

BLACK POWER

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Exhibition of faces. Photographs viewed in London and Lagos in the first and last quarters of 1998 respectively. The work of younger generation British photographer Donald MacLellan. Exhibition was symptomatic of two noticeable shifts in official policy (attitude?) according to curator of Lagos exhibition, Jide Adeniyi-Jones, himself a well-known independent photographer, whose career had budded in 'black London' in the Seventies.

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The British National Portrait Gallery, venue of the London edition, would in the past not touch a new talent, not with a pole; but reviewers agreed that MacLellan gave a good account of himself.

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Adeniyi-Jones also noted that an 'open-faced' celebration of blackness in official, establishment (meaning outside black London's fringe circles) is reflective of the miles that British society has travelled since his own childhood in South London.

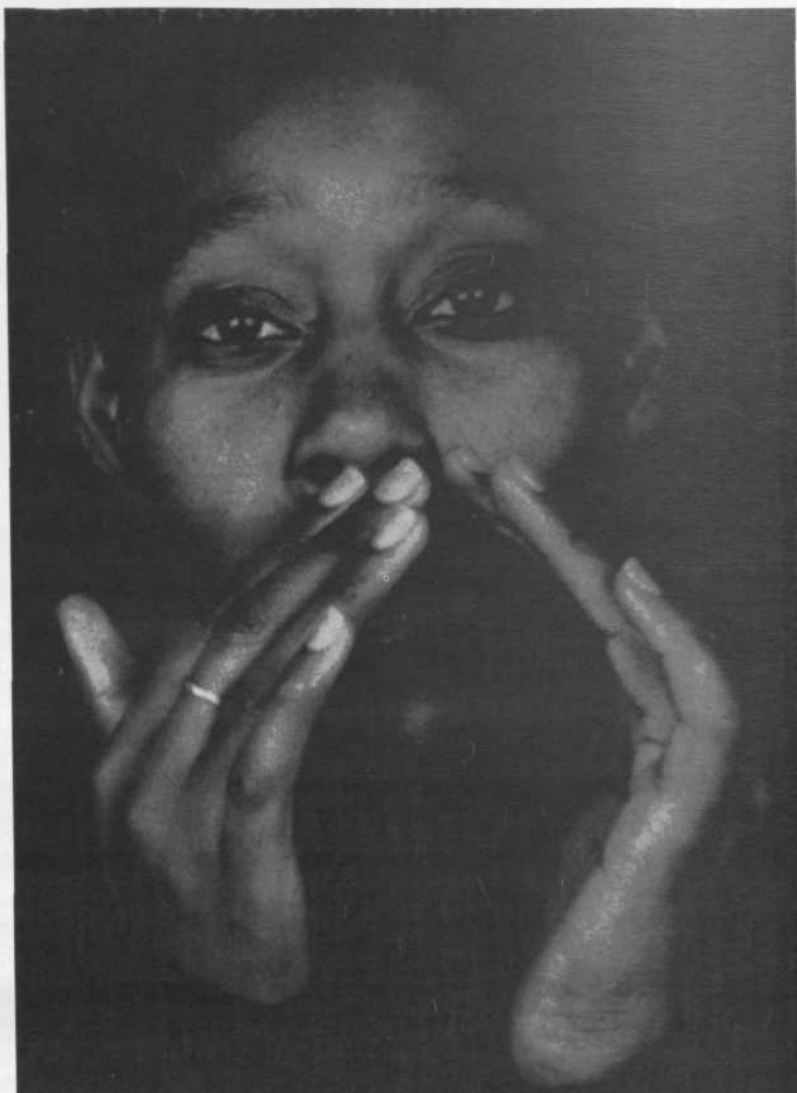
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Conceptually, the duo-tone images of Black Power captured the faces of twenty-four select Black achievers working in disciplines as far

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Lagos exhibition venue:

