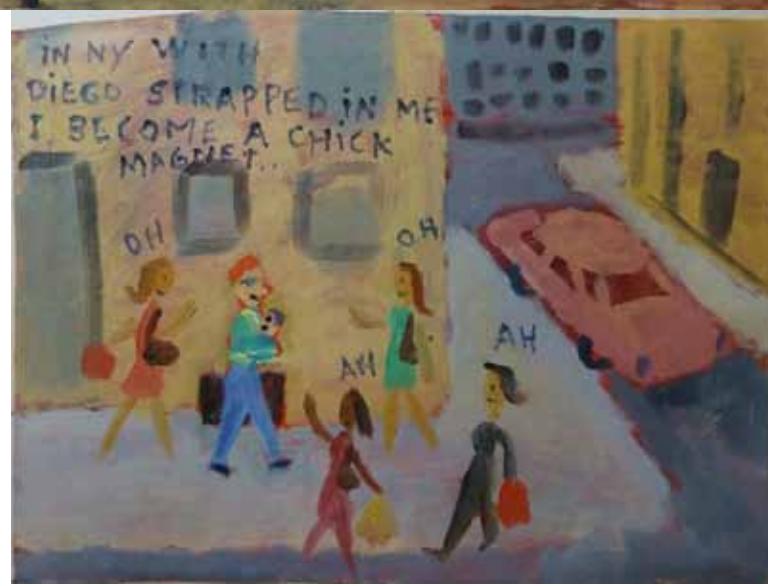
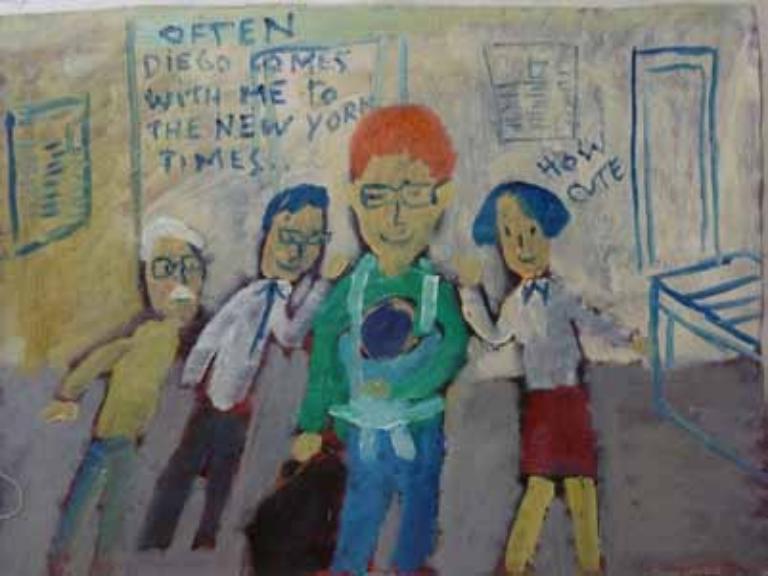
For the last six and a half years Santiago has been painting an ex-voto style project. He's already done more than 1150 oil paintings from different stories of his life.

Here they are...











THE TEACHER IN THE DAY CARE CENTER
CLAIMS THAT DIEGO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND
AND WE SHOULD SPEAK
ENGLISH AT HOME
I DOWN RIGHT REFUSE...



