

ARTFORUM

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BEST OF 2019, LYNNE COOKE

CAROLINE GOE (WHITE COLUMNS, NY; CURATED BY LYNNE TILLMAN)

5

CAROLINE GOE (WHITE COLUMNS, NEW YORK; CURATED BY LYNNE TILLMAN) An habitu  of the East Village who sold her paintings on the street, Goe became a familiar figure to local art-world insiders, some of whom began to collect her work in the mid-1980s. Modestly scaled and delicately rendered, they are the product of a discerning eye and skillful (though not academically trained) hand. Often depicting religious subjects whose costumes and finery Goe relished, they hint at a visionary impulse. Drawn from Lynne Tillman's personal collection, the works on view galvanized an effort to seek out more examples and thereby redeem the oeuvre of a distinctive maker about whom almost nothing is known. Bittersweet, the show underscored the precarity of any creative practice in our rapacious art world—not only those generated on its margins.

