

GAGOSIAN



SF ART BOOK FAIR

Gallery 211

July 19–21, 2019

Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco

Archival clamshell boxes, custom built to house the Ryder Road Foundation's collection of Jack Kerouac's *Big Sur* manuscripts and a copy of the novel inscribed to Neal and Carolyn Cassidy. Photo: courtesy Ryder Road Foundation

July 9, 2019

Gagosian is pleased to participate in the 2019 San Francisco Art Book Fair with *Flags and Aces*, a project space devoted to a unique artist's book by Richard Prince and an original manuscript and drawing by Jack Kerouac, courtesy of the Ryder Road Foundation. The booth is presented in conjunction with Prince's *High Times*, an exhibition of drawings and paintings currently on view at Gagosian San Francisco until August 23.

On view at the book fair, in both print and interactive digital form, will be the unique copy of *Beat, Hippie, Punk*, an artist's book filled with original drawings that Prince created in 2018. The booth will also feature a set of tire planters containing cannabis bushes—a covert nod to Prince's collaboration with counterculture magazine *High Times* and the subsequent release of his own cannabis strain, Katz & Dogg.

In addition to these works, Gagosian will present two selections from the Ryder Road Foundation's holdings of original material by Jack Kerouac, both collected by Richard Prince: the notebook that served as the earliest manuscript of Kerouac's late novel *Big Sur* (1962), and a scroll drawing by Kerouac depicting the California cabin and landscape that became the setting of that work.

These two items tell a larger story about the novelist and his times. Kerouac had become a cultural celebrity following the 1957 publication of *On the Road*. Yet this was also a fraught time for him as he battled his personal demons. In 1960, attempting to set his mind and body at ease, Kerouac spent a month at Lawrence Ferlinghetti's cabin in Bixby Canyon. It was there that he found the inspiration for his next novel, *Big Sur*.

Kerouac's spiral notebook and scroll drawing (made on the same teletype paper he would later use to type the first complete manuscript of *Big Sur*) will make the coast-to-coast journey from Ryder Road's New York library to San Francisco—thus retracing Kerouac's steps and returning to their place of origin in Northern California.

#FlagsandAces

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