

THE NEW YORKER

ART

“THE SECRET LIFE”

June 25 2015 - August 7 2015

“Art completes what nature cannot finish,” Aristotle wrote. So do the artists in this impressive botanically minded show, organized by the imaginative painter Leidy Churchman. Elegant close-up photographs of flora by the German naturalist Karl Blossfeldt find their successors in James Welling’s hazy, half-reflective images of plants. Rochelle Goldberg, an exciting young Canadian sculptor, encircles her ceramic vessels with sprouting chia. (On a recent visit, an attendant was carefully pruning the growth and spraying the sculpture with nutrients.) Don’t miss the fine painting of a purple flowering plant, from 1961, by the fictitious Pop artist Vern Blosom, whose true identity is still unknown. Through Aug. 7.

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