

By JOHN K. SHERMAN

The Star's Books and Arts Editor

* * *

Aribert Munzner has his own "space odyssey" in Walker Art Center's members' gallery—13 small casein and vinyl paintings of visionary "trips" in shimmering voids. They are variations, most of them, on a "Genesis" theme, bespeaking the beginning of things in cosmic rather than human terms.

This is doubtless too literal a description of these glowing abstractions that use a pointillism of tiny dots and strokes delineating vague-edged orbs suspended in space—suns and satellites, one might say, of primordial time. These circular organisms are in the process of blooming, like flowers, or expanding, like denizens of a new universe.

Color subtlety and gradations are created by a patient shift of hue in the small strokes, by which both the orbs and the space separating them are astir and luminous. This is highly particularized subject matter, each of whose variations has its own color scheme and "orchestration."