

# THE NEW YORKER

ART

## **LEON POLK SMITH**

September 10 2015 - October 31 2015

Born in Oklahoma in 1906, when it was still known as Indian territory, the American painter moved to New York City in 1936, and stayed until his death, thirty years later. His distilled geometries from the early nineteen-sixties can suggest a hybrid of Pop art and Op art; seen from certain angles, the compositions appear to warp the flat plane of the canvas. But Smith was a hard-line modernist who favored the pared-down approach of Piet Mondrian and the serpentine lines of Matisse, whose cutouts are clearly a touchstone. In turn, there are those who speculate that Smith's interlocking shapes of bright, solid color influenced the young Ellsworth Kelly. Through Oct. 31.

(Washburn, 20 W. 57th St. 212-397-6780)