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# EVERYBODY'S NEW YORK

## KWAME BRATHWAITE

*Capturing the Black  
Experience For Over 60 Years*



*Michael Jackson and Mrs. Lisa Marie  
Presley-Jackson*



*Cuban President Fidel Castro  
in Harlem, NY*



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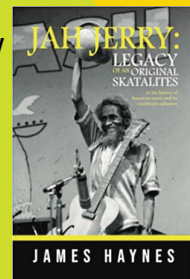
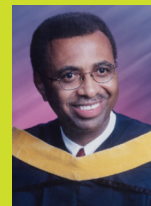
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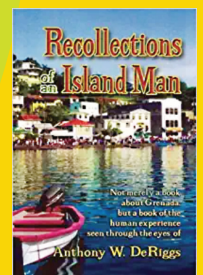
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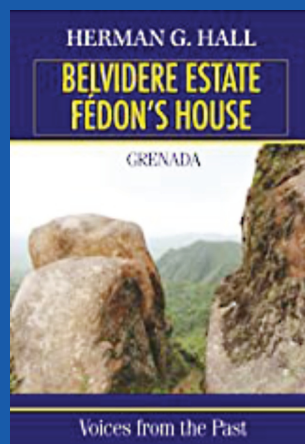
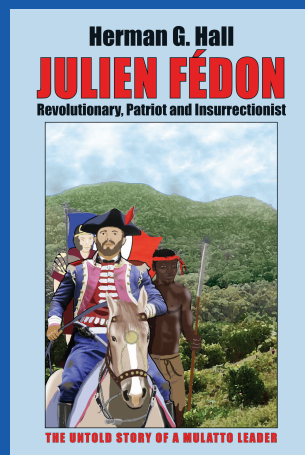
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(2022)







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PHOTOGRAPHS: All Photographs by Kwame Brathwaite (except when he is in images)

COVERS: All cover photographs by Kwame Brathwaite

VINTAGE COVER DESIGNS: Some by Nolan Patterson; others by Lennox Robinson

THIS COVER: Lennox Robinson

THIS COVER PHOTOS: Kwame Brathwaite

# EVERYBODY'S NEW YORK

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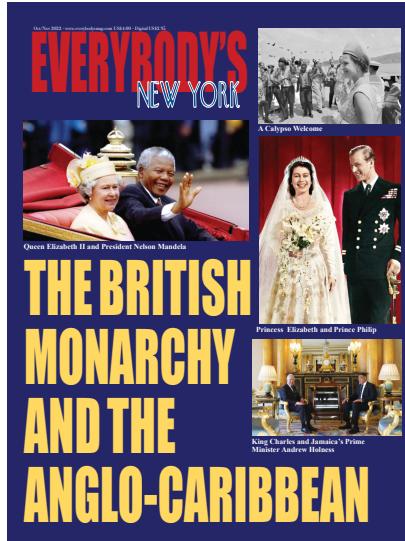
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## BRITISH MONARCHY AND THE ANGLO-CARIBBEAN

Your Oct/Nov issue, the British Monarchy and the Anglo-Caribbean, stands out as one of the most memorable issues of your magazine. Few people here in Mississippi and abroad understand the scope of the greed and genocide associated with the British Crown. May I suggest additional reading about the Queen's relationship to a mammoth cotton plantation in Bolivar County in Scott, Mississippi. The so-called history of the Queen's Farm just startles many!



Check out what the media in Bolivar County reported after Queen Elizabeth II's death. From Deltanews TV, "Few people know the Queen had investments here in 'the colonies' in modern times. One such investment

still maintains strong emotional ties to its British connections, years after those ties got cut. Like a million other little settlements in the Mississippi Delta, the Scott community owes its life to cotton ... but there's something just a little different about this place. It seems almost too perfect. CC Craig who lives there said, 'I didn't know the Queen owned it. I just knew English Royalty owned it.'

That's right, not just any English Royalty, Her Majesty, the dearly departed Queen Elizabeth the Second, once owned a controlling interest in a British textile company. That company, in turn... in 1968, bought "Delta and Pine Land", headquartered here in Scott, Mississippi."

Then too, Britain's self-enrichment on the backs of Africa via the Asiento is exemplar of its further inhumanity and greed!

