



### PICTURE BOOK OF THE WEEK

If the title alone, which takes its name from a line in Wallace Stevens' short poem "The Gray Room", doesn't immediately grab you, the photographs contained within this stunning book surely will. *I Know How Furiously Your Heart Is Beating* (Mack, £50) is a series of 35 portraits and interiors, made with a large format 8-by-10 inch camera, in which Alec Soth captures people in

their own homes. After the publication of the Minnesota-based photographer's previous books, in which he takes a much broader, narrative-driven look at life in America, Soth went on a year-long sabbatical in which he re-evaluated his creative approach. He writes that he felt the need to strip photography back to its primary elements and

observe more intimately. In a conversation with Hanya Yanagihara (author of the novel *A Little Life*), included in the book, Soth explains that after a "full-on mystical experience" he came to understand that everything in life is connected. These beautiful images are, perhaps, the result of his newly sensitive and enlightened perspective.