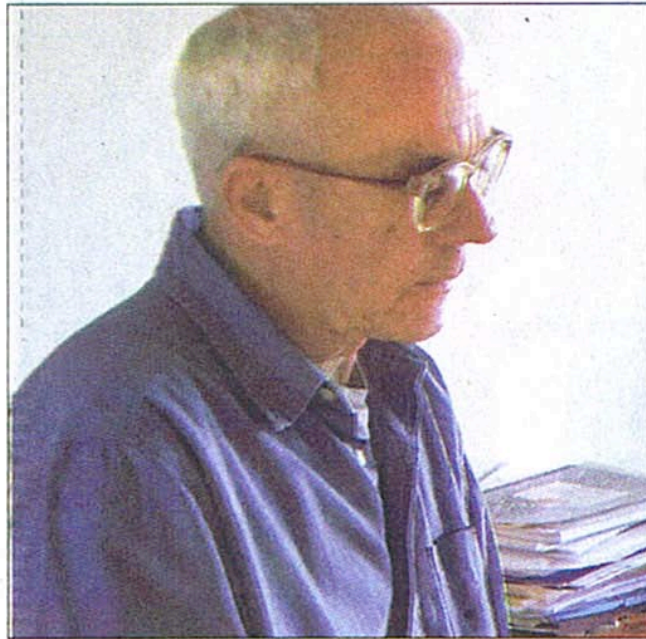


Knight, Christopher. "Faces to Watch 2011: William Leavitt." *Los Angeles Times*, 2 January 2011, p. E6.

FACES TO WATCH 2011



MOCA

WILLIAM LEAVITT

LOS ANGELES ARTIST

Can ordinariness be phenomenal? In William Leavitt's hands, the answer is an unequivocal yes.

For 40 years the L.A.-based artist, 69, has plumbed the shallows of quotidian modern experience, with its plastic lawn chairs, stale air and potted trees. There he has found what one critic pegged early on as a "cozy banality" that is unexpectedly poignant, sometimes creepy, periodically funny and otherwise deeply affecting.

Not surprisingly, given his focus, Leavitt has long operated just under the radar of the flashy surface of new art. That will come to an end soon. In March the Museum of Contemporary Art will present a full retrospective of sculptural tableaux, paintings, works on paper, photographs and performances by the artist, spanning 1969 to the present.