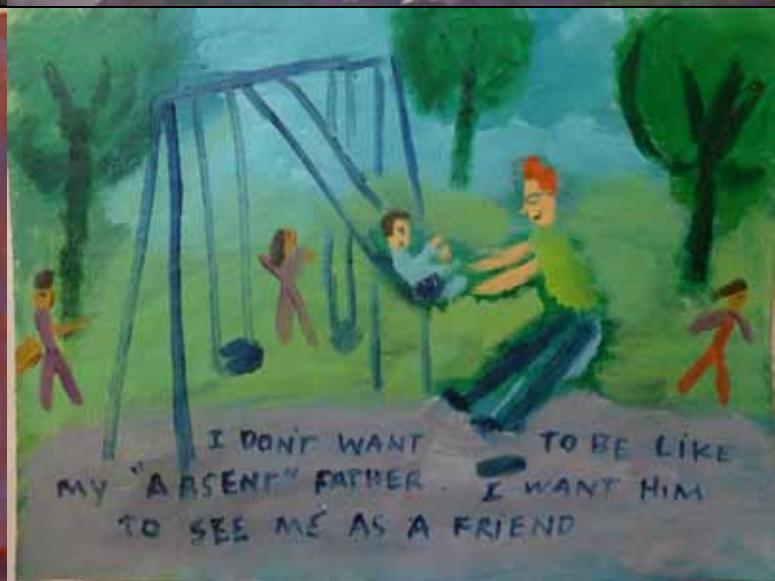
I FEEL BAD FOR HIM
AND
TRY
TO TEACH
HIM
ENGLISH
ON THE
TV WITH
FILMS
AND
KIDS'
PROGRAMS



DIEGO LOVES THE WIZARD OF OZ, AND
OTHER MUSICAL PROGRAMS.
I SPEND A LOT OF TIME WITH HIM.
EVEN AFTER
THE DAY CARE



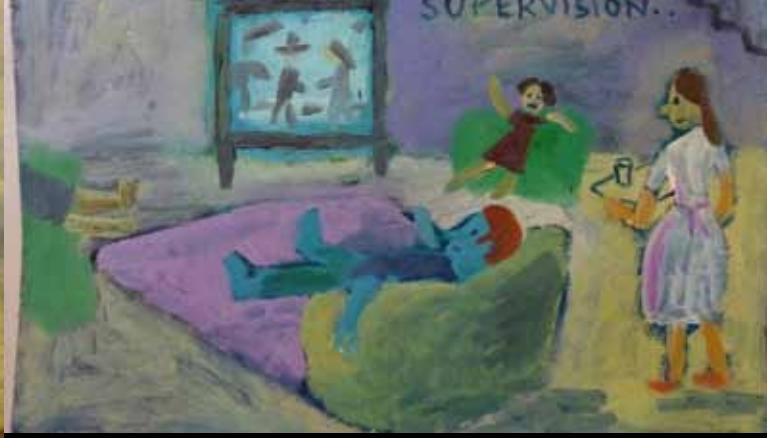
I DON'T WANT
MY "ABSENT" FATHER
TO BE LIKE
I WANT HIM
TO SEE ME AS A FRIEND



WHEN I WAS A KID, MY FATHER TRAVELED A LOT ON "SALES TRIPS". I BET HE USED THOSE TRIPS TO ESCAPE THE FAMILY...



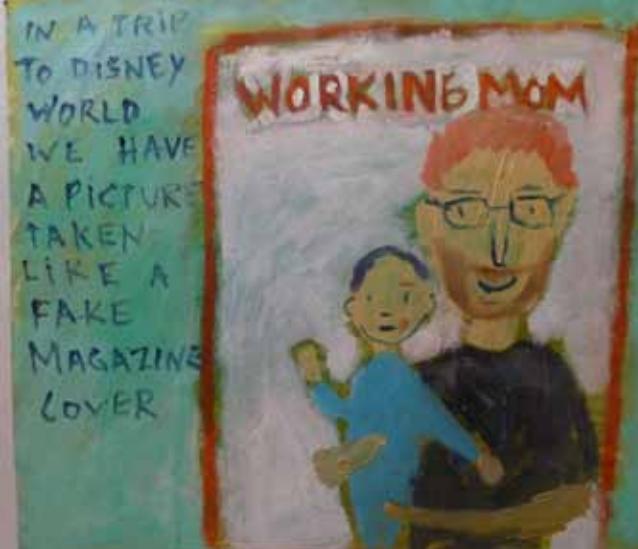
EVEN MY MOM HAD MAIDS TO TAKE CARE OF US, AND WE WERE ALMOST WITHOUT PARENT SUPERVISION...



WE ARE DOING EXACTLY A REVERSE EXPERIENCE WITH DIEGO BY HAVING TOTAL HANDS IN PARENTING...



