

Polaris

Adam Farcus and Erica Moore

To find your way among the stars, choose some familiar pattern as a starting point and gradually work your way from one star group to another.

Menzel, Donald H. [A Field Guide to the Stars and Planets](#). Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1964. 104.

Gesturing towards the celestial content, of this two-person exhibition by Adam Farcus and Erica Moore, Menzel's directive makes reference to the artists' respective investigations of space exploration, astronomical mysteries, and astrological myths. This work is based on scientific data and meticulous observation of stellar events, finds voice in a variety of forms and materials. As Star-gazing artists, Farcus and Moore translate their celestial explorations into abstract or quasi-abstracted forms through which they attempt to define phenomenological spectacles of space.

Beyond a reference to the exhibition's subject of study, Menzel's quotation also functions as a metaphor for the process of art-making itself. Just as a celestial navigator imagines the sky as a sphere of points that projects out from the earth, expanding infinitely in every direction each artist follows his or her own set of points that balloon out in a similarly expansive way. The artist-as-navigator moves from an initial creative and conceptual impetus (i.e. the big bang) to research on that topic. This research guides the production of objects, which in turn, guides more, theoretically infinite, research and subsequent pieces. Thereby, navigation through an artistic practice and an exhibition can be read the same way we might find our way by the stars.

For Adam Farcus and Erica Moore, the goal of this exhibition is to address concepts of space that lie beyond humans in a human manner. Combining ideas of the universe, light, and space programs with humble materials, the artists create work that is easily accessible, while simultaneously elevating the materials themselves to a surprisingly sublime level. In *Polaris*, great alchemy is achieved--tape represents colliding universes and cardboard stands in for a deep space object so heavy that light cannot escape its gravity.