Hell to the Queen!!!

l.re @...com,  
Mississippi

I have just completed reading the latest issue of EVERYBODY'S (Oct/Nov). It was a joy to refamiliarize with some of the things Herman Hall and Ray Funk mentioned in their articles. And by the way, I know someone whose parents had pictures of other monarchs before Elizabeth in their living room.

ec@...org  
Houston, TX

I found Kanene Holder's "The Queen and The George Floyd Racial Reckoning" a creative commentary. I read in several news-

papers and magazines and heard on radio and TV the many comments and opinions shared by bona fide media people, but what impressed me the most was Holder's commentary.

j...@...com

When I reached the part in Herman Hall's article, British Royal Family Hanging Over My Head, about one Mr. Percy John of d'Lance, Gouyave, Grenada, preventing his children from participating in the Coronation Day celebration of Queen Elizabeth in June 1953, I couldn't believe it. My mother did the very same thing to us in Barbados. I was eight years old. She did not allow my elder sister and me to march in the school parade and then to be given cola and cake. She kept us at home much to our annoyance while our friends enjoyed themselves and waved the red, white and blue flag of England and dressed in Coronation attire. We were the only children kept at home because my mother felt kings and queens of England exploited people. My school teacher showed pity for us so she left some sweet drink and cake for my sister and I to enjoy when school reopened the next day.

R. Maynard,  
Brooklyn, NY

*Letters to the editor are appreciated, positive or negative. We edit them for clarity. Send to: editor@everybodysmag.com.*

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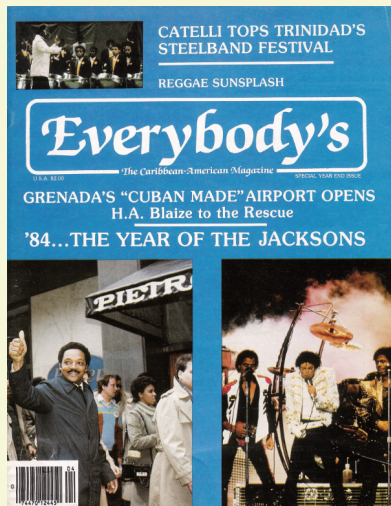
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# PUBLISHER'S GREETINGS



(Cover, Year-End/Dec. 1984): What a year for the Jacksons! Rev. Jesse Jackson's presidential bid paved the way for 23-year-old Barack Obama who graduated from Columbia University in 1983. The Victory Tour of the 6 Jackson brothers and Michael's Thriller captured the global music market. Kwame Brathwaite proudly covered the historic events and felt honored when Michael Jackson invited "Uncle Kwame" to Victory Tour concerts.



(Cover, July/Aug. 1994, Vol. 18 No 6. Caption by Kwame in 1994.) "EVERYBODY'S Magazine senior photographer journeyed to South Africa on the historic occasion of that country's first adult suffrage elections to witness firsthand the election and subsequent swearing-in of Nelson Mandela as South Africa's first Black president." Inauguration Day, May 10, 1994. Sitting is former President Frederik Willem de Klerk who dismantled apartheid and served as deputy president in the Mandela administration.



In Kwame Brathwaite words, L to R: "Photographers Alf Khumalo of South Africa (Nelson Mandela's family photographer and photojournalist for The Star), legendary Gordon Parks and new NCA President and EVERYBODY's Magazine photographer Kwame Brathwaite." Brathwaite forgot to include the photographer's name.

On Tuesday, January 3, 2023, photographer Nolan Patterson and I observed the 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EVERYBODY'S Magazine by visiting the New York Historical Society near Central Park in Manhattan to view the exhibit, Black Is Beautiful -The photography of Kwame Brathwaite.

The New York Times, CBS Evening News, PBS and various New York's TV channels had already reviewed the magnificent exhibit. (See pages 6-7 for the Historical Society introduction of Kwame Brathwaite). While the exhibit at the centuries-old Historical Society may be construed by many as the highest point in Brathwaite's career, over the years, his work appeared in many high-profile exhibits and photography galleries across the U.S.

Thank you, Kwame, for enhancing EVERYBODY'S Magazine.

Kwame Brathwaite is one of America's greatest photojournalists of the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. For more than 30 years Kwame provided his images of worldwide events to EVERYBODY'S Magazine.

The years of Covid 19 prevented me from visiting him, but he has always been in my prayers. As thousands of visitors at the Historical Society enjoy the exhibit, the 85-year-old Brathwaite is hospitalized. Kwame, I thank you for inspiring me over the decades and giving me multiple reasons why Black publications such as EVERYBODY'S cannot afford to fold.

Kwame and his late brother Elombe Brath vehemently promoted Pan-African-

ism. Elombe established the Patrice Lumumba Coalition aimed to eliminate apartheid in South Africa and colonialism in Angola and Namibia. One of their grandparents was active in the anticolonial movement in early 20<sup>th</sup> century Barbados. Like Harry Belafonte, the late Gil Noble of WABC-TV, Kwame and Elombe's parents met at a Marcus Garvey event. One of the images at the Historical Society Exhibit is a Kwame photograph of a Garvey Rally in Harlem in the 1960s.

The Black Is Beautiful -The photograph of Kwame Brathwaite represents a tiny fraction of Kwame's work.

