

Louis Stern Fine Arts is pleased to present

**Karl Benjamin
and the Evolution of Abstraction
1950-1980**

**Opening reception for the artist
Saturday, September 24th, 5-8 PM
Exhibition continues through December 24th, 2011**

Karl Benjamin did not set out to become one of the founding fathers of Hard Edge painting. His plan was to write. However, in 1950 while attempting to offer art instruction, along with reading and writing, to his classroom of sixth graders, Karl Benjamin discovered painting, switched his allegiance to the visual arts and the rest is history.

In the course of his lengthy career, Benjamin and his luminous, grid-based paintings have earned accolades from colleagues, collectors and curators alike. The artist's thirty-year trajectory, catalogued in this exhibition, could serve as a guide for the evolution of American abstract painting. Benjamin's meticulous exploration of color, his intuitive understanding of complex spatial relationships and the sheer joie de vivre with which each canvas announces itself to the viewer are, in equal parts, impeccable and irresistible.

In a 2008 interview, Benjamin commented, "I wasn't thinking about a career in art; I just wanted to make beautiful paintings." This selection of paintings should persuade anyone with eyes that the artist has more than succeeded. He has triumphed.

The gallery is the exclusive representative of the artist, and is pleased to present the exhibition as a participating gallery in the Getty initiative *Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980*. The exhibition is accompanied by a full-color catalogue with text by Suzanne Muchnic.

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

**For further information contact the gallery
at 310-276-0147 or info@louissternfinearts.com**