



Joseph Parra / Anthony Meier Fine Arts

Donald Moffett's "Lot 080318 (ice blue morphology)" (2018)

CHARLES DESMARAIS' ART PICK

For a famous AIDS activist, Donald Moffett has sure come across in his art of recent years as a formalist, pedantically interested in the materials of painting and sculpture, and their properties of color, texture and contour. The five works, all made this year, that make up the exhibition "Nature Cult" at Anthony Meier Fine Art might give that same impression if they were not so startlingly alive. They are all made the same way, with a pigmented epoxy resin floated onto thick laminated wood panels of eccentric shape, mounted to the wall. Three red ones look amoeboid or viral, and unmistakably bloody. The two "ice blue" pieces are more nubilous. All pulse with a mesmerizing, vaguely threatening energy.

Donald Moffett: Nature Cult: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Through Dec. 14. Free. Anthony Meier Fine Arts, 1969 California St., S.F. 415-351-1400. www.anthonymeierfinearts.com