

Il fume comme une locomotive (1), 2016



Kura Shomali

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Ink, pigment and pencil on paper

33.85 x 24 inches

Signé et daté

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INV Nbr. KS1802166

Description:

Could be made after the photograph of Jean Depara, "Autoportrait à la cigarette", c.1955-1965

Jean Depara

Born in 1928 in Kboklolo, Angola

Deceased in 1997 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DCR), where he lived and worked.

Arrived in Kinshasa in 1951, Depara tries to combine photography with small jobs: repairing bikes and cameras, scrap dealer.

Kinshasa is a big capital where you can here Rumba and cha-cha-cha day and night. The famous Zaïrois singer Franco invites him to concerts and becomes the main subject of Depara's photographs. Depara installs his studio: "the Jean Whisky Depara".

He spends his days at the Kwist, Ok Ba or Sarma Congo, famous bars in town. During the night, he goes to fashionable night clubs: the AfroMogenbo, the Champs-Elysées, the DjamboDjambu and enjoys takings photographs of these night owls that are proud to buy their photographs from him. The black and white photographs show the crazy atmosphere, the joy, the carelessness of the SAPE (Société des Ambianceurs et des Personnalités Élégantes) of that time. Depara ceases his activities in 1989.