"Embracing the cultural bulemia of our fin-de-siècle, I try to fuel the fire... delighting in enigmas, searching out obscure subject matter, lies, fictions, and meretricious figures of speech, weaving fictions into them, and teasing them up by the hair." RP

For twenty-seven years Richard Purdy has been wondering about stupas. Through his art, he has been trying to make sense of something terribly simple. "When you have been on the sacred circuit for awhile—visiting 5, 10, 50, 100, 1000 stupas—you begin to notice the characteristics of the stupas you are visiting, the fact that they subtly change from place to place-dagobas, chedis, pagodas, chortens. Stupas seem to represent distinct races, and their distinguishing features evolve over geographical distance. Questions emerge and methodologies are created, but then, in a few years, they are abandoned. Masses of stone begin to speak to your deepest self, and curiously, you answer back, attempting a dialogue. All over the world the number of stupa-watchers, stupa builders, stupa worshippers are growing, and tentatively attesting to their fascination." In this colourful artist's book, Richard Purdy proposes 96 pages describing his project that integrates contemporary art with contemporary spirituality.

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