Kayne Griffin Corcoran

A Maniacal Cartoon Cobra Slithers Into a Mid-Wilshire Gallery

Linda Stark's Spectacled Cobra Photo by Robert Wedemeyer. Courtesy of the artist and Kayne Griffin Corcoran, Los Angeles.

Composed Spirituality

Linda Stark's Purple Protection Potion is a gooey, small work. Petals, herbs, stones and glass eyeballs bulge from beneath the translucent pink and purple paint, which drips off the edges of the canvas. Stark, who has been working in Los Angeles since the 1980s, also made a potion graph to accompany the painting so viewers will know what the potion contains. Her bodily, fantastical work — which includes a lush painting of a navel and another of a bespectacled cartoon cobra — hangs alongside paintings by Agnes Pelton and Alex Olson. Pelton worked in the 1940s making spiritual Southwestern landscapes that hang here in gold frames. Olson depicts containers for emotions and uncertainties. In one of her works, a yellow heart floats in a glass pitcher that’s about to pour out its contents.

- Catherine Wagley