IN A TRIP TO DISNEY WORLD WE HAVE A PICTURE TAKEN LIKE A FAKE MAGAZINE COVER





WE THINK THIS IS
FUNNY BECAUSE
DIEGO IS BRUISED
AFTER AN
ACCIDENT
AND WE
JOKE THAT
FATHERS
DON'T KNOW
HOW
TO TAKE
CARE
OF KIDS
VERY WELL.



I HOPE I WILL NOT
"BRUISE" HIM FOR LIFE
WITH ME BEING A
BAD MOM

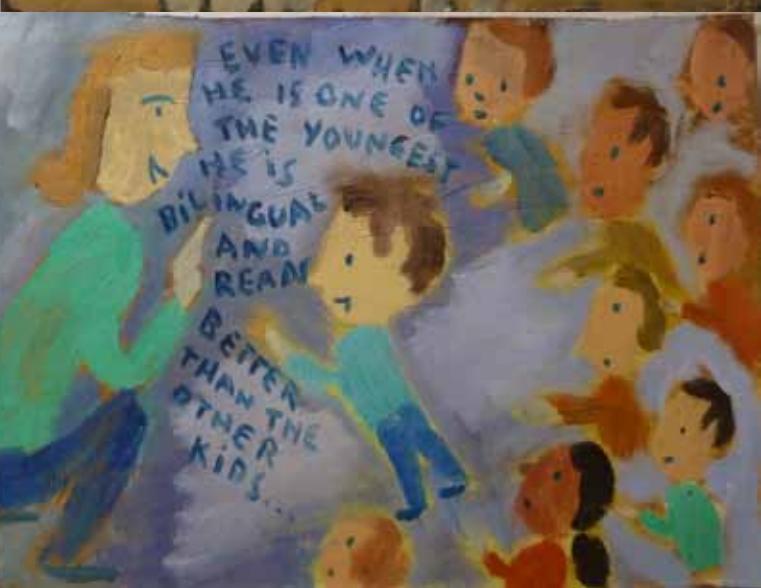
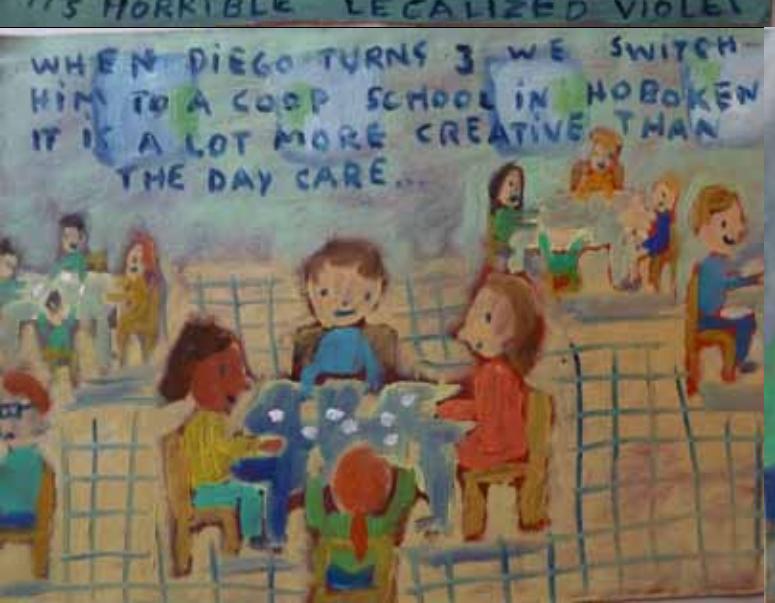
[FORTUNATELY
HE ALSO HAS
ETHEL]

