

# THE NEW YORKER

## Martha Diamond

Presenhuber

**DOWNTOWN** The veteran abstracter of Manhattan cityscapes—long esteemed by her fellow-artists and deserving of wider fame—shows intimately grand paintings from the past two decades. Working fast and loose—she is right-handed but, to avert facility, paints with her left—Diamond romances the town in darting and slashing strokes. Her buildings, seen as if from the street, are as zestfully urbane as the perambulatory poems of Frank O’Hara. Most striking is a suite of vertical canvases entitled “New York with Purple,” each eight feet tall and four feet wide, which vary the colors of a skyscraper against a cloud-raddled sky. Their dynamic is like a cross between John Marin’s watercolors of the city and Monet’s “Rouen Cathedrals”: giddily celebratory and drunk on daylight.—*P.S. (Through July 28.)*