

# Ronald Feldman Fine Arts

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## KOMAR & MELAMID

### **TransState**

**May 14-June 30, 1977**

Vitaly Komar and Alexander Melamid, the two-man team of Soviet satirical artists, will exhibit new work at the Feldman Gallery including:

**TransState** is a new nation created by the artists with passports, money, Declaration of Independence and Constitution, etc. It consists of a border post and three vitrines of documents.

**Scroll:** The biographies of the artists are written on this scroll in the Arooist Language which they devised.

**Prophet Obadiah:** Without altering the holy canonic text, the artists have expressed the changes in the tonal image of the Bible under different reading conditions -- morning, day, evening, and artificial lights of different intensity

**Farewell to Russia** documents a ritual of black magic performed in Moscow in which Komar and Melamid exorcise their attachment to the land of their birth by piercing photo-icons -- the embodiment of their ancestral Russian spirit. The work consists of two parts: eighteen wooden tablets with photographs of the artists performing the above ritual. The tablets have been chopped by an axe and pierced by a knitting needle. The second part is a tape which records eighteen times the "magic incantations" recited during the Ritual.

**Cut-off Corner Series** "demonstrates the right of the artist to an anti-individual style. The cut-off corner is 'we' or our position with respect to the History of Art."