

NEW CITY

Hangover Cures at EXPO 2022

BY ALAN POCARO | APRIL 9, 2022

For many of us, respite from the pandemic has been found in the sanctuary of city parks and on the shores of Lake Michigan. Being surrounded by nature has always knocked the old blood pressure down a few notches anyway and there are some outstanding examples of landscape scattered throughout the fair. Summer Wheat's cool blue "Love Birds (Left)" at Sulamit Nazarine (#235) is haunting, but it was Chicago-based painter Soumya Netrabile's work at Andrew Rafacz (#351) that I kept coming back to.

Netrabile's feature takes the viewer through the looking glass in a beautiful and lusciously brushed display of immersive landscapes. With painterly touches that echo Monet to Gorky, we see man not as the master of his world, but as an integral part of it. More conceptually pleasant than her solo show at Andrew Rafacz last fall, these works still feature the verdant greens and warm oranges, but are absent the sinister creatures hidden among the foliage. The result is energizing and restorative, without being overwhelming.