

## DOMOBAAL

Crystal Ship, at Farmlab, Los Angeles

Only one lovely drawing in the current Farmlab show is titled "Enchanted Forest," but an air of enchantment permeates the exhibition's entire premise: Last year, a London-based family of four was invited by a nonprofit organization to a Mediterranean island to mine the creative ramifications of the notion of "journey."

Sculptures, drawings, paintings and videos generated by the experience make up the show "Crystal Ship." It features the work of parents and children Felicity Powell, Ansel Krut, Saskia Krut-Powell and Hannah Krut-Powell, but individual attribution is downplayed in favor of collective exploration.

Seven short videos that run continuously in the center of the gallery establish an engrossing atmosphere that melds free-associative play and meditative wonder. Each ruminates on a physical or sensory phenomenon: the play of light on water; the movement of a veiled body underwater; a luminous, phantom-like ship in the night. One stop-action video tracks the evolution of small wax relief sculptures on the dark backs of round mirrors, eight of which are displayed in the gallery. Exquisitely crafted in milky, translucent wax, the images read as bizarre cameos whose profiles sprout roots and branches or sinuous tentacles.

The videos and wax reliefs alone make this an absorbing show. A charming inner sanctum, built of cardboard boxes and entered through a child-sized opening, extends the show's feeling of magic and discovery with its illuminated niches filled with little sculpted scenarios involving mostly pets and sweets.

L.A. Times, by Leah Ollmann  
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