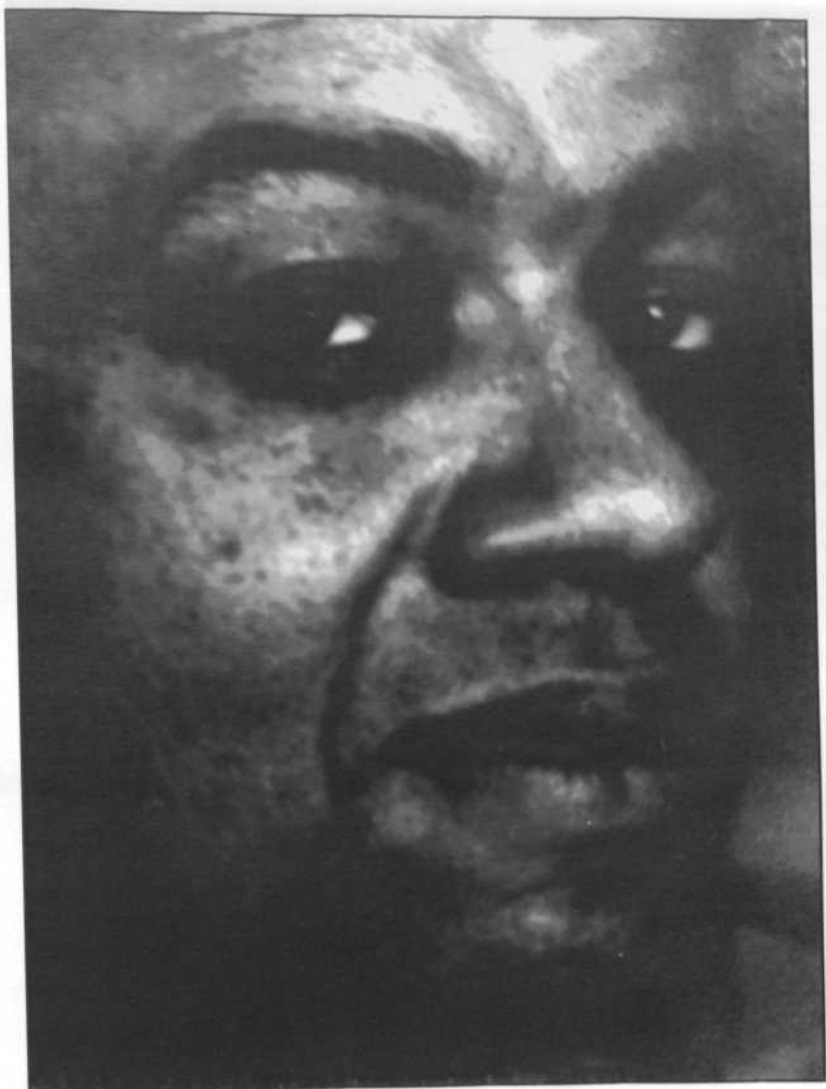
British Deputy High Commission, Lagos, 7-8 November, 1998.



Sonia Boyce, *Sculptor*.

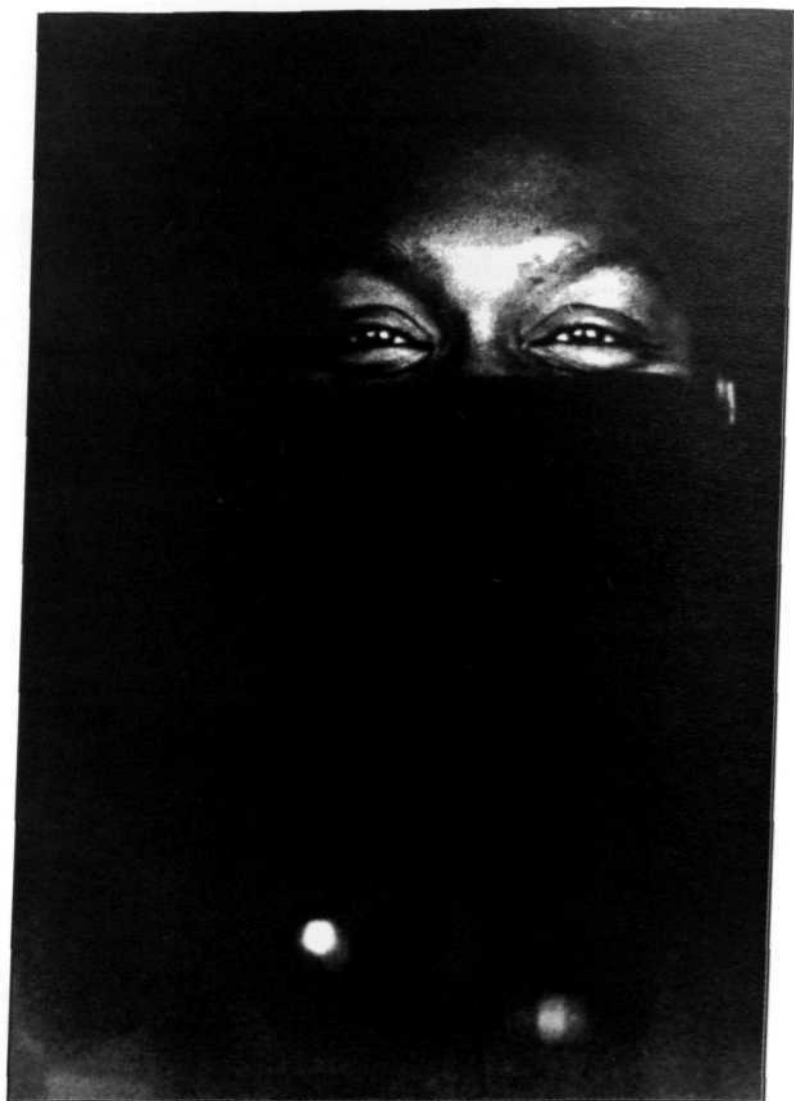
'I have become accustomed to the wider British Society seeing every black person who steps outside the 'normal' space and occupation ascribed to them as seemingly peculiar and therefore, a social phenomenon.

