

FREDERICKS & FREISER

Steve Gianakos

New Paintings

January 19 through February 18, 2012

Opening Reception January 19, 6pm-8pm

Fredericks & Freiser is pleased to announce an exhibition of new paintings by **Steve Gianakos**. Since the early 1970s **Gianakos** has been taunting and reddening the cheeks of his viewers with perversions that can throw any Freud lover into analytic shock. Dismantling its veracity with a smirk or a shaking of the head, **Gianakos'** work grants us a collective purging that is curiously humorous. Coupled with crisp lines that evoke minimalism's simplicity, Gianakos conflates formalist rigor with mind-bending vulgarity.

Appropriating the iconic style of 1950's children's books, **Gianakos'** characters assume a basic innocence that belies their hyperbolic actions. Violence and sexual impulse are at once portrayed as inherent as they are grossly twisted. Working with only stark black lines, **Gianakos** delivers his punch straight up. His geometric inter-framing both leads the eye into the scene while also disorienting it. Harnessing the grotesque both formally and contextually, **Gianakos** finds a way to astonishingly marry the two.

About the Artist

Steve Gianakos was born in New York City in 1938. Recently he was included in Exile on Main Street, Bonnefantenmuseum Maastricht, Netherlands. His recent solo exhibitions include Daniel Weinberg Gallery, Los Angeles and Alphadelta Gallery, Athens. His work is represented in the collections of the Brooklyn Museum, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art; New York; The New School for Social Research, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; and The Museum of Modern Art, New York. This will be the artist's fifth solo show with Fredericks & Freiser.

Fredericks & Freiser is located at 536 West 24th Street, NYC. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday; 10am to 6pm. Contact us by phone at (212) 633-6555 or Fax: 212 633 7372 or visit us at www.fredericksfreisergallery.com