



Les trois amis avec motos, 1975. Gelatin Silver print, 30 x 40 cm.

Malick Sidibé (1936 – 2016) was a Malian photographer and one of the great African studio photographers of his generation, best known for his black & white studies of the emerging popular culture in Bamako. With his 35mm camera, he captured the urban elite of newly independent Mali: the Malians who had absorbed the stylistic cues of Jimi Hendrix, the Beatles and James Brown.

Having completed a five-year photography apprenticeship, Sidibé set up a studio in 1960 in the lively Bagadadji quarter of Bamako, at a time when Mali became independent from France and a great sense of freedom and confidence coincided with economic expansion. He bought a complete set of laboratory equipment from a Frenchman heading home, and became one of the first photographers to take a 35mm camera out into the city, covering up to five parties a night in the newly formed clubs with names like The Barons, The Seducers or The Soul Brothers, all of which had distinct reputations, styles and dress codes, and became meeting places to drink, discuss politics and swap James Brown records. Becoming a legend in Bamako in the 1960s and 70s, no party was complete without Sidibé, whose documentary photography so vividly captured the exuberant nightlife of local Malians. He would then return to the studio and print until dawn.

Besides his candid shots of parties, Sidibé's Studio Malick soon became the place in Bamako to hang-out, to be seen and have your portrait taken wearing the latest clothes, watches and hairstyles inspired by magazines and record covers from Europe and America. Many of his clients were women who wanted to show off the latest fashions and would return regularly as new trends emerged. For young people a studio



Les deux copines jour de fête, 1975. Gelatin Silver print, 50 x 60 cm.

portrait was an important event; they would dress like their idols, copying a specific film or look, and each image was constructed using a mixture of carefully chosen personal props with a deliberately dramatic décor as a backdrop that built up the personality of each sitter. The energy emanating from these pictures is still palpable in the studio today.

Before his death in April 2016, one might have sat with Malick for a few hours and witnessed people of all ages dropping by; some would even call out his name as they cycled past. Inside the studio the famous striped textile is still in use, and the shelves are packed with repaired cameras and negatives. Always happy to discuss the old days, Malick loved to tell stories of Bamako at the time of independence. His charming and empathetic portraits of post- independent Mali are unique documents of a time and place and are testaments to Sidibé's ability to reveal so much using only basic props and a modest studio.

In 1994, Sidibé had his first exhibition outside of Mali and received much critical praise for his carefully composed portraits. In 2007, he became the first photographer to receive the Golden Lion Award for Lifetime Achievement at the Venice Biennale, both as the first photographer and the first African recognised as such. Sidibé's work has since become renowned on a global scale.

Awards

- 2011 Officier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, Paris, France
- 2010 World Press Photo award – first prize singles, Arts and Entertainment
- 2009 Award Photo España Baume & Mercier, Madrid, Spain
- 2008 International Center of Photography Lifetime Achievement Award
Infinity Award, International Center of Photography, New York, United-States
- 2007 Gold Lion of the 52nd Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy
- 2003 Hasselblad Award Winner, Hasselblad Center, Göteborg Museum of Art,
Göteborg, Sweden
- 2002 Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres, Paris, France

Public Collections

- Art Collection of the United States Embassy
 - Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland, USA
 - Birmingham Museum of Art, Alabama, USA
 - Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA
 - Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
 - High Museum of Art, Atlanta, USA
 - Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, USA
 - International Center of Photography, New York, USA
 - Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts, Stanford University, California, USA
 - J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, USA
 - LaSalle Bank, Chicago, USA
 - Musée d'Art Moderne de la ville de Paris (MAM), Paris, France
 - Musée Nicéphore Niépce, Chalon-sur-Saône, France
 - Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, USA
 - National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, USA
 - Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania, USA
 - Queensland Art Gallery & Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA), Brisbane, Australia
 - San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), San Francisco, USA
 - The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA
 - The Art Museum, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, USA
 - The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College, New York, USA
 - The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
 - The Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Providence, USA
 - The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA
 - Utah Museum of Fine Arts (UMFA), Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
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Private Collections

Collection Agnès. b, Paris, France
Fondation Alliances, Casablanca, Morocco
Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris, France
Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris, France
Fonds de dotation agnès.b, Paris, France
The Contemporary African Art Collection (CAAC), the Jean Pigozzi Collection, Geneva, Switzerland

Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 *Malick Sidibé*, Throckmorton Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2019 *Under Malick Sidibé's Eye and a Song Against AIDS*, Musée Barbier-Mueller, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2018 *Malick Sidibé: LOVE POWER PEACE*, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA
- 2017-18 *Malick Sidibé, Mali Twist*, Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris, France
- 2016 *Malick Sidibé: The Eye of Modern Mali*, Somerset House, London, UK
Malick Sidibé, Jack Shainman, New York, USA
It's Too Funky In Here! By Malick Sidibé, FIFTY ONE TOO, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2014 *Studio Malick*, DePaul University Art Museum, Chicago
Studio Malick, Cornell Fine Arts Museum, Florida, USA
Studio Malick, Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, New York, USA
- 2012 *Malick Sidibé*, Galerie Boutique Agnès B., New York, USA
- 2011 *Malick Sidibé*, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA
Malick Sidibé The Eye of Bamako, M+B Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2010 *Studio Malick*, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
Malick Sidibé: La Vie en Rose, Collezione Maramotti Reggio Emilia, Italy
The Nights of Bamako, Photography of Malick Sidibé, Espace Hermine de Plouha, Association GwinZegal, Saint-Brieuc, France
- 2009 *Malick Sidibé et la Photographie de Mode, Frontières, 8èmes Rencontres de Bamako*, Biennale Africaine de Photographie, Bamako, Mali
Malick Sidibé, Bamako Style, Galería Oliva Arauna, Madrid, Spain
Les nuits de Bamako, Photographies de Malick Sidibé, Musée Nicéphore Niepce, Chalon-sur-Saône, France
- 2008 *Malick Sidibé, Chemises*, Foam Fotografiemuseum, Amsterdam
Malick Sidibé 08, Fondation Zinsou, Cotonou, Benin

- 2007 *Malick Sidibé. Los Sabena Club*, Fifty One Fine Art Photography, Antwerp, Belgium
Malick Sidibé. C'est Pas Ma Faute, Musee des arts derniers, Paris, France
- 2005 *Photographs: 1960-2004*, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA
- 2004 Museet for Fotokunst, Brandts Klaedefabrik, Odense, Denmark
CAV Coimbra Visual Arts Centre, Coimbra, Portugal
- 2003 Hasselblad Center, Gothenburg Museum of Art, Gothenburg, Sweden
- 2002 HackelBury Fine Art Limited, London
- 2001 Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome, Italy
Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2000 Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève, Geneva, Switzerland
- 1999 *Malick Sidibé. Photographie*, Dany Keller Galerie, Munich, Germany
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Cool Cats and Twist Club, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney, Australia
- 1997 *Fotografie 1962-1976, Clubs und Twist und Chats Sauvages*, Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen, Stuttgart, Germany
- 1995 *Malick Sidibé: Bamako 1962-1976*, Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris, France

Group Exhibitions

- 2022 *Stressed World*, Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, New York, USA
Under the African Sun, Ethan Cohen, New York, USA
Cosmogony: Zinsou, an African Art Collection, Cobra Museum voor Moderne Kunst, Amsterdam, Netherlands
An Alternative History of Photography: Works from the Solander Collection, The Photographers' Gallery, London UK
Shifting Dialogues: Photography from The Walther Collection, K21, Kunstsammlung NRW, Düsseldorf, Germany
From a Private Collection, HackelBury Fine Art, London, UK
- 2021 *Hand To Your Ear, Part 1 (Presence/Surplus)*, Emalin, London, UK
Breaking the Frame: New Directions in Photo History, Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), Toronto, Canada
Next to You, McEvoy Foundation for the Arts, California, USA
Children Power 3, Frac Ile-de-France, Le Chateau, Bussy-Saint-Martin, France
Hyde Cabinet #10: Framing a Feeling, Tang Museum, New York, USA
- 2020 *Through an African Lens: Sub-Saharan Photography from the Museum's Collections*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Houston, Texas, USA

- 2019 *Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem*, The Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA. Travelled to:
- Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC
 - Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, MI
 - Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA
 - Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA
 - Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2017 *Studio Africa!*, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
- Art/Afrique, le nouvel atelier. Les Initiés, un choix d'œuvres (1989 – 2009) dans la collection d'art africain contemporain de Jean Pigozzi. Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris, France*
- Back Stories*, Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, Seattle, USA
- Il Cacciatore Bianco*, FM Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy
- Rhona Hoffman. 40 Years: Part 3. Political*, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, USA
- 2016-17 *African Art Against the State*, Williams College Museum of Art, Massachusetts, USA
- From The Collection: 1960-1969*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 2016 *Muse: Mickalene Thomas Photographs and tête-à-tête*, Aperture Gallery, New York, USA
- Regarding Africa: Contemporary Art and Afro-Futurism*, Musée d'art, Tel Aviv, Israel
- African Portraits: Omar Victor Diop, Seydou Keita, Aida Muluneh, Malick Sidibé & J.D. 'Okhai Ojeikere*, HackelBury Gallery, Londres, UK
- Vivre !! La collection agnès b. au Musée National de l'Histoire de l'Immigration*, Paris, France
- "Photaumnales", festival de photographie, Exposition "Love Story"*, Picardie, France
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- L'oeil de l'expert, 20 ans d'acquisitions contemporaines*, Musée Nicéphore Niépce, Chalon-sur-Saône, France
- Swinging Bamako. La fabuleuse histoire des Maravillas du Mali*, Arles, France
- L'œil de l'expert / La photographie contemporaine*, Musée Nicéphore Niépce, Chalon-sur-Saône, France
- Studio, portrait(s)*, Galerie du Jour Agnès B., Paris, France
- Love story, Photaumnales*, Picardie, France

