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For (Matt)

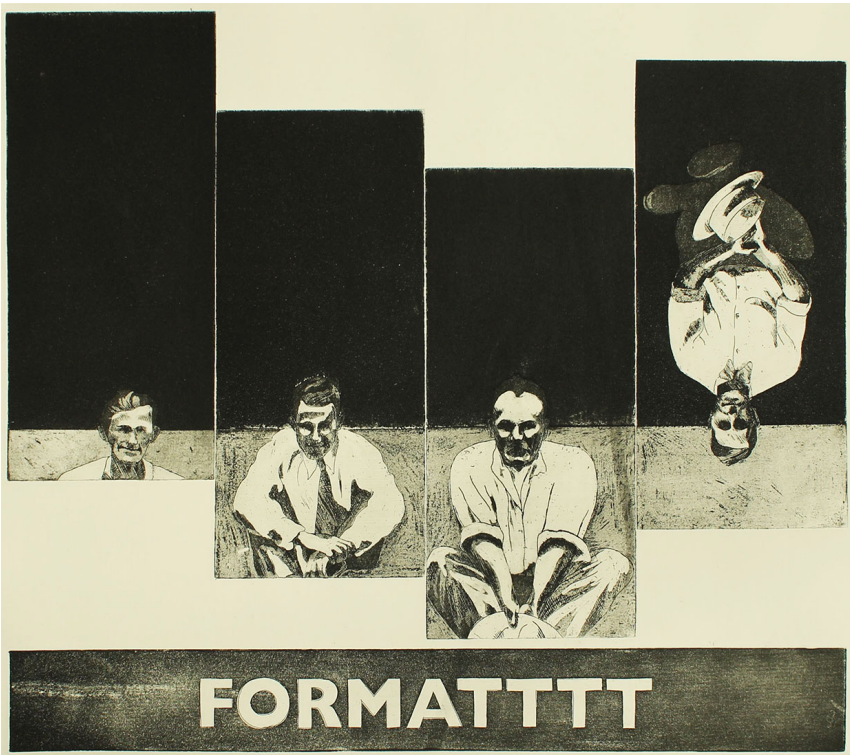
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for(matt)
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Jordan Szala

For two years. A tulip every Sunday, which were days she'd take me by the hand and walk me through the park and we'd run from geese and eat melting ice cream with sticky fingers as she tried not to cry over my father, who moved to America after my wedding, the only time he said I looked beautiful. Lucas sent my mother an invite – out of courtesy, though we both knew she'd never come – and what we got back was a bouquet of tulips. The day of my wedding I went to get my roots redone and the woman who retouched my hair had deep lines in her forehead but she had lovely toned skin and winged eyeliner that even Angelina Jolie would be jealous of. When she washed my hair in the tub she kissed my forehead and asked if I got the flowers. I kissed her ring-less finger and said yes.