

PATRICIA SWEETOW GALLERY

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Unspecified

My own personal compass is fixed on points south this weekend (the street art show at MOCA, the Museum of Jurassic Technology, the Center for Land Use Interpretation, etc), but I couldn't leave town without seeing the triple show currently on display at Patricia Sweetow Gallery featuring work by Terri Friedman, Gail Wight, and Sid Garrison. Friedman's acrylic landscapes on plexiglass are pure candy-colored joy, her swirls and streaks of color reminiscent of a child's early experiments mixing different varieties of Play-Doh. Her paintings conjure a sense of wonder whether she's depicting a hot tropical paradise or icicles dangling from the branches of a frozen tree. The hues in Garrison's pencil drawings are more muted in comparison but no less complex, and his abstract patterns thrum with their own unique rhythms. Rather than noticing individual lines in his work you see fields of color that almost seem to delicately waver in the light of the gallery. I imagine the patience it must take to make those drawings, but nothing compares to the process Wight employed to recreate a series of spiderwebs from the famous "spiders on drugs" experiments where arachnids were given various mind-altering substances and their subsequent weaving processes observed. Wight burned her versions of the webs (LSD is pictured here) onto vellum using nothing but a magnifying glass and the sun. The beauty of the resulting works has to be seen in person to be believed, and you have two more days to do so before the show closes on Saturday.