

IRVING GREINES

American, b. 1941

Untitled

2004

Since his start in the 1940s, Irving Greines has been an American street photographer. This eroding headstone portrait represents two different forms of decay. The portrait represents the deceased woman buried beneath, while the headstone portrait itself is weathered and fading. However, the portrait defies the decay of the person depicted as it preserves their image after death. In doing so, it decays as well. As much as we may try to postpone the inevitable, decay is a reality. It is rather the memory and impact that they had, that lives on to influence the future.