The days after January 3, 2023, I opened cabinets filled with hundreds of photographs, especially those of Kwame, the late Lloyd Patterson and Roger Hayden Celestine. Folders with countless photos were organized by the late editor Patricia Boothe and have not been opened in years. I overcame with tears as I fully understood the sacrifices and commitments those stalwarts made to keep this magazine for 46 years. Emotions further overwhelmed me as Sikolo, Kwame's wife, who stays all day at his bedside, told me how Kwame often spoke about me, the magazine and the magazine's Caribe Fete.

Like the New York Historical Society exhibit, the photographs in this edition represent a mere glimpse of Kwame's body of work.

Regards,  
Herman

**For 46 years, (Jan. 1977-Jan 2023), EVERYBODY'S, the Caribbean-Magazine, existed without consistent major advertisers. We thank our readers.**

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# Black Is Beautiful

## Black Is Beautiful The Photography of Kwame Brathwaite

Known as the “keeper of the images,” Kwame Brathwaite (b. 1938) deployed his photography from the late 1950s and throughout the 1960s as an agent of social change. His photography popularized the “Black Is Beautiful” movement. His night club photographs evoked the spirit of jazz. Kwame and Elombe Brath, his brother, founded the African Jazz-Art Society & Studios (AJASS), a collective of creatives who organized jazz concerts in clubs throughout Harlem and the Bronx. These venues featured luminaries such as Miles Davis, Abbey Lincoln, and Max Roach. In addition to promoting musical events, the group advanced a message of economic empowerment and political consciousness in the Harlem community. The brothers also promoted a “Think Black, Buy Black” message by documenting the Black-owned businesses and political activism thriving on the streets of Harlem. In the 1960s, Brathwaite and his collective also addressed the effects that white conceptions of beauty and body image had on Black women. They popularized the transformative idea “Black Is Beautiful” and founded the Grandassa Models, a troupe of local women who appeared in semi-annual fashion shows at numerous venues including Harlem’s Apollo Theater.

Brathwaite’s work, which harnessed the power of music, style, and community to advance social justice, deepens our understanding of the Black Arts Movement and is now part of that era’s visual canon.

All photographs in the exhibition are by Kwame Brathwaite. Unless otherwise indicated all works are courtesy of the artist and Philip Martin Gallery, Los Angeles.





*Beautiful*

# The Photography of Kwame Brathwaite

Kwame Brathwaite Photography August 19, 2022-January 15, 2023  
New York Historical Society





# DANCE-THEATRE-BALLET



*A scene from Alvin Ailey's global phenomena, Revelations. Judith Jamison, Artistic Director.*

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century five stellar black companies in New York City existed. The Dance Theatre of Harlem and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre formed the nuclei. Kwame Brathwaite captured their spirit with his lens.



*COVER, designed by Nolan Patterson, Jan /Feb, 2005: Renee Robinson in the segment Wading in the Water from Revelations.*





*In 1967-68, Geoffrey Holder's *The Prodigal Prince* was the centerpiece of Alvin Ailey's ballet. A young Judith Jamison danced as the Goddess of Love. Holder created the choreography, music, and costumes. In 2010-2011, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater presented *The Prodigal Prince*. Holder directed it; by then Judith Jamison had become the Dance Theater's Artistic Director succeeding Alvin Ailey (1931-1989).*

*Edward Franklin as St. John the Baptist. A scene from Geoffrey Holder's *The Prodigal Prince* produced by Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.*

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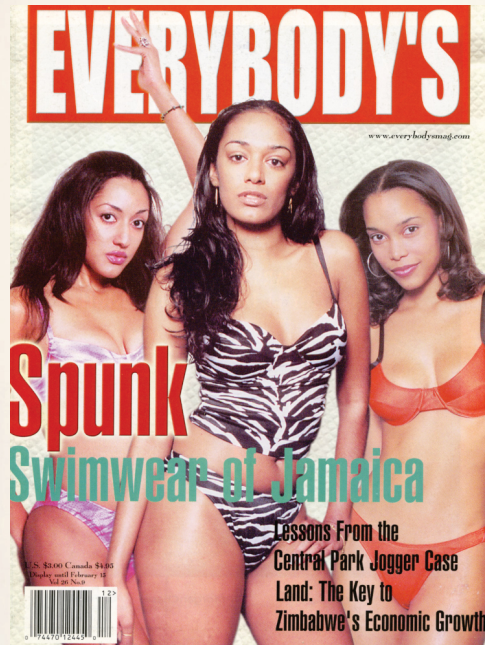
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# FASHION



## Dec 2002 – SPUNK

Dec. 2002 - Vol. 26, No.9 - edition: Denise Heffes who designed the clothing for the first Jamaican Olympic bobsled team, Jamaica's contestants in Miss World and Miss Universe and established Spunk Swimwear Line took her show to Carib New York, New Rochelle, NY., Kwame was there to document the event. Models L to R: Ryan, Mala and Cheridah."

