

CONTENTS

I. Shoutout to Ed Ruscha

- Hello I Must Be Going 5
- We're This and We're That, Aren't We? 6
- Depths of Despair 8
- Hurry Up Schedule 12
- It's Only Vanishing Cream 14
- Woman on Fire 16
- S.S. Nevertheless 18
- Decibel House 20
- History Kids 21
- These Are Brave Days 22
- Thinking the Same 23
- Falling but Frozen 25
- Historical Dust 28
- A Life that Doubles-Back on Itself 29
- Water Soluble Dreams 30
- Those of Us Who Have Double Parked 32
- Varieties of Internal Torment 33
- Hello I Must Be Going 35
- Uncertain Frontier 36
- Century Sickness 38
- Made in California 39

II. The Silent Docent

- Landscape with Pink Tulips Distorted by Dread 45
- Landscape with Active Shooter Cutting through a National Park 46
- Landscape with Frisbee and Dam Breaking 47
- Landscape with American Sycamore and the Severed Heads of Bees 49
- Landscape with Blurred Figures Running toward the Vanishing Point 51
- Landscape with Pumpjacks Overtaken by Vines 52
- Landscape with Protesters on One Side, Police on the Other,
a Pasture in Between 54
- Landscape with Abandoned Picnic and Flames 56
- Landscape with Doctor Taking a Breather 57
- Landscape with Cheetah Going Seventy in the Serengeti 58
- Still Life (2020) 59

III. Beside Our Breaths

Jean-Michel Basquiat's Bones 63

Ai Weiwei's Middle Finger 65

Marina Abramovic's Gaze 67

Meditation on Impermanence 71

Notes 81

Acknowledgments 83