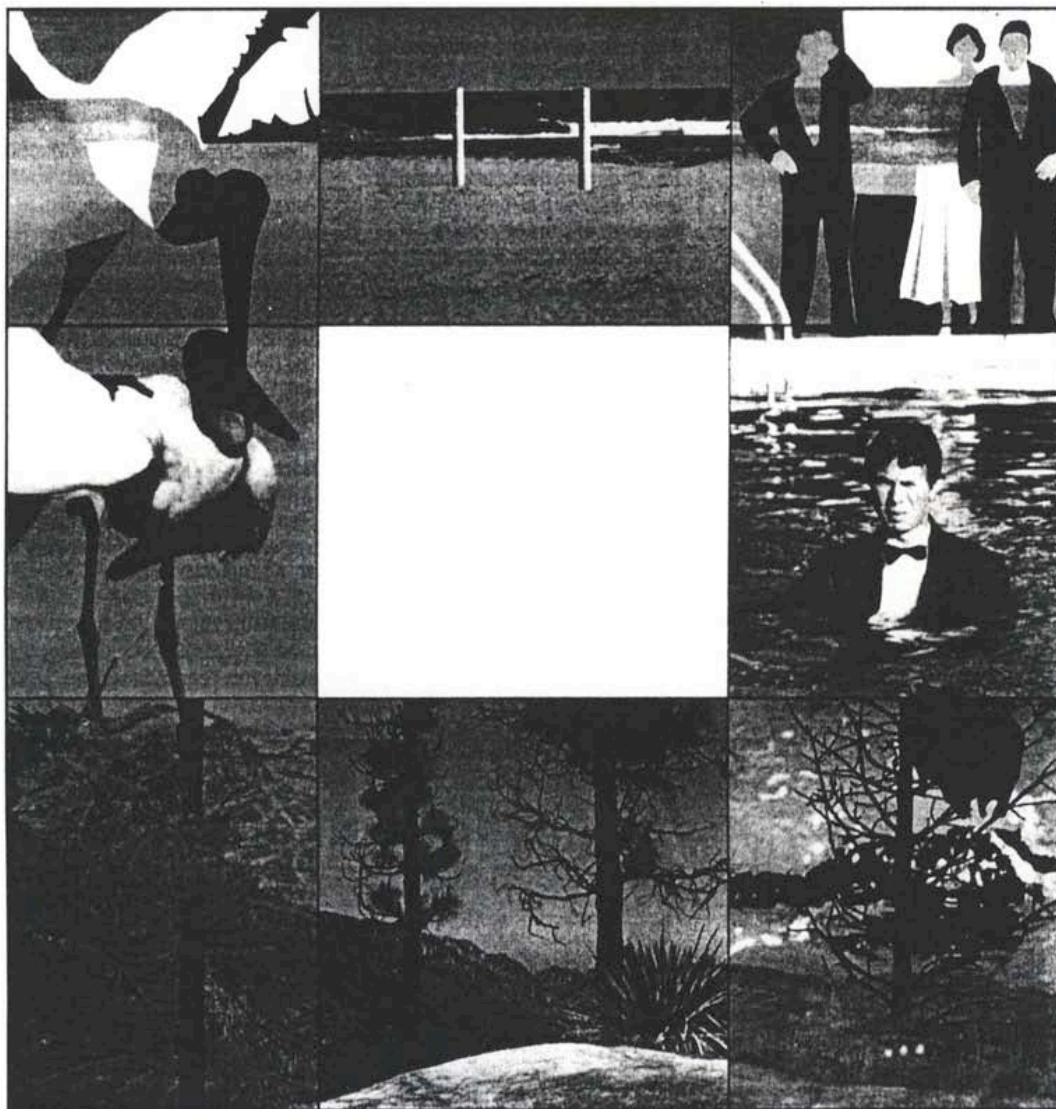


Douglas, Sarah. Review. *The Art Newspaper* (November 2002), p. 9.



**John Baldessari New Work: Junctions and Intersections
Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles**

John Baldessari is back—and as inscrutable as ever. In this, his eighth solo show at Margo Leavin (until 7 December), the conceptualist continues his Intersection Series with 10 large scale paintings and inaugurates the Junction Series. If these titles sound abstract, they are well-suited to the work: in both series, movie stills are juxtaposed to evocative, often mysterious effect, with photographs by Baldessari himself. Baldessari made his name as an artist in the 1960s with a heady, sometimes jokey, brand of conceptualism that played with words and images, often involving cryptic captions under pictures. During the past 30 years, he has become known as a teacher at California art schools CalArts and UCLA, which produced many of today's conceptual art stars. With a refreshing lack of allegiance to any particular medium, Baldessari has hopped and skipped from video, to painting, to films, books and photographs. The Intersections and Junctions may stump those who attempt to tease out meaning from them, but it is thrilling enough to witness the workings of Baldessari's hyperactive mind with its vast store of visual reference points (above, "Junction series: Seascape, Landscape, Cranes, Person in Water, 2002"). S.D.