

What to See in N.Y.C. Galleries
Right Now

TRIBECA

Meg Lipke

Through Jan. 14. Broadway, 375 Broadway, Manhattan. (212) 226-4001;
broadwaygallery.nyc.



Meg Lipke's "Old Sarum" (2022) in her new show, "Ingredients You Can See and Pronounce." via Meg Lipke and Broadway Gallery

For her first show at Broadway in 2020, Meg Lipke made a series of soft canvas sculptures à la Claes Oldenburg. Stuffed like pillows but shaped, for the most part, in empty squares or loose grids, and decorated with bright, zany patterns, they were essentially sculptures of paintings.

Her new show, "Ingredients You Can See and Pronounce," comprises nine *actual* paintings on stretched linen, their only idiosyncrasy a single rounded corner on each one. But their busy arrangements of bulges, loops and dots look so much like collages that you may find yourself looking twice to see whether their surfaces are entirely flat.

The show's publicity release mentions cave art, and it's true that there's something sandy and ancient about Lipke's color palette, its peach, orange, yellow and fuchsia notwithstanding; there's even a line of little brown quadrupeds in a piece called "Lascaux." But what really sent me tripping back in time was the stripes, more or less parallel lines and dashes that brought to mind some prehistoric artist dragging her fingertips through red ocher on a cave wall. These stripes reach their peak in "Old Sarum," a nearly black-and-white painting in which zebra patterns, pencil lines, apostrophes and squiggles that allude to Paul Klee drawings combine in a surface that's at once complex and simple. *WILL HEINRICH*