As written by Kwame on the back of photo: "Photographer Kwame Brathwaite. Model Teri 'T.J.' John. Sphynxx model. Designer, Shabaka."



## April 1998

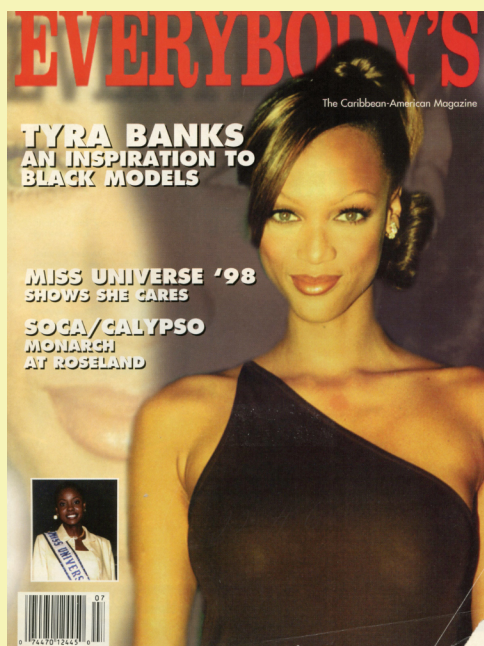
April/May 1998 edition: Kwame Brathwaite was an organizer of AFRIMODA - Redeeming Our Image - a national campaign and tour featuring 20 Black designers. Cover: Mary Omolade from Nigeria.



Anglo-Gold Show of South African Fashions (C)

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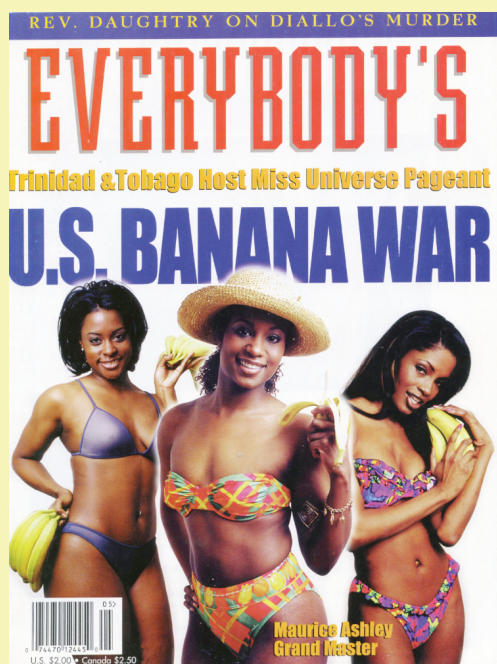


#### JULY 1998 Tyra Banks

July 1998 edition: Supermodel Tyra Banks. Apart from his photos in the 3-page article including Chicago Bulls Scottie Pippin and Tyra, Brathwaite wrote the feature.



October 2006 edition: Cover designed by Nolan Patterson. Photography by Kwame Brathwaite and Nolan Patterson. Location, Montauk Beach, Suffolk, NY. Models – Gabriel Owens, Ekiwua Asemola and Joanne Joseph.



#### May 1999-Banana wars

May 1999 edition: Latin American banana exporting countries demanded the European Union drop its preferential treatment of African, Caribbean and Pacific states bananas in Europe. The U.S. with its veto power entered the debate and President Bill Clinton sided with the Central and South American nations thus making the export of bananas from the Caribbean no longer economical. Kwame felt a bunch of bananas on the cover would be boring. The genius gave his models, Samantha Hunter, Tia Kane and Thurayyah Zubadah, grains of bananas to display. The result was one of EBM's most talked about cover.



As written by Kwame: "Photographer Kwame Brathwaite. Model Fatima Almisri of Amandla Models. Designed by Bonnie Sandy-Sterling of Barbados."



7<sup>th</sup> on 6<sup>th</sup>.

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NEW YORK

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# KWAME



*In EVERYBODY'S December 1984 issue, Kwame summarized 1984 as "The Year of the Jacksons ... We have to admit that Jesse Jackson and Michael Jackson were the most popular figures of the year." Michael and his brothers invited Kwame to the first Victory Tour concert, July 6-7, 1984 at Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City, Missouri; Kwame also covered Victory Tour concerts at Giants Stadium, NJ in late July and Madison Square Garden in early August.*

## KWAME BRATHWAY AND MOTOWN ART





*One of Kwame's classics is Diana Ross and the Supremes debut at the famous Apollo Theater in Harlem, New York City. The year was 1963.*

# WAITE TISTS

“Kwame Brathwaite recently had his collection of photos of the great African American singers of the 1960s on display at Motown Café, New York. Most vocalists and groups of that decade became famous while on the Motown Label ... For more than 30 years, Brathwaite photographed many of the top African American entertainers and he has been an EVERYBODY’S Magazine photographer for most of the magazine’s 19-year existence ...”

