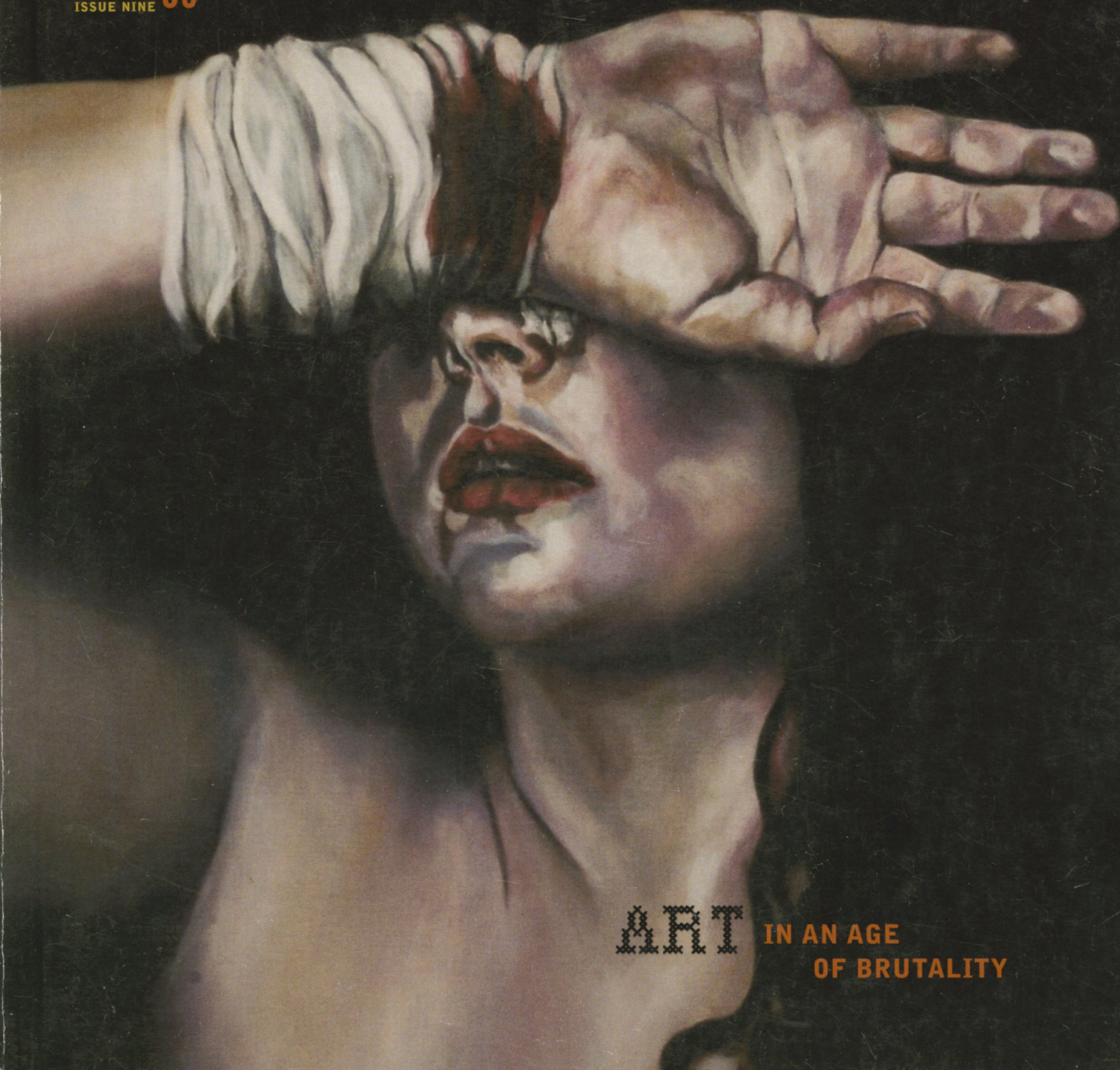


Freeze

holy mischief in an age of fast faith

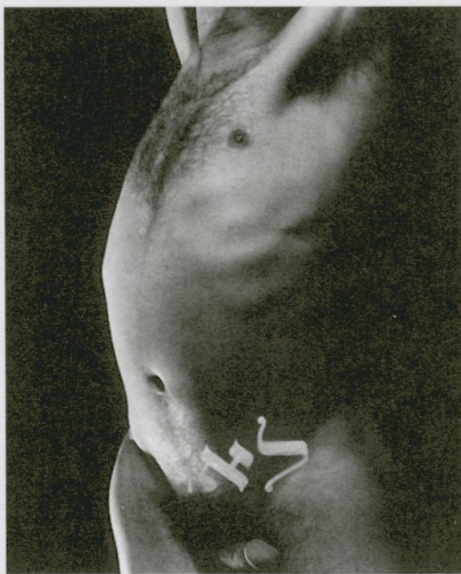
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ART

IN AN AGE
OF BRUTALITY



Simon Glass

◆ The Seventy-Two Names of God
silver print photograph with gold
gouache, 144 in. x 40 in.
1991

This piece takes its title from a Kabbalistic meditation. The 72 names, one of which appears on each print in this piece, were derived from the three verses in the Bible that immediately precede the splitting of the Red Sea. Each of these verses has 72 letters. The names are constructed by taking one letter from each verse for each name. Since the 13th century, the Seventy-Two Names have been employed as a meditation to induce a vision of the divine. The piece is 18 prints long by four prints high. Eighteen is the number symbolic of the Hebrew word meaning life, and four is the number of Kabbalistic levels of creation. The positioning of the name in the genital area is a suggestion that Judaism, like many religious systems, may have had at its origin a profound wonder at our capacity for procreation, and that there is a relationship between conceptions of human and divine creation.

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