

ARTPEOPLE

David Gebhard, 68, an architectural historian who specialized in the architecture of California, died of a heart attack in March. Author of many books including co-author with Robert Winter of "A Guide to Architecture in Los Angeles and Southern California", as well as one about Northern California, Gebhard was a curator of more than 25 exhibitions at various California museums, as well as former president of the Society of Architectural Historians.

Odysseus Elytis, 84 and Poet and Nobel Laureate, also wrote art criticism about Picasso, Matisse and Giacometti. He also created collages, but he was mostly famous for the celebration of Greek myths and landscape.

Meyer Schapiro, a legend in his own time as multi-disciplinary critic and historian, galvanic teacher, life-long radical and for more than 50 years a pre-eminent figure in the intellectual life of New York, died at the age of 91 in his Greenwich Village home.

Doc T. Nevaquaya, a Comanche artist and flutist who was named an Oklahoma Treasure in 1995, died of a heart attack at the age of 1963.

Manuel Alvarez-Bravo received the Distinguished Artist Award for Lifetime Achievement by the College Art Association in February. **Gary Hill** was the recipient of the Artist Award for a Distinguished Body of Work, Exhibition, Presentation, or Performance. **Arthur Danto**, a professor of philosophy at Columbia University and art critic for *The Nation*, received the Frank Jewett Mather Award for Art Journalism. **W.J.T. Mitchell** received the Charles Rufus Morey Award for a distinguished book in art history for his *Picture Theory: Essays on Verbal and Visual Representation*.

Sol LeWitt will represent the US at the 1996 Sao Paulo Bienal in Brazil, curated by **Andrea Miller-Keller**, curator of contemporary art at the Wadsworth Atheneum. LeWitt will present a wall drawing designed specifically for the site.

Guillermo Deisler (Willie), Chilean artist, died in October 1995 at Halle, Germany. Networker, engraver, visual poet, scenographer and editor, Deisler was a pioneer in the Latin-American scene and was born in Santiago, Chile in 1940. He managed the "Osier Editions" (Ediciones Mimbres) and taught in the University of Chile at Antofagasta until 1973 when Pinochet's dictatorship obliged him and his family to leave their native country and to seek refuge elsewhere. First in Paris and then Plovdiv, Bulgaria, Deisler moved his family eventually to Halle, Germany where they lived as political refugees. In 1992, "Willie" obtained German nationality. There he edited the magazine "UNI/vers" until his death.

Kate Ericson, collaborator with her husband Mel Ziegler on public art and installation projects that explored ideas about the deconstruction of sites, died at 39 from brain cancer at her home in Milanville, Pennsylvania.

Richard Artschwager and German artist **Sigmar Polke** received the 1995 Carnegie prizes, including an award of \$10,000.

Damien Hirst was the winner of the 1995 Turner Prize, equivalent to \$31,000, given to promising young artists in Britain. He's now making a movie.

Alexina Duchamp, widow of Marcel, died at her home in Villiers-sous-Grez, near Paris at the age of 89. She was formerly married to Pierre Matisse, and in later life, became good friends with John Cage and Jasper Johns.

Thomas Sokolowski has been named the new director of the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh. He has been director of the Grey Art Gallery and Study Center at New York University since 1984.

Wally Findlay, an art dealer to socially prominent collectors in New York City, Palm Beach, Chicago and Paris, died at the age of 92. Having opened a gallery in 1963 in Manhattan, he also ran galleries in Beverly Hills and in Tokyo. In late 1995, he sold the East 57th St. building and reopened the gallery on East 60th Street.

Paul Steiner, the founder of Chanticleer Press, who promoted the idea of the illustrated coffee table book, died in March at the age of 83.

Tony Jones will once again serve as president of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, effective summer 1996.

Martin Scorsese will receive the 1996 Wexner Prize which includes a \$50,000 award and a commemorative sculpture designed by artist Jim Dine. The award honors an artist whose work "has been consistently original, influential, and challenging to convention."

Lee Ault, an art collector and former art dealer and publisher, died in April at the age of 80. He founded Quadrangle Press in New York, publishing lavishly illustrated monographs on such artists as Miro and Tamayo, and books by artists, including an edition of Aesop's Fables illustrated by Alexander Calder. He was owner of *Art in America* serving as its publisher until 1969, when it was sold to Whitney Communications.

Robert Bedoya, former executive director of LACE in Los Angeles and project assistant for the Getty Center, has become the executive director of the Washington-based National Association of Artists' Organizations. (NAAO).

Austin Hansen, who chronicled the life of Harlem in thousands of photographs over six decades, died in January at the age of 85. Most of his career was spent making portraits and freelancing for newspapers. He was also the official photographer for the Abyssinian Baptist Church, as well as documenting events at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

Lincoln Kirstein, 88, cofounder of the New York City Ballet as well as an art collector and critic, died on January 5. He wrote books on American Battle Painting, the drawings of Pavel Tchelitchew, Elie Nadelman, Paul Cadmus and more.

Leonor Fini, 87, Argentine-born artist who illustrated books, designed for the theater and was part of the Surrealist circle in Paris in the 1930s, died on 18 January in Paris.

Robert Farber, 47, artist whose work dealt with AIDS, died of the disease on 24 December in Manhattan.

Karl Schrag, German-born painter and printmaker known for expressionistic landscapes and self-portraits, died on 10 December in Manhattan at the age of 82.

Damien Hirst has created his first film, *Hanging Around*, a new 20-minute surreal psycho-thriller, which is at the Hayward Gallery in the show, *Spellbound: Art and Film*. The film deals with Icarus envy: the hero fantasizes about escaping his life by flying a Spitfire into the ether.

Charles Shannon, a painter and teacher, who discovered the artist Bill Traylor in 1939 when Traylor was just beginning to draw and paint at the age of 85, died in Montgomery, Alabama at the age of 81. He arranged the first Traylor exhibition in 1940.

William K. Everson, a film historian, teacher and preservationist whose extensive film archive helped educate many critics and film makers, died at 67 in Manhattan.



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