*Cheryl Nance Nash review of Motown’s Café opening on September 6, 1995. (EBM, Vol. 20 No. 2, March 1996).*

*Continued on page 14*



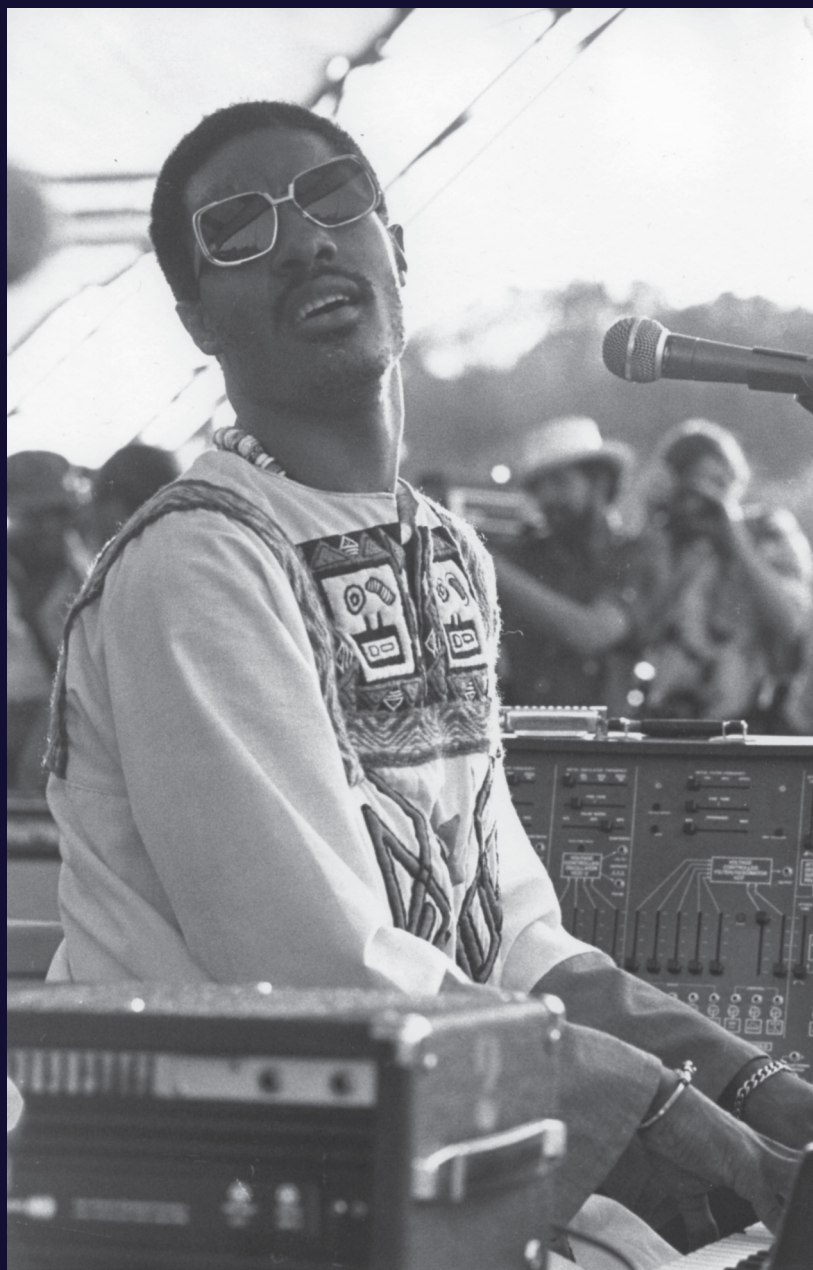


*James Brown, a favorite of Kwame's camera.*





*A priceless Kwame Brathwaite photo. The year is unknown. L to R: "Muhammad Ali, Buffy Sainte-Marie, unidentified Indigenous artist, Stevie Wonder, Marlon Brando, Dick Gregory, Richie Havens and David Amram.*



*Kwame and Elombe Brathwaite journeyed to Washington, D.C. on every Rev. Martin Luther King birthday to join Stevie Wonder, other entertainers and the public to demand King's birthday declared a national holiday (EBM, Jan. 2022).*

*(Photo): Stevie Wonder during "Human Kindness Day" 1973, the National Mall. He was the honoree and headliner on his birthday weekend.*



*They appreciated Brathwaite for his passion to document the Black experience. (L to R): Berry Gordy (founder of Motown), Diana Ross, Jesse Jackson and Suzanne de Passe.*





*Brathwaite may have taken this photo of Michael and Lisa Marie Presley going to an event in New York city.*



*Brathwaite shot five brothers because that night due to a leg injury Jackie did not perform.*





Brathwaite covered the funeral of Marley for magazines in Japan. After a private service held around 8am on Thursday, May 21 at the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, 89 Maxfield Ave., Kingston, members of the Jamaican Constabulary Force placed the casket on a jeep and transported it to the National Arena for the official Funeral Service.



