

michèle didier

# **PRESS RELEASE**

### RICHARD PRINCE: PRE-APPROPRIATION WORKS, 1973 - 1974



#### Richard Prince: Pre-Appropriation Works, 1973 - 1974

#### Exhibition from Saturday July 7 to Saturday September 1, 2012

#### Opening on Saturday July 7, 2012 from 6 pm to 9 pm

mfc-michèle didier's first year in Paris comes to an end with a light summer show, but nonetheless exceptional, the exhibition *Richard Prince: Pre-Appropriation Works*, 1973-1974.

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to see Richard Prince's early works from Saturday July 7 until Saturday September 1, 2012. The opening will take place on Saturday July 7 from 6 pm to 9 pm.

Richard Prince, internationally known American artist, particularly famous for his re-photographed Marlboro's advertisements and for his series of *Nurse paintings*, is an expert in appropriation art and probably the artist who counts best America's fin de siècle.

However, the focus of the exhibition is put here on the years «before the appropriation», and more precisely on the years 1973 and 1974. The works shown at the gallery were collected in the early seventies by Angus Whyte, Richard Prince's first art dealer. Etchings, collages, monoprints, drawings and letters are examples of the techniques the young Prince has experimented.

On one hand, *Flavored Letters*, written in 1974, can be considered as Mail Art, an artistic movement that many of the artists of this era have practiced; Richard Prince showed a significant interest in researching the artistic expressions of his time.

On the other hand, transfer technique, the intermediate process between the collected and the distributed image, is recurring in his work, almost systematic. This clearly announces what would appear later: Richard Prince's trademark, appropriation.

These early researches testify to the artist's integration in conceptual concerns of this period and prefigure works that will make Richard Prince an artist with a remarkable individuality. The exhibition *Richard Prince: Pre-Appropriation Works, 1973-1974* enables us to discover the premises of Richard Prince's art, back to the origin of his creation.

We warmly thank Angus Whyte and David Platzker for their close collaboration in the development of this exhibition.

For more information about the exhibition, please contact us by email info@micheledidier.com or by phone + 33 1 71 97 49 13.

The gallery will be closed from August 7 to 22, 2012 included. From August 23 to September 1, the gallery will adopt a summer schedule, which means that it will be open from Thursday to Saturday, from 12 am to 7 pm.

THAYER ACADEMY BRAINTREE MASSACHUSETTS D2185 Form letter no. 4, flavored language series Dear Angus

Like most everybody else, I like to feel comfortable, that means I usually wear sport clothes, a long sleeve sport shirt and a pair of slacks makes me feel relaxed, but when I go some place where everyone is dressed up, I wear a suit and tie. I'd feel funny if I lounged around all dressed up, and on the other hand I wouldn't be comfortable if I went some-place dressy and wore my sport clothes.

Singerely, Richard Prince

Flavored Letter, 1974

Flavored language letter An con Dear During these cold winter months I sometimes find myself with only one glove. Like most everybody else I wonder what to do. On one hand there is a glove, but on the other hand there is no glove. glove Lichard 0 FORM 917 200M

Flavored Letter, 1974

#### List of pieces

Homogenized to Picasso #1 Monoprint Image: 7,62 cm diameter,, sheet: 43,37 x 28,07 cm Signed and dated 1974

Homogenized to Picasso #2 Monoprint Image: 7,62 cm diameter,, sheet: 43,37 x 28,07 cm Signed and dated 1974

Homogenized to Picasso #3 Monoprint Image: 7,62 cm diameter,, sheet: 43,37 x 28,07 cm Signed and dated 1974

*Like Most Everybody Else...* (from *Matchbook Series*) Etching Plate: 30,48 x 20,54 cm, sheet: 38,74 x 25,59 cm Signed and annotated: "ap" 1974

*Venus* (related to *Matchbook Series*) Graphite and collage on paper (mixed media) 35,75 x 28,07 cm Signed and dated 1974

*Caster* Aquarelle 50,80 x 53,47 cm, framed: 58,42 x 50,96 cm Signed and dated 1973

*Rockport: la baignoire* (from *Airloom Series*) Acrylics painted on paper 50,80 x 73,66 cm, framed: 76,20 x 99,06 cm Signed and dated 1973

*Flavored Letters* Photocopies with ink on paper 27,94 x 20,45 cm each 1974



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For any further information or for image requests, please contact us at the following email address: info@micheledidier.com or phone number: + 33 (0)1 71 97 49 13.

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