

## Jesse Wine's Sleep Works at SculptureCenter

By Thessaly La Force, September 23, 2020



An installation view of Jesse Wine's "11:10 am / 15.10.1983 / 75 Heath Lane / Chester / United Kingdom / CH3 5SY" (2020) at the Sculpture Center in New York. Credit: Courtesy of the artist, Simone Subal Gallery, New York and the Modern Institute, Glasgow. Photo: Dario Lasagni

Opening this week at the SculptureCenter is "Imperfect List," a new exhibition of work by the New York City-based, English-born artist Jesse Wine. Wine was interested in exploring the idea of sleep, especially as it functions in a capitalist society — "the more capitalism consumes the world, the less we get to sleep," he told me — and his free-form ceramic figures consist of slumbering heads and limbs that appear to have been jolted awake. Wine also crafted a fleet of ceramic transport trucks, inspired by those he could hear idling outside his studio in Red Hook as he worked. It reminded him of the sleep function on a computer, he said, "where the machine is neither on nor off but in an intermediate state." "Imperfect List" was supposed to open in May but was then postponed; Wine said that, in the intervening months, he returned to see the SculptureCenter's garden overgrown as if it, too, had been busy while it slept. Inspired to include evidence of the garden's growth alongside his exhibition, Wine added a tuft of a weed to one of his finished pieces. "I wouldn't have noticed that normally. I wouldn't have been slowing down," he said of his pre-pandemic existence. There is much to admire in Wine's ability to harness complex thoughts and quiet observations into gestures and figures that seem born from a more subconscious space. *"Imperfect List" is on view at the SculptureCenter through Jan. 25, 2021, [sculpture-center.org](https://sculpture-center.org)*