EBM, October 1981: Kwame Brathwaite visited Jamaica for Reggae Sunsplash 1981. The concerts and Stevie Wonder paid tribute to Marley who departed Planet Earth on May 11, 1981.



### *Urban Radio Pioneer Hal Jackson and Bob Marley*

Herman Hall: As a consultant to WLIB Radio and a commentator, I was taping my biweekly commentary on the afternoon of September 18, 1980 when Kwame, Bob and Hal Jackson strolled in. (In 1978 and after, Basil Wilson and I interviewed Bob for EBM.) Mr. Jackson and Bob invited me to join them in Kwame's photo but I declined since it was my policy not to have my photo in EBM's editions. Big mistake! Not knowing it would be the last time Bob and I would chat. The next evening, Sep. 19, seated in the audience at Madison Square Garden, I saw him alive for the last time. Kwame's cherished portrait of Marley at MSG is in EBM July 1981 edition "Robert Nesta Marley – We Thank You."

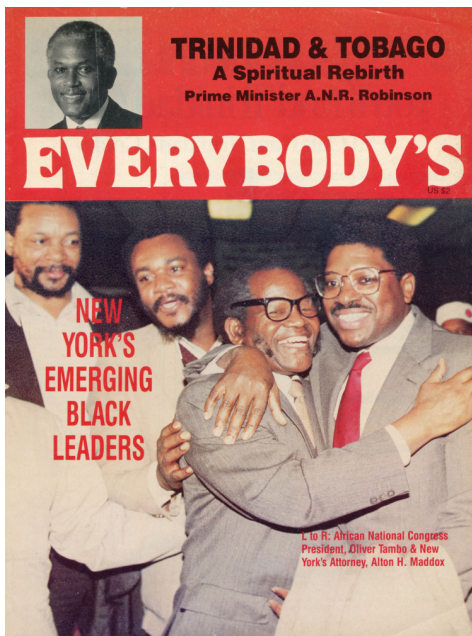


# MARVIN GAYE & MAURICE BISHOP

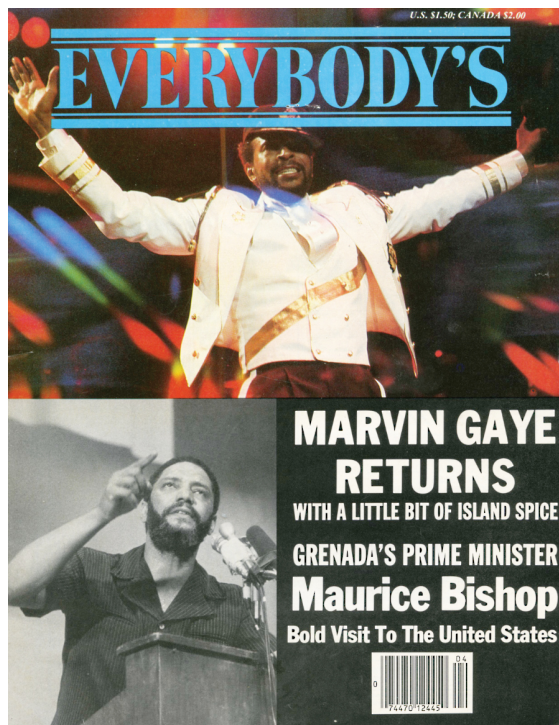
Some high-profile photographers focus only on one or two categories, such as fashion, wars, politics, etc. In his prime, Kwame Brathwaite was an all-rounder and a smooth operator. He became very successful in several fields of photography, and he cleverly persuaded editors and publishers to grant him diverse assignments. As a photojournalist, Brathwaite gracefully wrote about almost every subject, from civil rights, fashion, and Caribbean carnival to eliminating apartheid in South Africa. He covered every assignment with passion, dignity, and pleasure. He would excitedly travel from Harlem to Brooklyn to share his photo of Oliver Tambo of the African National Congress or photos of upcoming models.



Brathwaite captured prominent African Americans listening to Prime Minister Maurice Bishop at a hotel in Manhattan. (R to L) Congressman John Conyers who arranged for Bishop's visit to Detroit, Basil Paterson, first Black NY Secretary of State and father of former Governor David Paterson and then Manhattan Borough President and later mayor of NYC, David Dinkins.



