

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

76 GRAND STREET NEW YORK NY 10013



## LANE TWITCHELL ***STATE OF THE UNION***

SEPTEMBER 9 – OCTOBER 9 1999  
OPENING RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 9, 6:00PM TO 8:00PM

*State of the Union*, an exhibition of new work by Lane Twitchell, opens September 9<sup>th</sup> at Deitch Projects. The theme of the exhibition is historical, religious and personal myth making. The two major works in the show explore how the events of individuals' lives become mythologized.

Lane Twitchell has an unusual background for a vanguard artist. He is a practicing Mormon who draws on his religious heritage in his approach toward his art. His works often embrace Mormon history and the history of the American West. Twitchell has developed a unique technique built upon folded and cut paper, which connects with aspects of traditional handicrafts like lace making. Twitchell is interested in using techniques that relate to vernacular artistic forms, enabling a broader audience, unschooled in the vocabulary of vanguard art to more easily enter the work. The largest work in the exhibition is based on two mythic figures in Mormon history. Joseph Smith, Jr., the first prophet of the Mormon Church and Philo T. Farnsworth, the inventor of the first all-electronic television. The work traces parallels in the lives of the two men, who were born roughly 100 years apart.

The other major work is the artist's meditation on the course of art history over the past 49 years. It is inspired by Jackson Pollock's *Number 31*, 1950, intersected with the history of Twitchell's parents, who were married in 1950, and their family. The work's imagery is located in the American West and weaves in Mormon history and the theological foundations of Mormon polygamy.

Lane Twitchell was born in Salt Lake City in 1967. He studied at the University of Utah and at the School of Visual Arts, New York. He has lived in New York since 1993. During the past year he has been a participant in the P. S. 1 National Studio Program. He received a Rena Hort Mann Foundation Grant in 1998 and a New York Foundation for the Arts Drawing Fellowship in 1999.

**For more information, contact Liz Alderman at Deitch Projects  
TEL (212) 343 7300 FAX (212) 343 2954  
DEITCH PROJECTS Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 12 - 6**