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Los Angeles Times

Best art of 2018: Jasper Johns, Renaissance nudes, 'Made in L.A.' and a sleeper hit at LACMA

By CHRISTOPHER KNIGHT | ART CRITIC | DEC 11, 2018 | 9:00 AM



The U.S. flag is projected on the Broad museum in downtown L.A. in conjunction with "Jasper Johns: Something Resembling Truth." (Genaro Molina / Los Angeles Times)

In chronological order of their opening, these were the 10 most engaging art museum exhibitions that I saw this year within L.A.'s immediate orbit. (Good news for the holiday break: Six of them are still on view.)

“Jasper Johns: Something Resembling Truth,” The Broad

A big survey, not a full retrospective, the show offered a deep, satisfying dive into how Jasper Johns’ work launched a compelling critique of pure abstraction in the 1950s and beyond, changing American art’s direction. [Review](#). [Feature](#). [Performance review](#).



Installers mount "Three Flags" in preparation for the opening of "Jasper Johns: Something Resembling Truth" at the Broad museum in downtown L.A. (Allen J. Schaben / Los Angeles Times)

“Tony DeLap: A Retrospective,” Laguna Art Museum

By 1974, Tony DeLap was making eye-bending hybrids of paintings and sculptures, distinctive for their mix of craftsmanship and discerning wit. [Review](#).



A square canvas intersects with a circular one in Tony DeLap's "Thauma II," 1986, acrylic, wood, canvas. (Laguna Art Museum)