

METRO PICTURES

Finkel, Jori. "Three Exhibitions to See in Los Angeles This Weekend," *TheArtNewspaper.com* (December 13, 2018).



THE ART NEWSPAPER



No other artist has made quite as much from the tissue-thin plastic bags that you get from delis or Chinese take-out, known as "single-use" bags in the cities where they've been banned, as B. Wurtz. His witty readymade-inspired show at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (until 3 February 2019), curated by Jamillah James, features a minimal tree-like structure whose branches bloom with these plastic bags, and another where the everyday material looks vaguely like fluid bags for an IV drip. For the work at the show's entrance, which has the resourcefulness-verging-on-cleverness of a Fischli/Weiss piece, he has painted the backs of disposable baking pans, like loaf tins, in colorful geometric patterns and hung them salon-style on a wall. This show is billed as the first major museum survey for Wurtz, a Pasadena native who got his master of fine arts degree at CalArts in 1980 before moving to New York, and it's just the right size to showcase his ephemeral-seeming gestures without aggrandizing them.