In 1986, Brathwaite covered African National Congress President Oliver Tambo's (1917-1993) visit to New York. Nelson Mandela and Oliver Tambo were the two most wanted men by the apartheid government of South Africa. Tambo spent more than 30 years in exile. (L to R) Tambo's bodyguard, Samori Marksman, ANC President Oliver Tambo and Attorney Alton H. Maddox.



The year before Marvin Gaye's (1939-1984) untimely death, Kwame wrote an in-depth feature on him. Gaye's 1983 "Sexual Healing" from his *Midnight Love* album rocked the world. Through Kwame's knack, Gaye said, "I may even do an entire album of Caribbean music at some point. I've been listening to a lot of Bob Marley." Kwame's ability to switch from entertainment to politics is demonstrated in the June/July 1983 edition when Brathwaite covered the final visit of Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop in the U.S. That's why Gaye and Bishop graced the edition.





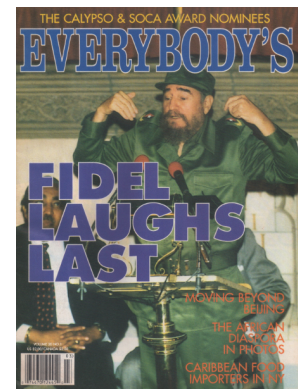
September 1995: Castro spoke for approximately 3½ hours at a rally held at the Abyssinian Baptist Church. Brathwaite, the Pan Africanist, photographed the historical event.

# FIDEL CASTRO IN HARLEM

*"In Harlem is where I have my best friends," Fidel Castro, Riverside Church, 2000.*

Although all U.S. presidents and their administrations did not welcome Cuban President Fidel Castro nor recognized his government, he was always welcomed in the Village of Harlem on his visits to the United Nations. In September 1960, his first visit, Castro stayed at the St. Theresa Hotel in Harlem.

September 8, 2000: Brathwaite's caption of Photograph: "President Fidel Castro of Cuba salutes the crowd welcoming him to Harlem at a rally at Riverside Church. Rev. Dr. James Forbes of the church accompanies him."



February 1996: Brathwaite's image of Castro visiting NY in September 1995 for the UN 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. President Bill Clinton and Mayor Rudy Giuliani refused to greet him, far less invite him to the U.S. gala reception for world leaders. That day Castro visited the Bronx Zoo where he enjoyed a hot dog and, in the evening, he spoke at the Abyssinian Baptist Church where Congressman Charles Rangel and Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts welcomed him.



# A BRILLIANT PHOTOJOURNALIST

**B**rathwaite artfully separated himself from Kwame the activist and progressive from Kwame the professional photographer. For example, honorees at the 1985 EVERYBODY'S Magazine Awards-Dinner with the proceeds to establish a Caribbean Library at Medgar Evers College, Brooklyn, NY included Prime Minister H.A. Blaize and Journalist Alister Hughes from Grenada. Some Black progressives and activists considered them as puppets of the U.S. Upon their arrival at the Awards-Dinner, former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, Congressman Major Owen, Dr. Jay Carrington Chunn, President of Medgar Evers College, other dignitaries and the EVERYBODY'S Magazine team were shocked to see Kwame, Elombe Brath, Samori Marksman and others demonstrating with large placards against Blaize and Hugues presence in front of the venue. After they made their point, they left. Kwame, the demonstrator, entered the gala as Kwame the photographer.

In his prime, Brathwaite wrote lengthy features on various topics from politics and civil rights to sports and fashion and anything in between for this magazine.



*Image of Kwame Brathwaite taken by Valerie Bell-Bey on June 13, 1999 when Brathwaite was president of NCA-New York.*