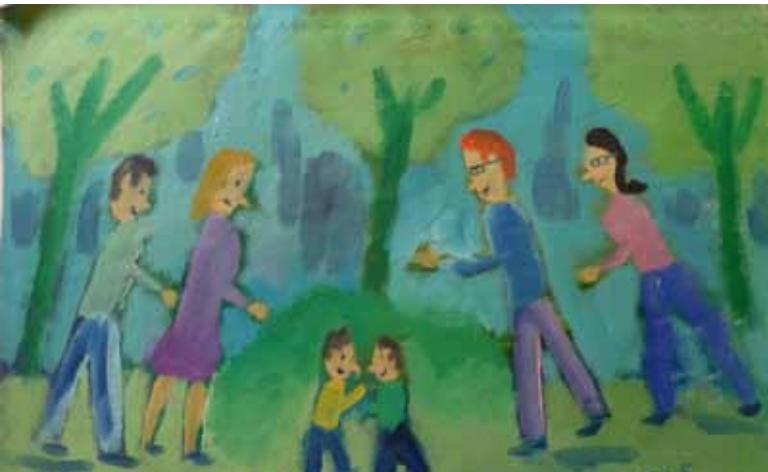


AFTER DISNEY WORLD WE GO TO MIAMI
TO VISIT ETHEL'S GRAND PARENTS.



PRESIDENT BUSH DECLARIES
WAR ON IRAQ AND
WE SEE SOME ATTACKS
ON CNN.





WE CAN RELATE BETTER WITH PEOPLE
WHO HAVE KIDS AND IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE
FRIENDS WHO DON'T HAVE...



ETHEL AND ME ARE OBSESSED WITH
DIEGO AND LIKE DOING EVERYTHING
WITH HIM



IF WE CAN'T
TAKE HIM TO
PLACES, WE BRING
HIM TO US



WE ADORE DIEGO AND EVERY DAY
IT IS AMAZING TO SEE HIM GROW.

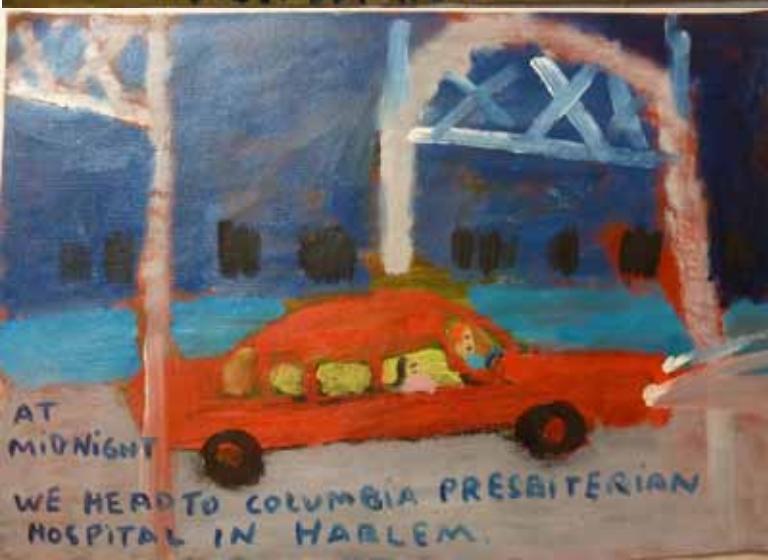
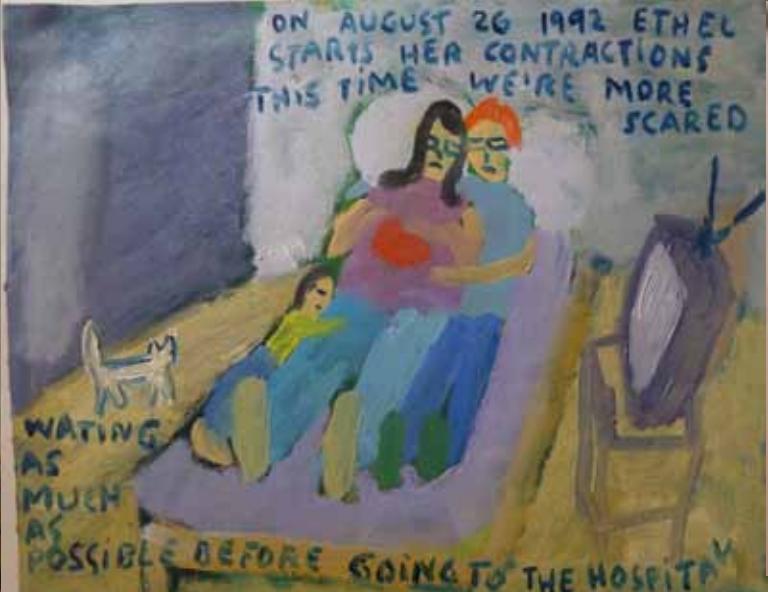
HE HAS A GREAT SENSE
OF HUMOR AND
CREATIVITY...

