ACME.

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Wrapping up 2016 with art

Hunter Drohojowska-Philp says there is still time to see shows by Jennifer Steinkamp, Luchita Hurtado as well as Picasso and Rivera.

December 22, 2016 | By Hunter Drohojowska-Philp



ACME. gallery, long housed in a complex near LACMA, has moved east to an area informally called "Frogtown" along the L.A. river near Elysian Park. Their opening exhibition is devoted to Jennifer Steinkamp, a pioneer in the arena of computer generated animation who continues to raise the level of visual pleasure possible in that realm. In a darkened gallery, the end wall of around 13 feet high and 40 feet long features "Still-Life 1" (2016). Though referring to that traditional genre, this is not still at all but a projection of pears, apples, oranges and other fruit along with the flowers of the trees that produce them. The images flow around with variable speed so the effect is of deep space, as though they were receding into a remote, black void and then reemerging into the light. There is no sound which makes it easier to feel pulled into the mesmerizing experience, this galaxy of delicious bounty. The gallery also shows some quirky abstract paintings by Daniel Cummings. Both continue through January 7, 2017. (By the way, around the corner is Wax Paper, a tiny restaurant with the wit to name its sandwiches after various NPR commentators. I had the "Ira Glass.")