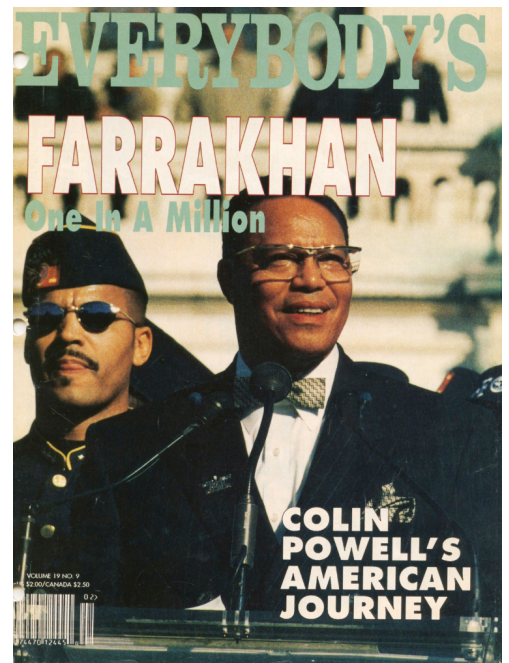
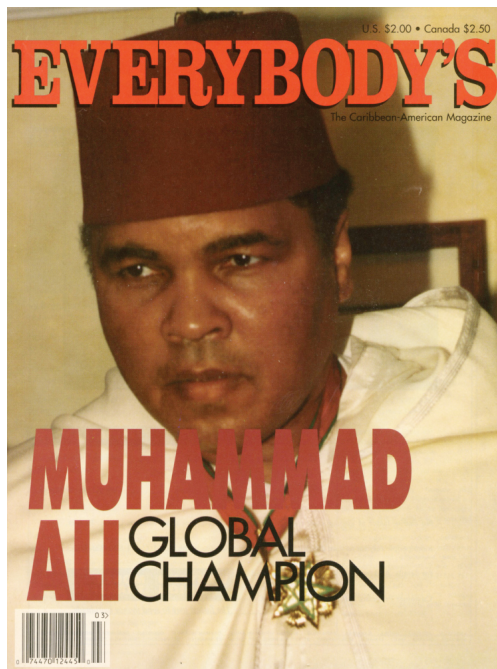
*L to R: Kwame Brathwaite, Ghana's Vice President Aliu Mahama and NCA Trustee Dr. Rosalind Jefferies at opening of NCA Exhibit in Ghana. (Photographer unknown)*



*For decades Kwame, Elombe and others revealed the sufferings of Black people in southern Africa and their quest for independence; information hidden by the U.S. government. (photo) Namibian Prime Minister Hage Gein-gob speaking to the Harlem community.*



February 1998, Muhammad Ali: “Muhammad Ali, probably the best known and most loved man in the world (the Pope might dispute this) has become the Champion of hungry kids around the world. *EVERYBODY'S* Magazine traveled to Morocco with Ali and witnessed the magic that he still displays as he spreads his wealth and compassion to feed hungry children worldwide ... Ali and entourage were guests of King Hassan II of Morocco.”



NCA-NY President Kwame Brathwaite and U.S. Ambassador Charles Twining cut ribbon opening the NCA Master's Exhibit in Accra, Ghana. The exhibit included images of the African American experience. (Photographer unknown)



A Kwame photograph of his brother Elombe who provided graphics for Gil Noble's *Like It Is* seen on WABC-TV New York and Gil Noble. Noble's parents also met at a Marcus Garvey rally in Harlem.

Jan/Feb 2005, Brathwaite's feature on Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater: “A reason for the success of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is the composition of its dancers. Many members hail from various countries ... several Trinidadians and other West Indians developed their professional dance careers through the inspiration of the Company's late founder Alvin Ailey.”





*This Kwame photo showed the Black leadership supporting David Dinkins for Mayor of New York City. (L to R): Civil Rights Activist Rev. Herbert Daughtry, David Dinkins, Harry Belafonte and Congressman Charles Rangel.*

*July 1998, Tyra Banks, an inspiration to Black models: "Before you join the ranks of Tyra Banks, Cindy Crawford ... Iman, Naomi Campbell and those earning over a million dollars per year, you are going to wear out many pairs of heels and soles."*



*Mayor David Dinkins welcomed Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and his wife to New York City. Kwame was there to capture the moment.*

*December 2002, Zimbabwe: "The situation in Zimbabwe pits the legitimate aspirations of indigenous Africans against foreign settlers who for generations have stolen lands ... who turned a blind eye on the apartheid policies of the colonialist regime that once governed the areas known a Southern Rhodesia."*



*Celebrating David Dinkins election as Mayor of New York City. It was a dream come true for Kwame; he was there that night to record the history-making event.*





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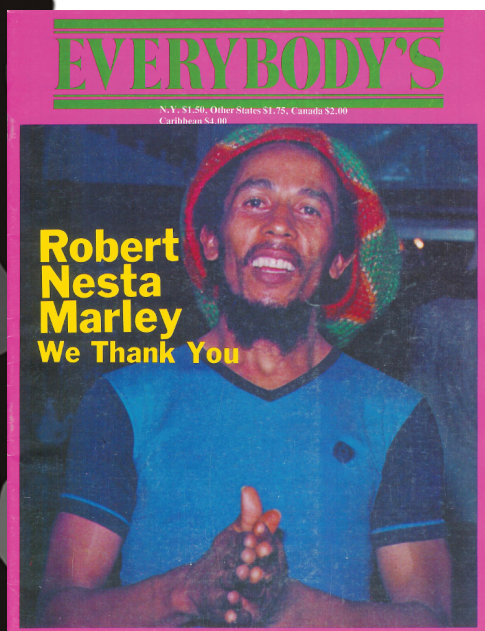
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