

Jonathan Ferrara Gallery Presents Etchings and Mixed media  
by artists Tony Fitzpatrick, Michael Pajon and Catherine Brooks  
in conjunction with *Southern Graphics Council International 2012*



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 1, 2012: In conjunction with **SGCI 2012**, **Jonathan Ferrara Gallery** is proud to announce a group exhibition featuring copper plate etchings by renowned Chicago artist Tony Fitzpatrick, mixed media collage by Michael Pajon, and color aquatints by Catherine Brooks.

Chicago-born **Tony Fitzpatrick** began his career in New York in the 1980s, spending much of his time in Washington Square Park and selling drawings on the sidewalk. Keith Haring and Jean-Michel Basquiat were among early supporters, buying his art and introducing Tony to New York galleries.

Tony has since had work shown in galleries in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, and London. In September 2007 Tony was awarded a solo show at MOMA's PS1, and in May 2008 a 10-year retrospective titled *The Wonder, Portraits of a Remembered City* opened at The Chicago Cultural Center. His artwork has been used on several album covers, including The Neville Brothers' *Yellow Moon* and Steve Earle's *Washington Square Serenade*.

Fitzpatrick's art typically blends cartoon-like drawings and found-images, such as baseball cards and matchbooks, with poetic or narrative description. His main subjects have been Chicago, New Orleans and his most recent Hobo Series, based upon the Hobo Sign Language of the 1930s.

Tony Fitzpatrick's works are in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami. He is an accomplished poet and has published several books of his art and poetry, including *The Hard Angels* and *The Neighborhood*. As an actor he has appeared in numerous films, including *Mad Dog and Glory*, *Philadelphia*, *Primal Fear*, *Married to the Mob*, and *U.S. Marshals*.

**Michael Pajon**, also a Chicago native, worked as an assistant and studio manager to Tony Fitzpatrick after his graduation from the Art Institute of Chicago in 2003, where his focus was printmaking. As a child, Pajon taught himself to draw by copying the pages of Frank Miller's *Batman*, Jim Lee's *X-Men*, and EC comic reprints. He had also developed a habit of collecting not only comics, but old magazines and things that most would deem trash. These early habits inform his current series of mixed media assemblages- created from bits and pieces he has accumulated from alleys, junkshops, and thrift stores, slicing up old children's book covers and rearranging their innards into disjointed narratives. In 2009 Pajon left Chicago and currently resides in New Orleans.

**Catherine Brooks** has a BA in printmaking from Evergreen State College (2001) and an MFA in painting and printmaking from Virginia Commonwealth University (2011). In the time between her two degrees, Catherine Brooks worked as a professional printer of etching, training in Paris with French Maître d'Art, René Tazé and eventually becoming a Master Printer herself at Crown Point Press. She currently works as the Assistant Director and Master Printer at Black Shamrock Press in Chicago, IL.

