NEW YORKER

ART GALLERIES-DOWNTOWN

Matt Hoyt

Eight little shelves are lined with arrangements of minuscule objects, all of which were handmade by the artist in his Yorktown Heights studio, although you'd be hard pressed to guess it. (A list of materials includes "some or all of the following: clay, various putties, aqua resin, liquid electrical tape, plastic, metal, oil.") Certain shapes look organic, others archaic; all radiate a potent talismanic allure. None are figurative, but your eye and your mind will conspire to make sense of them. (In the past, Hoyt fashioned little mouse skulls, which he interspersed in his tableaux, baiting the game.) Fight the urge to identify—no, that isn't the seed pod Karl Blossfeldt immortalized—and succumb to the mysteries. Through Feb. 19.

— The New Yorker