

Gene Beery - Transmissions From Logoscape Ranch - Bodega - ****.5
“There’s too much art in this show, and I want more.” In this post-canonical art world everyone wants to dig up an obscure genius from the past because that’s having it both ways; it’s fresh work but with the historical gravitas you usually only get from those big institutional shows of artists everyone already knows backwards and forwards. Unlike most shows that try this maneuver, Beery holds up under scrutiny. It’s kind of astonishing that, in a room literally packed with his little meta-art dad jokes on canvas, none of them come off as cloying or forced. He really crafted his own micro-current of Minimalism out of little more than making fun of the grandiloquence of the arts (though he knows how to paint when he feels like it, with great precision and economy), and, even more impressively, has kept it up out in the middle of nowhere since before 1980.