Born 1962. Educated, Eastleigh Comprehensive, East Ham College of Art and Technology, Stourbridge College of Technology and Art. Been in fifty exhibitions through the UK and overseas. Represented in public acquisitions at the Arts Council, British Council, the Cleveland, Victoria and Albert museums, Tate Gallery.



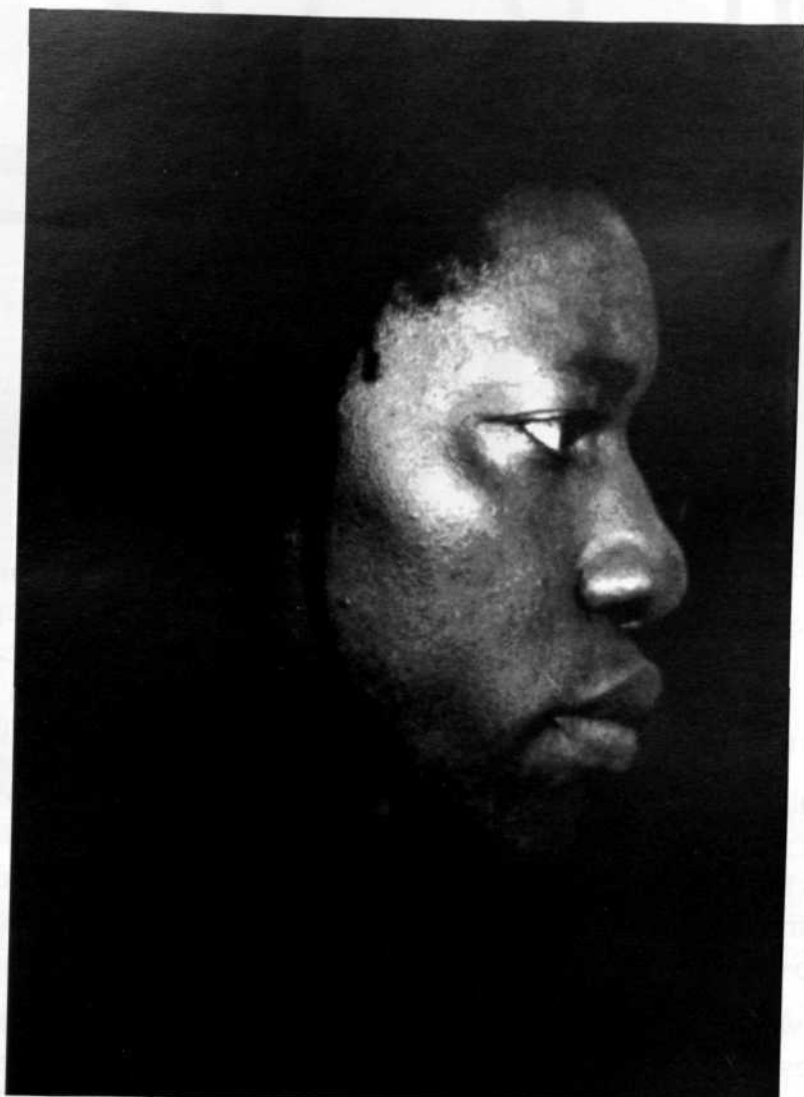
Paul Boateng, *Politician*

'I am black. I am British. I can, and do, draw on a rich and diverse variety of cultural, social and political influences that span the continents.
British Under Secretary of State since the 1997 general elections. MP for Brent South since 1987. Born in Hackney, East London. Educated, Ghana International School, the Accra Academy, Bristol University, the College of Law.



Lenny Henry, *Entertainer*

'My main achievement is to remain sane in this crazy world of show business.
Born 1958. Educated, Bluecoat Secondary Modern School, the W.R. Tewson School,
Preston College. His impressive range of TV appearances since 1976 have included his
own show, *The Lenny Henry Show*.



Trevor Robinson, Advertising Executive

'It is easier dealing with people treating you like a freak when there are around three million other 'freaks' in this country just like me.

