

Alexander and Bonin

EXHIBITION: Matthew Benedict: *The Magus and other tales*

DATES: March 5 - April 25, 1998

LOCATION: 132 Tenth Avenue between 18th and 19th

HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday, 10am to 6pm

Matthew Benedict will have a one person show at Alexander and Bonin opening on March 5th. Benedict previously exhibited a project at Brooke Alexander and drawings at Janice Guy in 1995 and in the windows of the Grey Art Gallery in 1993.

Since 1989, Benedict has worked in various mediums to express his interest in literary and mythic subjects. Some of his initial subjects were disasters such as the destruction of the Hindenberg and Titanic, and the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. The pirate Blackbeard, Hawthorne's *Scarlet Letter*, detective stories and tattooing were also early themes. Through embroideries, paintings on paper and object pieces, Benedict has more recently investigated *Moby Dick*, Masonic rituals and saints.

The exhibition at Alexander and Bonin will present recent work in gouache on paper and wood as well as embroideries and stencil works. Stylistically his work draws from illustration and the decorative arts and Benedict expresses different facets of his subjects through these various materials.

Matthew Benedict was born in Rockville, CT in 1968 and studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and The New School. He has participated in group exhibitions at Feature, White Columns, Robert Prime, London and Mai 36 Galerie, Zürich. Since 1992 he has frequently read his poetry for the Verbal Abuse series and is the recipient of foundation awards from the Joan Mitchell Foundation (1994) and the Penny McCall Foundation (1997).