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August 5, 2015

Wattis Institute // K.r.m. Mooney : En, Set = An absolutely stunning solo show of sculptures, easily the best thing I've seen in the Bay Area this year. Mooney has transformed the back portion of the Wattis with a ring of fluorescent lights with a group of works coexisting on it, and worked with it as is, laying works on the gallery's rough, stained concrete. The walls were mostly bare save for a small escape hatch of sorts, a pet door whose odd metal construction and exposed workings sit very comfortably within the style of the other objects here. There is a mixture of fine crafts here, not at the service of virtuosity but for the purpose of highlighting the collection of materials gathered for each work, each a tied, strapped, bolted jumble of the precious and the specific.

Above on the light small shoots of silvered plant jutted out here and there as if adapted to their home. Everything was still, quiet, though one or two of the wires holding the halo of lights was somewhat slack, and in the stream of air conditioning flowing in on the summer day I went, one vibrated like a string on an upright bass. En, Set is a space where new relationships were constantly in negotiation; this cable slacking in its load-bearing responsibility to dance felt fitting.

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