

LUIS FRANGELLA



Face, c. 1983

Luis Frangella (1944-1990) was born in Buenos Aires, and began to paint in the mid-1970's during a fellowship at the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at MIT in Cambridge, MA. He moved to New York City in 1976, and in the early 1980's Frangella helped to organize some of the first exhibitions at Limbo, an artists' after-hours club known for its art shows and film screenings. He received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1982. Equally at ease between painting and sculpture, Frangella could also alternate extreme delicacy and powerful vigor in his works. His 1984 exhibition at Civilian Warfare in the East Village featured expressionistic paintings executed on old car doors that seemed to sum up the rough-edged styles of many East Village artists. In the late 1980's, Frangella had two shows at the Julian Pretto Gallery in SoHo and exhibited regularly in galleries in Buenos Aires and in Spain in Barcelona and Madrid.