


5 Tribeca Shows to See During Frieze New York



BY ALEX GREENBERGER  May 17, 2022 1:30pm

Sky Hopinka at Broadway



Sky Hopinka, *Kicking the Clouds*, 2022.

Photo: Courtesy the artist and Broadway

In the past five years, Sky Hopinka's films have sprung up seemingly everywhere within art museums—an unlikely achievement for an artist whose works lean heavily on experimental techniques that can be tough, even for cinephiles. (One of his video installations currently occupies an **entire gallery at the Museum of Modern Art**.) There's good reason for Hopinka's rise: his meditative films about the relationship between Indigenous histories and landscapes are positively entrancing, and his newest show at Broadway stands as proof.

For Hopinka, who is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation and a descendant of the Pechanga Band of Luiseño people, language informs not only who we are but what we remember. "We were at a loss for language except what we could speak. and we spoke and spake our way right out of this place," reads a subtitle in Hopinka's knockout film *Kicking the Clouds* (2022). Dense with shots of the part of Washington State that his family calls home, the film features his mother's recollections of learning the Pechanga language from his grandmother. The forests and watery expanses seen here are aligned with the words Hopinka's grandmother wanted her child to remember by way of voiceover. Landscape and language are linked once again in a series of hand-scratched photographs in which poetic phrases tumble over rocks and wind through ferns, as though they were elements of nature themselves.

On view through June 4, at Broadway, 373 Broadway.

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