

Bankowsky, Jack. "Best of 2012: William Leavitt, *The Particles of White Naugahyde*." *Artforum* (December 2012), p. 210-211.

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WILLIAM LEAVITT, *THE PARTICLES (OF WHITE NAUGAHYDE)* (MARGO LEAVIN GALLERY, LOS ANGELES) That "the new" may be fated to forever look like *The Jetsons*, which is to say the living room of a mid-century-modern ranch house, is a mystery that has everything to do with Leavitt's favored mise-en-scène, though it's only one of the broader absurdities that motors *The Particles (of White Naugahyde)*, a play he wrote in 1979 and finally staged this year as part of "Pacific Standard Time." Meet Tom and Nina, as their family vies for a place in NASA's space colony from a test community on Earth, and their mysterious neighbors the Van Horns, as white as Wonder Bread, save for the fact that they turn out to be moldy. Leavitt, like John Cheever or A. M. Homes, is a poet of suburbia, but with a bit o' Beckett and a lot of *Saturday Night Live* thrown in.



5. Left: William Leavitt, *The Particles (of White Naugahyde)*, 1979. Rehearsal view, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, January 25, 2012. Kristopher Logan.