



154 1/2 north la brea avenue
los angeles, california 90036
323 931-1311
www.dnjpgallery.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXHIBITION: **The Age of Innocence:
Holly Andres, Sarah Bierman, Pamela Mayers-Schoenberg and Brian Sorg**

SHOW DATES: **February 16 – March 29, 2008**

RECEPTION: **Saturday, February 16, 6-8 pm**

GALLERY HOURS: **Tuesday - Saturday 10-6**

DNJ Gallery is pleased to announce its upcoming exhibition "The Age of Innocence" featuring the work of Holly Andres, Sarah Bierman, Pamela Mayers-Schoenberg and Brian Sorg.

Holly Andres' eight photographs from the series, "Stories from a Short Street," are inspired by the experience of growing up the youngest of ten children. Each character and image is loosely based on her real-life siblings and memories. Andres is interested in revisiting, recreating and preserving history, and fascinated with the interweaving of fact and fiction. For instance, in "Fiona II," a young girl in her living room hovers over a sea of carefully arranged paper dolls; and, in "Calvin," a boy sits on the couch with the cool glow of the television lighting his face. These carefully arranged scenes suggest a cross between Renaissance portraiture and modern day references such as "Little House on the Prairie."

Sarah Bierman derives her work from her fascination with childhood experiences. It was her young niece's increasing ability to articulate her thoughts and feelings that first inspired her to start photographing children. Her niece had a powerful imagination, and yet was intensely vulnerable because of her lack of understanding about the world. In the series "4,5,6," Bierman conveys a strange sense of tension between the viewer and photograph. At times, the children seem to be in harms way: alone in a basement filled with boxes, reaching for a closed door or in a stark white room, hands raised towards the lone, small window above. The young children she photographs are always alone in the frame, seemingly lost in their own reality. Fantasy intermingles seamlessly with reality: children dressed in play clothes, absorbed by toys or their own emotions, ignoring the world around them.

Pamela Mayers-Schoenberg studies the relationships between children as they transition into adulthood. The series, "Boys," started when she met Billy and his friends while she was photographing in south St. Louis. These boys lead Mayers-Schoenberg through many, sometimes risky, activities. As in one image, we see Billy and his friend huddled by a small fire they most likely started. Again, other boys, stand atop mounds of rocks and branches by the river, depicting a "Lord of the Flies" like scenario. After previously studying various traditional families, Mayers-Schoenberg demonstrates in this series how a group of thirteen-year-olds boys form their own family. The dominant mood changes throughout the photographs, with the friends exhibiting bouts of immaturity as well as confidence.

Brian Sorg's series, "Davey," is a 4-year project that also follows the awkward stages of adolescence. His subject, Davey, first enters high school a boy, and emerges a young adult. Sorg met Davey while he was photographing a small Southwest suburb of Chicago. What started as a series of portraits of Davey, turned into a weekly photographic journey. From Davey's home life to his friends and their trouble-making, Sorg captures Davey in a series of intimate images that suggest Sorg is just a follower of Davey's actions. At the same time, Sorg became a positive role model for a boy with little parental guidance.

Please contact the gallery for more information or images.