

## **Barron Storey**

### **Statement: Cardboard Town**

The 700 billion dollar bailout. People living on the streets with stolen grocery store shopping carts for homes. Years of greed and lies. Years of money sucking speculation. The editor of The Wall Street Journal warns that bailout plans steal from future generations. He calls it "child abuse" to focus attention, compares it to telling a bed time story to his children:

"Someone is going to take your piggy bank."

The greed advocates blame people who can't pay their home mortgages.

I teach in expensive art schools that are surrounded by homeless people. I've seen this contrast for over a decade. I decided to draw these things, these people, the greed. Started in Las Vegas where greed should have been evident. It wasn't. Gamblers there were petty. At home in San Francisco, I began to study the shopping cart people. They were zombie like, the living dead. They were poor, it seemed to me, though I'm told that most are mentally disturbed, many are drug addicted. It doesn't matter. I'll draw them.

"Homeless zombies are coming to take your piggy bank", I heard the man saying to his child.

I knew where those people lived. In the trash strewn lots behind my art schools. Places where the homes had no mortgages because they were made of cardboard. A song had tuned me in to cardboard towns. "...writes the last shall be first and the first shall be last... on a cardboard box beneath the underpass". Bruce was right about cardboard boxes. I saw them everywhere the homeless people congregated. Cardboard towns. I heard the Wall Street man's bed time story again.

"Homeless zombies from cardboard town are coming to take your piggy bank, Charlie." Charlie asked his dad to give his piggy bank to the zombies. "Why, Charlie?". "I like zombies", Charlie said.

This was in my imagination; but the cardboard towns were real. I had seen them. Almost every day. When I was fortunate enough to be asked by Bert Green to do some drawings, it seemed like they should deal with these subjects that had been on my mind. I called the whole group of them... Cardboard Town.

## **Barron Storey Exhibition Resume**

### **Solo Exhibitions**

#### **2009**

Cardboard Town, Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA

Life After Black, Society of Illustrators, New York, NY

#### **1999**

Fong Gallery, San Jose, CA

#### **1979**

Society of Illustrators, New York, NY

### **Group Exhibitions**

#### **2007**

Victims, Gallery Anno Domini, San Jose, CA

Graphic Novel Art, Ghent and Brussels, Belgium

Fresh Produce, Gallery Anno Domini, San Jose, CA

Osseus Labyrinth Retrospective, Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA

#### **2006**

Fresh Produce, Gallery Anno Domini, San Jose, CA

#### **2005**

Fresh Produce, Gallery Anno Domini, San Jose, CA

Former Faculty Show, Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA

#### **2003**

Black Iraq, Gallery Anno Domini, San Jose, 2003

#### **2001**

Screever, Upper Playground Gallery, San Francisco, CA

More B.S. Than You Can Throw A Stick At, Gallery Anno Domini, San Jose

#### **1991**

Unfunny Comics, Fobbo Gallery, San Francisco, CA

#### **1985**

Southern Exposure Gallery, San Francisco, CA

#### **1980**

National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C.

#### **1970s**

U. S. Information Agency, Moscow

#### **1960s – 1980s**

Regular contributor to The Society of Illustrators Annual Shows, New York, NY