Born London 1964. Entered the advertising business in 1986. Made notable contribution during his time in TBWA and Howell Henry Chaldecott (HHCL). Pioneered with Alan Young *Quiet Storm* the agency that produced the Operation Black Vote ads for the 1997 election in Britain.

Caranda-Martin's

PHOTO CHEMICAL ART



OUGHBA Hamilton

Caranda-Martin, young and emerging art photographer, was born in Liberia but fled his native country in 1991 to escape the perils of the Liberian civil war. He arrived on American shores with the gift of a multi-faceted and gripping artistic vision.

Member of both the Bassa and Kpelle tribes; Caranda-Martin's work pushes the limit of painting, photography and collage. All his hand-manipulated images are noncomputer-generated, placing his art squarely at the exterior of digital photography, endowing him with a form that is unique and entirely his own.

'Viewers from around the world respond to the humanity expressed in my work. I am concerned with universal themes such as pain, anger, love and death. The images and subjects are not culture specific. Artists of African and European origins alike have been major inspirations to me in addition to others around the globe.

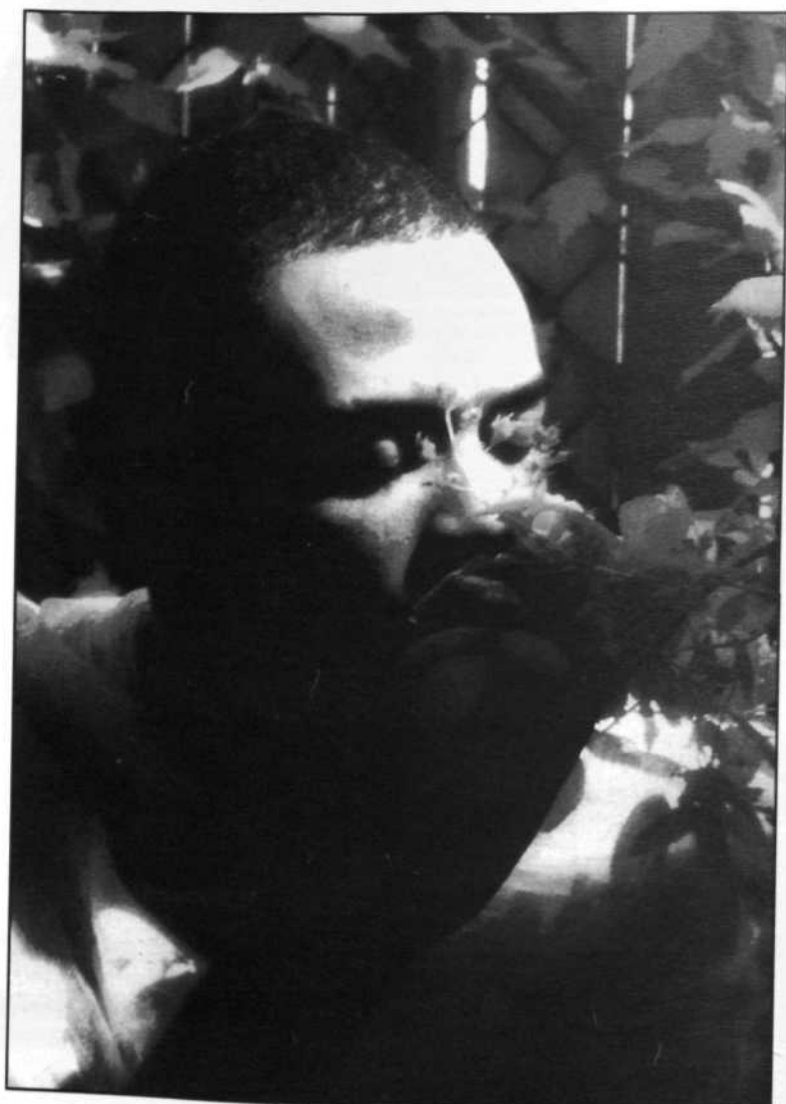
'The uniqueness of my black and white techniques lies in the intricacy and texture of my images. I incorporate nonphotographic elements in my painting and apply found objects to my work'.

Currently exhibition, running through last quarter of 1998. Atmosphere Gallery, 81 Greene Street, Soho, New York.



Cry Butterfly

© Doughba Hamilton Caranda-Martin, 1998
Collection: Atmosphere Gallery, New York



Quiet Soul II

©Doughba Hamilton Caranda - Martin, 1998
Collection: Atmosphere Gallery, New York



Enihpled II

Doughba Hamilton Caranda-Martin, 1998
Collection: Atmosphere Gallery, New York



US Four

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