



NEW YORK

Fine Photobooks

From an Important Private Collection

Thursday 10 April 2008

CHRISTIE'S



196

DONIGAN CUMMING

The Stage. Montreal: Maquam Press, 1991.

Octavo (244 x 165 mm). 248 black and white photographs, most with Cumming's annotations in black pen at the bottom. Original photo-illustrated card wrappers; in a black cloth folding case with the item below.

Gelatin silver print (255 x 200mm), signed by Cumming in pencil on the verso. Provenance: Donigan Cumming (inscriptions)

FIRST EDITION, A UNIQUE COPY WITH THE MAJORITY OF THE SUBJECTS IDENTIFIED BY CUMMING, AND WITH AN ORIGINAL GELATIN SILVER PRINT SIGNED BY CUMMING. In many cases

Cumming has also annotated the images with the subject's current status: "alive", "alive?", "gone mad", "beaten to death", "dead", etc. The photograph is a repro print, one of the prints sent to the plate-maker, and identified as such by Cumming on the verso. "Donigan Cumming is a unique talent. The only photographer who can be compared to him in terms of making transgressive portraits is Diane Arbus"; "each individual portrait represents a little psychodrama played out on the stage that is the picture frame" (The Photobook). The Photobook, vol. II, p.117.

(2)

\$2,500-3,500