The New York Times
Nytimes.com
February 3, 2012
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Inside Art
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A week in the "Body Configurations" series (1976) by Yvonne Yard. Exported by the Museum of Modern Art, the exhibition closed at the Guggenheim Museum, and the place is not noticeably quieter. Nearby, the Guggenheim's retrospective — wacky creations that included the eerie image of Pope John Paul II, killed by a machete-wielding, old lady stuffed into a refrigerator, even the artist himself as a preadolescent boy in a tricycle — all dancing from ropes down the Fleece Lloyd Wright rotunda. The show was a final curtain call of sorts. When the exhibition opened in November, the 50-year-old Mr. Cattelan said that it was the end of his art making. Well, we haven't heard the last of him after all. Maybe he wasn't making his after disturbing and whimsical pieces anymore, but as he said by telephone from Milan, Italy, this week, "When I called for early retirement, I never said I'd be unemployed." On Feb. 10 in Manhattan, Mr. Cattelan will open a new exhibition space at 50 West 21st Street, next door to one of Guggenheim's two Chelsea galleries. The nonprofit space is a sequel to the Wrong Gallery, a minimum exhibition space that Mr. Cattelan and the curators Maurizio Gioni and Ali Schmitz run on West 21st Street from 2001 until 2003. It then re-opened at the Tate Modern in London, but closed in 2008.

Family Business will be honored in part by the Bard Center for Curatorial Studies, in Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y. "It's a museum in miniature," said Tom Eccles, executive director of the center. "This will give our students a presence in the heart of New York." Bard's won't be the only students involved in Family Business. The artist and teacher Marilyn Minter has organized the inaugural exhibition, called "The Virgin's Star." It will be work by young artists who are either past or present students from the two graduate schools where she teaches, the School of Visual Arts and Yale University Art School. None of these artists have shown their work outside their academic environments. "It's a unique experience," Ms. Minter said. "All of a sudden there's a new crop of abstract painters," she explained when asked what the work was like. "I think it's a trend." Rather than painting on conventional canvases, these so-called virgins have painted on everything from patty hose to signs found on the street. "The art world takes itself too seriously," Ms. Minter said. "We're trying to have some fun." The space won't be exclusively for fine art. Ms. Minter said that a band from Williamsburg, Brooklyn, appropriately called the Virgin, will play at the opening.