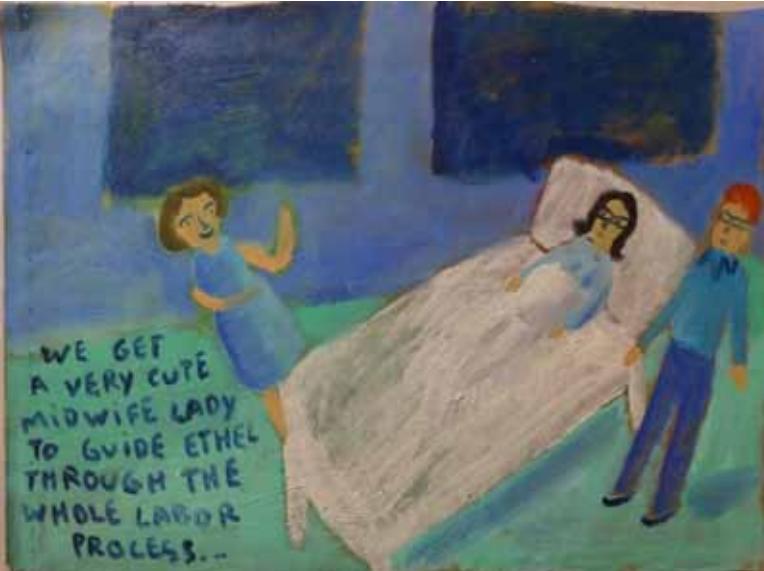
NEW LIFE

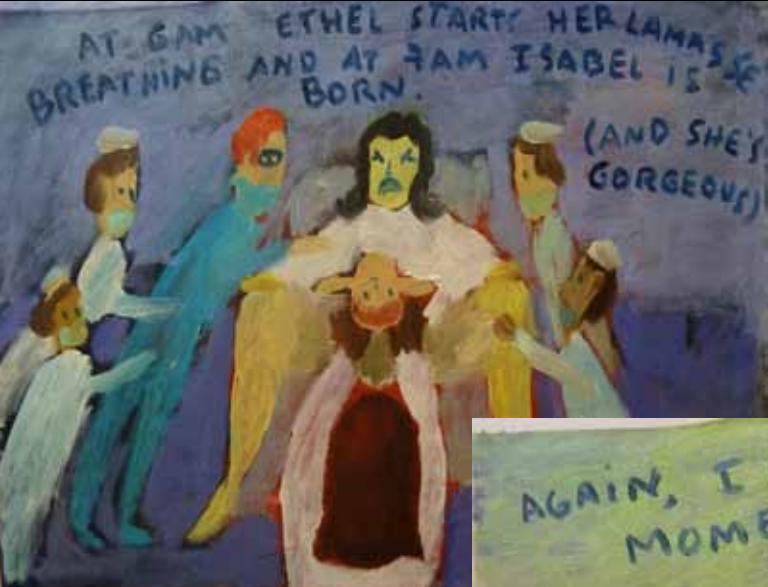




WE LOVE THE IDEA OF HAVING A BOY
AND A GIRL







ISABEL



LATER ON IN THE DAY I BRING DIEGO
TO THE HOSPITAL TO MEET HIS SISTER
(HE LOOKS
A LOT
BIGGER
NOW)



