

Louis Stern Fine Arts is pleased to present

# **Roger Kuntz**

## ***Signs of LA***

**Opening reception**  
**Saturday, January 7, 5-8 PM**  
**Exhibition continues through February 18th, 2012**

*Santa Ana South, Do Not Enter, One Way, Double Arrow 90 or Asphalt Triple Arrows;* the titles tell the tale. Life in Los Angeles is filled with signs most frequently viewed from the inside of a car. Yet, in Roger Kuntz's re-telling, complete with solid backgrounds of bright blue, soft grey or spring green, all these markers become symbols; advice made graphic or directions devoid of threat, pure visual stimuli and fresh-eyed re-inventions of the subject material.

Though Kuntz is frequently described as an American landscape painter, his 'Freeway' and 'Sign' series, executed between 1959 and 1962, signal the artist's exploration of a "middle ground" between figurative and non-figurative painting. Also, his imagery represents a dramatic shift in the thematic investigations of his painterly predecessors: the American Scene painters of the 30's and 40's.

A long time California resident, Kuntz captured the suggestive graphics of signs, underpasses, ramps and concrete canyons with a post-modern detachment played out in full sun. Then and now, the Kuntz Freeway paintings offer a dazzling visual riff on a mainstay of Southern California life.

The gallery is pleased to present the exhibition as a participating gallery in the Getty initiative *Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980*.

**Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday 10AM – 6PM; Saturday 11AM – 5PM**

**For further information contact the gallery  
at 310-276-0147 or [info@louissternfinearts.com](mailto:info@louissternfinearts.com)**