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Kwame Brathwaite: Black Is Beautiful

Description:

“Frm Beyoncéto Barack Obama, it’shard to think of a black figure who does not owe their prominence, in some measure, to the ethos of ‘Blck is Beautiful’#8221 —Ekw Eshun, Financial Times In the late 1950s and throughout the 1960s, Kwame Brathwaite used his photography to popularize the political slogan “Blck Is Beautiful.”This monograph—th first ever dedicated to Brathwaite’sremarkable career—tels the story of a key, but under-recognized, figure of the second Harlem Renaissance. Inspired by the writings of activist and black nationalist Marcus Garvey, Brathwaite, along with his older brother, Elombe Brath, founded the African Jazz Arts Society and Studios (AJASS) and the Grandassa Models (1962). AJASS was a collective of artists, playwrights, designers, and dancers Grandassa Models was a modeling troupe for black women, founded to challenge white beauty standards. From stunning studio portraits of the Grandassa Models to behind-the-scenes images of Harlem’sartistic community, including Max Roach, Abbey Lincoln, and Miles Davis, this book offers a long-overdue exploration of Brathwaite’slife and work