DON O'MELVENY 5472 Wilshire Blvd. J.T. STEINY: Behold, paintings; thru Aug. 4. (323) 932-0076.

TROPICO DE NOPAL 1665 Beverly Blvd. TAKAEL: Transients, paintings; thru July 30. (213) 481-8112. 75›

go STEPHEN KALTENBACH

As with those in any style or art form, many of the stars in the conceptual-art firmament cooled off rapidly and seemed to disappear not long after the movement's Big Bang. Sometime in the early '70s, Stephen Kaltenbach's star, once one of the brighter, went into a kind of eclipse. The quirky two-word ads he placed in art magazines petered out. The sleek, mysterious time capsules and bronze plaques featuring terse wordplays stopped popping up in survey shows and biennials. Turns out Kaltenbach hadn't folded his tent, only moved it far into the shade. This microspective brings those curious, clever objects together with other, less well-known devices of the same era as well as with pieces the Sacramento-based artist has concocted more recently — such as the confoundingly simple yet almost subversively irksome 1967 *Canvas Drapery Arrangement* (a blank canvas lying on the floor, "to be arranged differently each day") or an edition of lip prints, or a just-published "Christian science-fiction novel set in Los Angeles" from this most born-again of conceptualists. At Another Year in L.A., 2121 N. San Fernando Road; Mon.-Fri., noon-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-4 p.m.; thru July 29. (323) 223-4000.

Art Works *(1968)*

—Peter Frank