

MERRY KARNOWSKY GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXHIBITION TITLE: **BRAD BENEDICT'S SIDESHOW: 20th ANNIVERSARY EDITION**

EXHIBITION DATES: **FEBRUARY 9 – MARCH 8, 2008, TUES-SAT 12-6PM**

OPENING RECEPTION: **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2008, 8-11PM**

CONTACT PERSON: **MERRY KARNOWSKY**

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BRAD BENEDICT'S SIDESHOW: 20th ANNIVERSARY EDITION

Merry Karnowsky Gallery is proud to present Brad Benedict's *Sideshow: 20th Anniversary Edition*, which will encompass the entire ground floor of the Art 170 Building, and will feature approximately 6000 square feet of works by 30 diverse artists, including Todd Schorr, Robert Williams and The Pizz.

Curator Brad Benedict is the author of *Phonographics*, *Fame* and *The Blue Book*, which revealed the erotic fantasies of such creators as Andy Warhol. Benedict founded Paper Moon Graphics and created the innovative retail store, Heaven: The Supermarket of Pop Culture. He is also a Grammy-nominated music producer, designer and archivist who has worked with such artists as Frank Sinatra, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Peggy Lee and Louis Prima.

In 1977, Benedict became involved in his first gallery exhibition, which showcased the original album cover art from his book, *Phonographics*. He went on to curate such influential shows as *100 Unpublished Works by 50 Published Artists*, California State University, Northridge (1982); *American Pop Culture Images*, La Foret Museum, Tokyo, Japan (1986); and *Beyond Illustration: The New Pop*, Otis/Parsons College of Art and Design, Los Angeles (1987).

Benedict launched his first *Sideshow* exhibition in 1988, and the shows continued annually through the mid-90s, showcasing a veritable Who's Who of Pop Surrealist, Lowbrow and Underground artists. *Juxtapoz* founder Robert Williams summarizes Benedict's *Sideshow* exhibitions as hosting a "high caliber of both underground and commercial artists headed in a fine art direction. Brad's most major contribution was in the primary assembling of these talents, getting them work and showing them. The effects of this are still being felt."

For More Information please contact Merry Karnowsky at mkgallery@mindspring.com, 323.933.4408