

eric firestone gallery

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GOINGS ON

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An installation view of "Joe Overstreet: To the North Star." Art works by Joe Overstreet / Courtesy Eric Firestone Gallery / © 2025 Joe Overstreet / ARS; Photograph by Sam Glass

Joe Overstreet (1933-2019) was a restlessly inventive painter. His exhibition "To the North Star"—a footnote to the artist's first major survey in decades, presented last year by Houston's Menil Collection—offers a small sample of his experiments. In the nineteen-sixties, Overstreet made shaped canvases whose sui-generis forms both contain and clash with the ancient art-inspired motifs rendered on them. Next, he got really radical, by hanging, stretching, and draping his canvases into soft sculptures that evoke tarps and quilts. Two such works are the showstoppers here: cosmic color wheels that fuse radar screens with mandalas. In the nineties, Overstreet returned to more traditional formats, but his impastoed, layered surfaces retain a visceral power.—*Jillian Steinbauer* (*Eric Firestone*; through Jan. 24.)

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