



GEMINI G.E.L. AT JONI MOISANT WEYL

Joel Shapiro

Boat, Bird, Mother and Child

November 10 – December 12, 2009

The nine colorful screenprints recently created by **Joel Shapiro** in collaboration with the Los Angeles-based artist workshop, Gemini G.E.L. will be on view from November 10 – December 12, 2009 at **Gemini G.E.L. at Joni Moisant Weyl**.

Joel Shapiro is perhaps best-known for his large sculptures in which he uses color and form to highlight and set apart individual elements of the work of art. He has flawlessly brought this same sculptural language to a new series of works on paper, titled *Boat, Bird, Mother and Child*.

Shapiro is highly regarded for his ability to manipulate volume, space, weight and mass, regardless of the medium. Many of his sculptures and works on paper, though grounded in geometry, hold visible references to the human figure. The tension within his energetic forms is heightened by the severe angles created by intersecting blocks of wood or bronze, or in the case of his prints, through color and form. The intersection between abstraction and figuration that prevails in his sculptural work has been explored in a new dimension in this body of prints. In his collaboration at the Gemini workshop, Shapiro created dynamic spatial relationships on paper through the screenprinting process, and in the instance of three prints, included collaged elements for added dialogue.

Born and raised in New York City, Shapiro is the recipient of numerous awards including the Skowhegan Medal for Sculpture. His work has been included in countless group exhibitions and has been the subject of nearly 150 solo exhibitions since he began his career in 1970 with his groundbreaking show at the Paula Cooper Gallery.

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