- 2015 *Après Eden* - collection Artur Walther, Maison Rouge, Paris, France
Close to, Centre Médical et Pédagogique de Rennes-Beaulieu, Rennes, France
I am your sister, tête-à-tête, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Brussels, Belgium
Dare You to Look: Radical Realizations in Portraiture, Burning in Water Art, New York, USA
Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design, Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germany. Travelled to:
- Guggenheim Bilbao, Spain
 - Center de Cultura Contemporania de Barcelona, Spain
 - Kunsthal Rotterdam, the Netherlands
 - High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
 - Albuquerque Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico
 - Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, TX
- 2015-17 *In and Out of the Studio: Photographic Portraits from West Africa*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
- 2014-15 *Beyond the Classical: Imagining the Ideal Across Time*, National Academy Museum, New York, USA
Luminós/C/ity. Ordinary Joy: From the Pigozzi Contemporary African Art Collection, Ethelbert Cooper Gallery of African & African American Art, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, United-States
- 2014 *More Material*, Salon 94, New York, USA
Ici l'Afrique / Here Africa - L'Afrique contemporaine à travers le regard de ses artistes, Château de Penthes, Geneva-Pregny, Switzerland
African way, Chapelle de la Visitation, Thonon-les-bains, France
- 2013 *Malian Portrait Photography*, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, Alice and Horace Chandler Gallery and North Gallery, New Paltz, United States
Kyotographie, International Photography Festival, The Museum of Kyoto Annexe, Kyoto, Japan
Keïta, Ojeikere, Sidibé, 11 Columbia, en collaboration avec Magnin-A, Monaco
Bamako Photo in Paris, Pavillon carré de Baudouin, Paris, France
Modernités plurielles de 1905 à 1970, Musée national d'Art moderne - Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
- 2012-13 *Everything Was Moving: Photography from the 60s and 70s*, Barbican Centre, London, UK

- 2012 *We face forward. Art from West Africa Today*, Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester, UK
Who, What, Wear, Selections from the Permanent Collection, Studio Museum Harlem, New York, USA
The Progress of Love, The Menil Collection, Houston, USA
Africa/Africa, Abbaye Saint-André, Centre d'art contemporain, Meymac, France
Studio Malick, DePaul University Art Museum, Chicago, United States
- 2011 *30 Years of New York Times*, Rencontres d'Arles, Arles
Paris Photo, Magnin-A, Grand Palais, The Walther Collection
Another story. 1000 photographs from the Moderna Museet Collection, Moderna Museet - Stockholm, Sweden
- 2010 *African Stories*, Magnin-A, Ancienne Banque du Maroc, Marrakech, Morocco
Un rêve utile, photographie africaine 1960-2010, dans le cadre de L'été de la photographie, Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels, Belgium
Les nuits de Bamako, Espace Hermine de Poulha, Association GwinZegal, Saint Brieuc, France
- 2009 *Masters of Photography*, Fifty One Fine Art Photography, Antwerp, Belgium
Some Tribes, Christophe Guye Galerie, Zurich, Switzerland
Posing Beauty, Tisch School of the Arts, New York, USA
- 2007 *Why Africa? The work of 13 photographers including Sidibé, Frédéric Bruly Bouabré, Bodys Isek Kingelez, Chéri Samba, Makonde Lilanga, and Keita Seydou*, Pinacoteca Giovanni e Marella Agnelli, Turin, Italy
Think with the Senses Feel with the Mind, 52nd International Art Exhibition, Lion d'Or de la Biennale de Venise, Italy
- 2005 *African Art Now - Masterpieces from the Jean Pigozzi Collection*, National Museum of African Art, Washington, USA
- 2004 *Photography: Inaugural Installation*, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, USA
Seeds and Roots, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA
- 2001-03 *You look beautiful like that: The Portrait of Photographs of Seydou Keïta and Malick Sidibé*, Fogg Museum, Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA; UCLA Hammer Museum, University of California, Los Angeles, USA; Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach FL; National Portrait Gallery, London; Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, Massachusetts, USA
- 2000 *2000 Africa: Past-Present*, Fifty One Fine Art Photography, Antwerp, Belgium
- 1999 *6th International İstanbul Biennial 1999*, International Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey

- 1996 *Double vie, Double vue*, Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France
By Night, Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France
In/sight: African Photographers, 1940 to the Present, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA
- 1995 *Seydou Keita & Malick Sidibe: Photographs From Mali*, Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
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