

THE NEW YORKER

GALLERIES—DOWNTOWN

Zak Prekop

Strong new works by the young Chicago-born painter merge geometric shapes—a diamond grid, a nonet of white circles—with inscrutable flowing forms, some made with a palette knife, others by using a stencil. In two cases, Prekop paints both sides of the artwork, and woozy circuits of black or red appear faintly through thin muslin. The fraying contours and subtle underpainting reward sustained attention, and, gratifyingly, would be lost in translation to JPEG. These are paintings made to be seen, rather than circulated. Through Oct. 25. (Essex Street, 114 Eldridge St. 917-263-1001.)