DIEGO IS CONFUSED, HAPPY AND JEALOUS

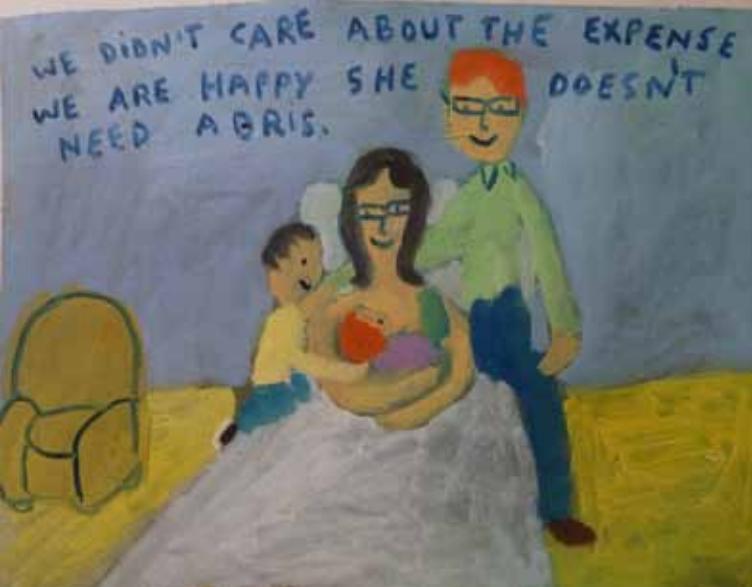


LATER ON IN THE
DAY WE GET A VISIT
BY A RABBI...



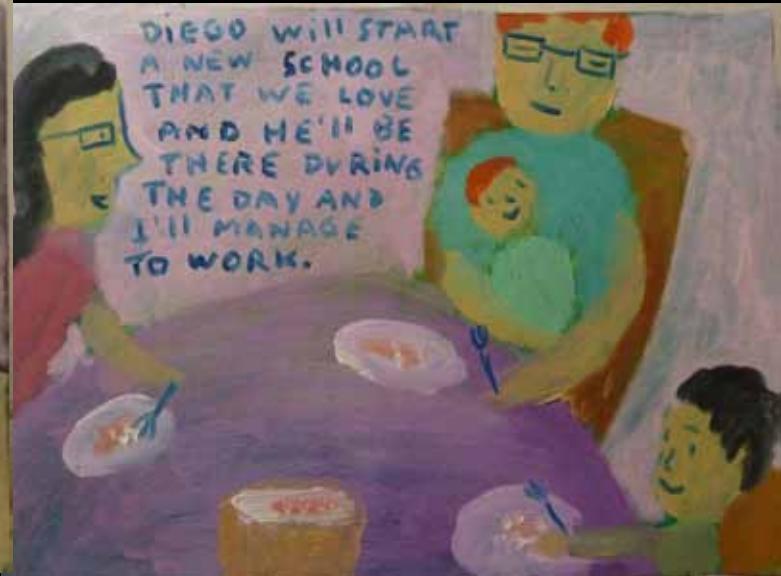
THE RABBI ANSWERS LAUGHING
"YOU THINK YOU ARE
SAVING MONEY
FROM
DOING A
BRIS, BUT
YOU'LL SPEND
MORE ON
WEDDING."







I WORRY ABOUT THE TIME
WHEN ETHEL GOES BACK TO
WORK. I THINK IT WILL BE
VERY DIFFICULT TO BE BY MYSELF.



Diego will start
a new school
that we love
and he'll be
there during
the day and
I'll manage
to work.

