



## David Wojnarowicz: Rimbaud In New York 1978-79

By Jim Lewis



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In 1978 David Wojnarowicz took a series of photographs of a man wearing a paper mask bearing the face of Arthur Rimbaud, the French poet. Wojnarowicz was 24 when he shot most of the *Rimbaud in New York* series, and the urban situations in which he poses the masked figure represent a specific moment in history: post-Stonewall but pre-AIDS, a land of sex, drugs, art, love, and wondrous bohemian existence. When a few pictures from the series were published in the *Soho Weekly News* in 1980, they were the first of his works to make it into print. This volume reproduces for the first time, the series in its entirety.



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## **Editorial Review**

### About the Author

"David Wojnarowicz was born in Red Bank, New Jersey, in 1954. A member of the first wave of East Village artists, Wojnarowicz began showing his work during the early 80s in such now-legendary spaces as Civilian Warfare, Club 57, and Gracie Mansion. He gained prominence through his inclusion in the 1985 Whitney Biennial, and was soon showing in numerous museum and gallery exhibitions throughout the United States, Europe, and Latin America. In the late 80s, after he was diagnosed with AIDS, his art took on a sharply political edge. Wojnarowicz died of AIDS-related illness in New York in 1992, at the age of 37."

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