

Best "Painting" Exhibition: Liam Everett, being-with, Romer Young Gallery, May 20–June 25, 2011

by Zachary Royer Scholz

Artists who make up new art forms are afforded some leniency for their inventiveness, but such innovations rarely produce substantial work. It is therefore impressive when a painter manages to reinvigorate the act of painting as successfully as Liam Everett did in *being-with* at Romer Young Gallery. The pieces seemed as much found as made. While clearly the product of a laborious, reductive process, Everett's paintings looked effortlessly inevitable, like rust or mold staining. Their angular traces and shadows of scrapedaway paint were strangely photographic yet weathered and worn like skin laced with scar tissue.