JUANITA



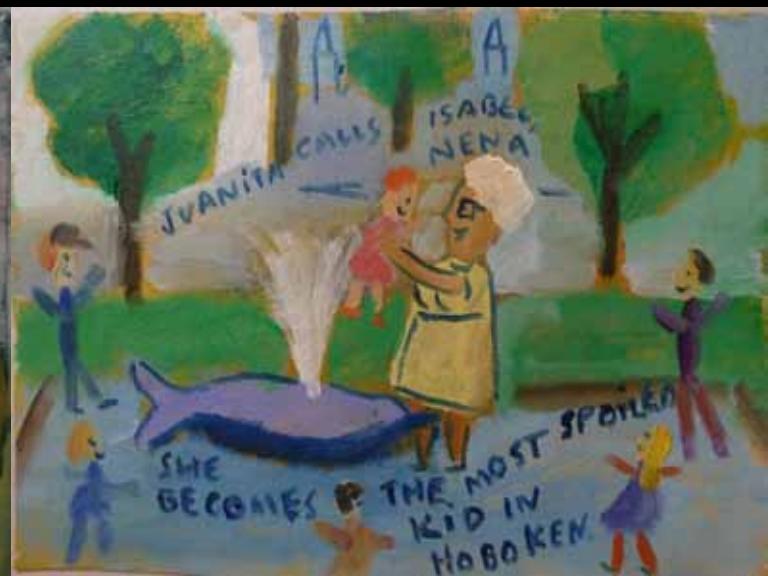
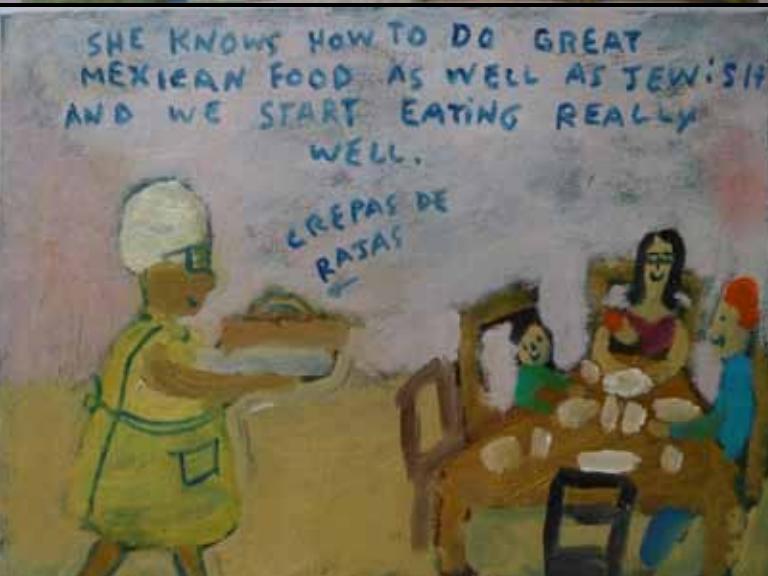
JUST LIKE MAGIC A FEW
WEEKS LATER WE HEAR
A KNOCK AT THE DOOR...

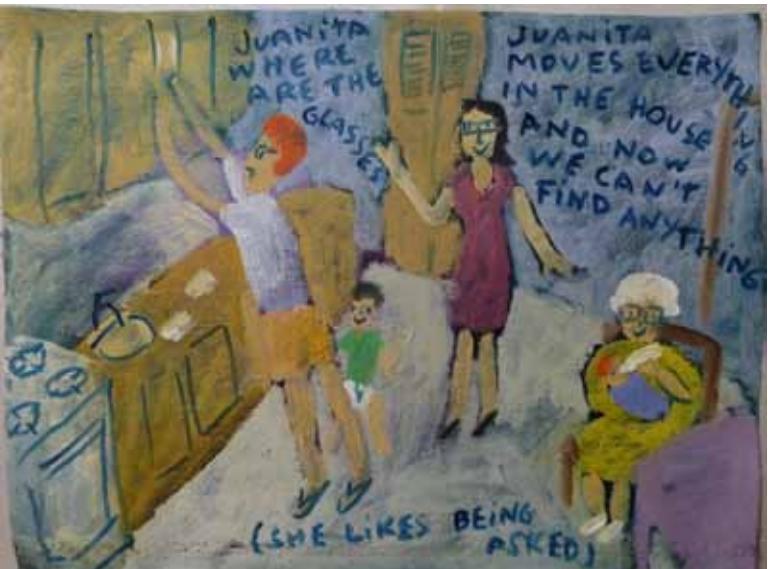


BEFORE WE BLINK JUANITA SETTLES
DOWN AND BECOMES PART OF THE
FAMILY



(WE'RE ALL REALLY HAPPY)

