

ART GALLERIES—CHELSEA

Judith Barry

In 1991, Barry made the video-sculpture "Imagination, Dead Imagine," which is the only piece in this austere and disquieting show. Video footage of an androgynous head appears on five sides of an enormous cube, which rests on a mirrored plinth. As a series of viscous, sometimes clotted liquids pour down the face (on the front of the cube), the eyes close, but the treatment is otherwise endured—again and again—without flinching. (A low-res image that suggests dripping water resets the scene between onslaughts.) Barry confronts viewers with a psychological test: the story you invent to explain this inscrutable situation will likely correspond to your own anxieties.