ARTFORUM

BEST OF 2019 ARTISTS' ARTISTS



Paulina Peavy, Noah, Legume Genesis, 1953, watercolor on paper, $17\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ ".

JANE KAPLOWITZ

Paulina Peavy (Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York) Thank you, Andrew Edlin Gallery and curator Bill Arning, for bringing us Paulina Peavy. Peavy's paintings are beautifully crafted, futuristic, jewellike wonders: perfect offerings for UFO crews. Equally interesting is how they were made: In order to paint, Peavy donned a gown and mask, the better to communicate with Lacamo, her mystical teacher from the future, whom she met in the 1930s during a séance in Los Angeles. Many have noted that these paintings are in step with those of other female artist-spiritualists who went unacknowledged until recently, such as Emma Kunz and Hilma af Klint. The question of why women of Peavy's generation felt the need for an abstract spirituality in their work, like Emma and Hilma a generation before, is fascinating to me.