

Alec Soth's Archived Blog

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Adult Comedy Action Drama

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[Speaking](#) of Richard Prince, Christies has a pretty cool copy of *Adult Comedy Action Drama* in their upcoming [photography book auction](#):



RICHARD PRINCE

5,000 - 8,000
British pounds

No VAT on hammer price or buyer's premium.

RICHARD PRINCE

Adult Comedy Action Drama. New York, Berlin, and Zurich: Scala, 1995. Quarto (290 x 190mm), 235 full-page colour photographs. Original blue paper-covered boards, photo-illustrated dust-jacket.

FIRST EDITION, ELABORATED BY PRINCE WITH ORIGINAL ARTWORK. A unique copy of Prince's best conceived book to date, in which he appropriates Dylan's 'Subterranean Homesick Blues': the book is re-titled 'Mixing Up the Medicine' on the dust-jacket spine, and on the back panel Prince has pasted-on part of Dylan's score. On the endpapers Prince has added the first part of the score, changing the title to 'Adult Comedy Action Drama' and replacing Dylan's name in the credit with his own. On the front flap the artist has added a strip of four images from his renowned 'girlfriends' series, each image showing crisp marks and titled by Prince in turn 'Adult', 'Comedy', 'Action' and 'Drama'. Appropriately the work is inscribed to an erstwhile girlfriend, who is part of at least two compositions reproduced in the book (pp. 40 and 219). 'In Adult Comedy Action Drama, Richard Prince, always the classicist, revisits a central concern of art from the beginning of easel painting: the display of constitutive possessions' (JDI Books). THE TREATMENT OF THIS COPY ILLUSTRATES THEMES CENTRAL IN THE ARTIST'S WORK, in particular the nature of invention, and his concept of 'social science-fiction'. JDI Books, pp.274-5.