

# shfap

Press Release:

**Clintel Steed**

*Quarantine drawings*

July 28 - September 3, 2021

Wednesday - Saturday

12-6 pm and by appointment at 917-861-731



In our rear gallery, Steven Harvey Fine Art Projects presents *Quarantine Drawings*, a series of drawings by Clintel Steed (b. 1977) done during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Steed received his BFA from the Art Institute of Chicago in 1999 and his MFA from Indiana University. He now lives and works in New York, and teaches drawing at the New York Studio School, including a course entitled “Drawing at the Met.” Steed’s work is a complex, energetic organization of forms with a fractured yet sensitive touch. This series was inspired by his reading of Carl Jung’s *Psychology and Alchemy* as well as Andrei Tarkovsky’s *Andrei Rublev* and Greek reliefs. Though he plays with electronic images and cityscapes, his work displays a deep connection to the importance of love, contact, and relationality. These works made with graphite and ink on paper are chaotic and layered, with overlapping figures and scenes inspired by the corona virus pandemic, including hospitals and graveyards. They are loose and informal, but all the more effective and emotional in their immediacy, evoking both intense isolation and panic, and intimate, quiet moments of touch and connection. Several pieces continue Steed’s practice of making “transcriptions” of old master paintings, with overt references to religious iconography and painting styles. Some of them are more improvisational or synthetic, derived either from his imagination or images that Steed was looking at throughout the pandemic.

Born in Salt Lake City in 1977 and raised in a devoutly Pentecostal Christian household in Utah, Clintel’s childhood centered around the church. This devotion prominently figures in his work to this day as an exploration of moments, feelings, situations and experiences through art.

Steven Harvey Fine Art Projects has featured Steed’s work in two previous exhibitions, as part of a two-person exhibition with painter Todd Bienvenu in 2015, and in a solo show entitled *Endymion* in 2016. He was the recipient of the American Academy of Arts and Letters John Koch Award in 2015.

**steven harvey** fine art projects

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