

**RONALD FELDMAN FINE ARTS**, 31 Mercer Street, New York, New York 10013.

Hannah Wilke's final testimony is a devastating series of "performatist self-portraits" made the last two years of her life during her losing battle with lymphoma. Consisting of huge color photographs, watercolors, and objects, *Intra-Venus* has been touring this past year; it will be in San Francisco (at Center for the Arts Yerba Buena Gardens) until the end of September, then at the Santa Monica Museum beginning October 6. Feldman, Wilke's gallery for many years, has published a very fine, very moving catalogue for the exhibition, with essays by Wilke's husband, Donald Goddard, her sister, Marsie Scharlatt, friend and curator Robert McKaskell, and Amelia Jones, who is currently writing a book on feminist body art. In a probing analysis of Wilke's lifelong project about herself, Jones reinterprets Wilke's "narcissism," a term bestowed perjoratively on Wilke's art throughout her career, as something at once radical and liberating. "*Intra-Venus*," she writes, "is Wilke's brilliant riposte to those who condemned her work as narcissistic and Wilke herself as exploiting her own beauty." In displaying her body ravaged by treatments, "Wilke's sense of humor and compulsion to perform once again transformed an objectifying practice into an opportunity for self-expression." Jones' essay, along with gorgeous reproductions of this searing work, make this an exceptional catalogue. 48 pp. 42 illustrations, 41 in color. Price: \$19.95 plus \$3 postage.