

Serpentine Gallery

Press Release

Richard Prince: Continuation **at the Serpentine Gallery**

26 June – 7 September 2008

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SERPENTINE GALLERY
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Richard Prince (b. 1949), one of the world's most celebrated artists and one of its greatest artistic innovators, curates his new exhibition *Richard Prince: Continuation* on-site at the Serpentine Gallery, with Gallery director Julia Peyton-Jones, co-director Hans Ulrich Obrist, and exhibition curator Kathryn Rattee. His first major exhibition in a UK gallery, *Richard Prince: Continuation* is the artist's selection of his own work, and includes new works together with highlights of an extraordinary 30-year career in painting, photography and sculpture.

It is a uniquely personal exhibition of the artist's work, selected to create an environment reflecting the Gallery's scale and location. Prince is a voracious collector of art, furniture, memorabilia and books, which he houses in a variety of buildings alongside his own artworks. The exhibition will represent a direct dialogue with these spaces, mirroring the installation of his work in his studios and home.

Prince came to prominence in the 1980s through celebrated series such as *Cowboys*, *Jokes* and *Hoods*, which appropriated images from magazines, popular culture and pulp fiction to create new photographs, sculptures and paintings that respond to ideas about American identity and consumerism. Prince's images, now iconic themselves, are sourced from his obsessive collecting of pictures that began when he worked for *Time-Life* magazine in the 1970s and which continue to resonate deeply with our modern obsession with celebrity culture. These works have also been critical in challenging ideas of authorship and raising questions about the value of the 'unique' artwork.

A programme of classic films, ranging from drama to cult shorts, has been selected by Richard Prince for open-air 50 foot screenings by the Serpentine Lake and also to be shown in the Frank Gehry-designed Pavilion.

On 15 August at 8.30pm, the classic road movie *Two-Lane Blacktop* (Monte Hellman, 1971) will be shown, and on 16 August at 8.30pm, Leonard Kastle's dark thriller *The Honeymoon Killers* (1971). Both films will be accompanied by Claude LeLouche's 1976 guerrilla-style nine-minute short *Rendezvous* (aka *C'etait un rendezvous*).

In the Pavilion, *The Savage Eye* (1960, Ben Maddow, Sidney Meyers and Joseph Strick) will be shown on 29 August at 8.30pm, and *A Place in the Sun* (1951, George Stevens) on 5 September at 8.30pm.

Images: www.serpentinegallery.org/press. For press information, contact: Rose Dempsey, 020 7298 1520, rosed@serpentinegallery.org Fleur Treglown, 020 7298 1528, fleur@serpentinegallery.org

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