

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Steven Parrino

19 April through 26 May 2001

Team will present new work by Steven Parrino from the 19th of April through the 26th of May 2001. The gallery is located at 527 West 26th Street, cross streets Tenth and Eleventh Avenues, on the ground floor.

This exhibition will be made up of two distinct bodies of work. On view in the front space will be four Op-art/Expressionist hybrid paintings made under the collective title *Skeletal Implosion Series*. These circular paintings, seven feet in diameter, were created by Parrino as condensations of every post-War painting strategy with which he has identified. The echoes run the gamut from Jackson Pollock to Bridget Riley, from Frank Stella to Andy Warhol.

Resembling giant discarded condoms, or beach balls that have imploded, these new stripe paintings pulsate with a vibrancy that moves his punk-minimalist project forward with great force. Parrino continues to explore the poetic distortions available within the confines of minimalist legacy, exploring and deifying the deformed with a classical structure — a generous, committed, and gentle art made by a painter both radical and academic.

On view in the back space is a site-specific installation made from shattered Sheetrock entitled *13 Shattered Panels (for Joey Ramone)*. Parrino will line the gallery with thirteen pieces of Sheetrock, each of which has been painted black. The artist then smashes each of the sheets with a blow from a sledgehammer. The 4 by 8-foot panels break in half, crashing and collapsing into the corner where the wall meets the gallery floor. Streaks like claw prints mark the descent down the white wall while the gallery floor contains the rubble of the performative event. Although Parrino has created these violent sheetrock happenings all over Europe, one has never been seen in the US.

One could say that Steven Parrino, as an artist, has been obstinate and tenacious, however, within a confined set of parameters he has invented a practice and excelled at its constant reinterpretation. An intense dedication, coupled with a pliant rigor has kept his work alive and finds it forever sparking the interest of younger viewers. Parrino's "accidents" revere and reject painting's complacency and speak of the discipline at the heart of any rejection of conformity.

Parrino's work has been shown at museums and galleries in Paris, Milano, Amsterdam, Koln, Geneva, Torino, Vienna, Dijon, Tokyo, Zurich, Stockholm, Berlin, Nice, London, Kassel, and Jersey City. Among the many museums where his work has been shown are the Ludwig, the Museum Fridericianum, the Centraal Museum, the Altes Museum, and the Centre Georges Pompidou.

This is Parrino's third solo show at Team. Gallery hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 11am to 6pm. For further information and/or photographs, please call 212.279.9219.