

U-T San Diego: 'National Gallery acquires De Wain Valentine work', by James Chute, July 26th, 2012

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De Wain Valentine's «Blue Rose Circle,» 1978 (detail), cast polyester resin. Scott White Contemporary Art

Artist De Wain Valentine, one of the key figures in the California Light & Space movement, has achieved the art world's equivalent of the hat trick.

Last year, New York's Museum of Modern Art acquired "Triple Disk Red Metal Flake — Black Edge."

Then, the Getty featured his "Gray Column" in one of its "Pacific Standard Time" offerings, "From Start to Finish — De Wain Valentine's Gray Column" (it's now on exhibit at the Martin-Gropius-Bau in Berlin).

Now, the Los Angeles-based artist's "Blue Rose Circle" has been acquired by the National Gallery in Washington, D.C., according to Valentine's dealer, the La Jolla-based Scott White Contemporary Art.

"This tremendous honor solidifies De Wain's place within the context of the history of American art," the gallery declared in a statement.

The Getty was already calling Valentine "one of the most influential sculptors active in Los Angeles in the 1960s and 1970s." He had several works in Pacific Standard Time, including pieces in the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego's PST offering, "Phenomenal: California Light, Space, Surface."

From Scott White Contemporary Art: "As a pioneer of the Light & Space movement, Valentine has brought international recognition to Southern California's artistic practice and legacy."