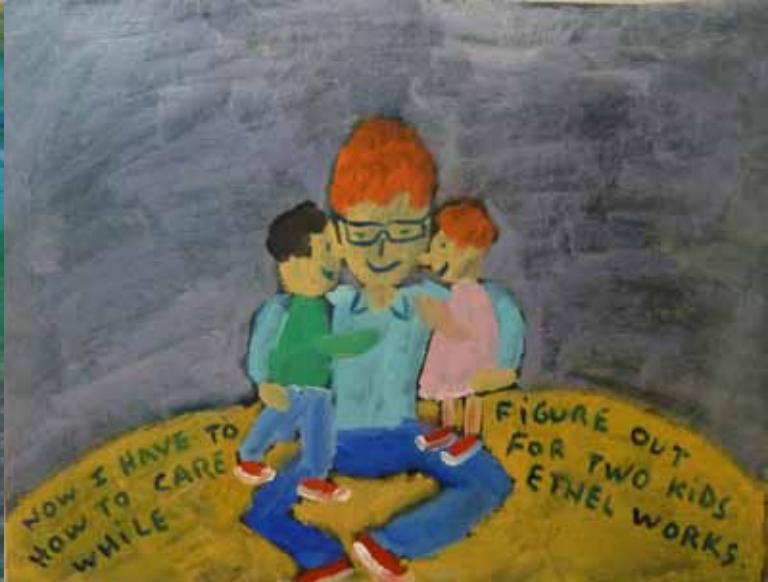








A REAL FATHER

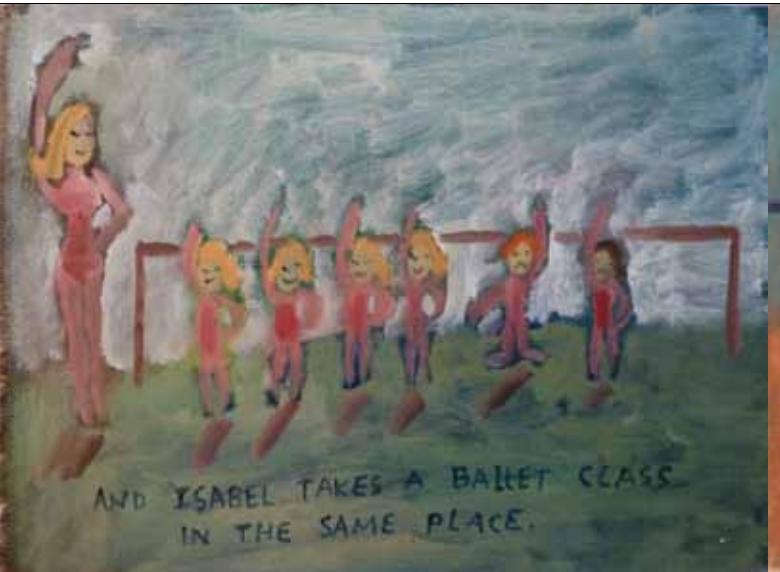






SOME CLASES





AND ISABEL TAKES A BALLET CLASS
IN THE SAME PLACE.



I THINK ISABEL HATES "GIRLY" STUFF
BECAUSE SHE SPENDS A LOT OF TIME WITH
DIEGO AND ME.



THE DAY OF THE BIG BALLET SHOW WE BUY
THE COSTUME EVEN THOUGH ISABEL
REFUSES TO DANCE AND SING.



"NO BAILE, NI CANTE NI NICE NADA DE
NADA"
I FEEL BAD FOR HER BUT I ADMIRE HER
CHARACTER



VAMP









AND IN A
BLINK...

















CBGB





MUSEUM







A painting of a flooded landscape. In the background, a small town with several buildings and a bridge are visible across a body of water. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds. In the foreground, a group of stylized figures with yellow faces and brown bodies are standing on a grassy bank. The overall mood is somber and dramatic.

**...EVERYTHING
ELSE GOES**





AND WE DID
MANAGE TO
RAISE BOTH
VERY WELL

(WE'RE STILL HERE)