

## Malick Sidibé Mali's Photographer at Somerset House

October 06, 2016



Malick Sidibé Les jeunes bergers peulhs, 1972 Tirage argentique baryté Papier : 50 x 60 cm  
Signé et daté © Malick Sidibé Courtesy Galerie MAGNIN-A, Paris

Somerset House today (6th Oct) opens up its doors to the first major solo exhibition in the UK to the late Malick Sidibé. The Eye of Modern Mali is part of the larger 1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair and a joint collaboration with MAGNIN-A Gallery, Paris.

Sidibé's acclaimed black and white images chronicle the life and times of a young and free generation of Mali. His images capture a moment in time where those living in the Malian

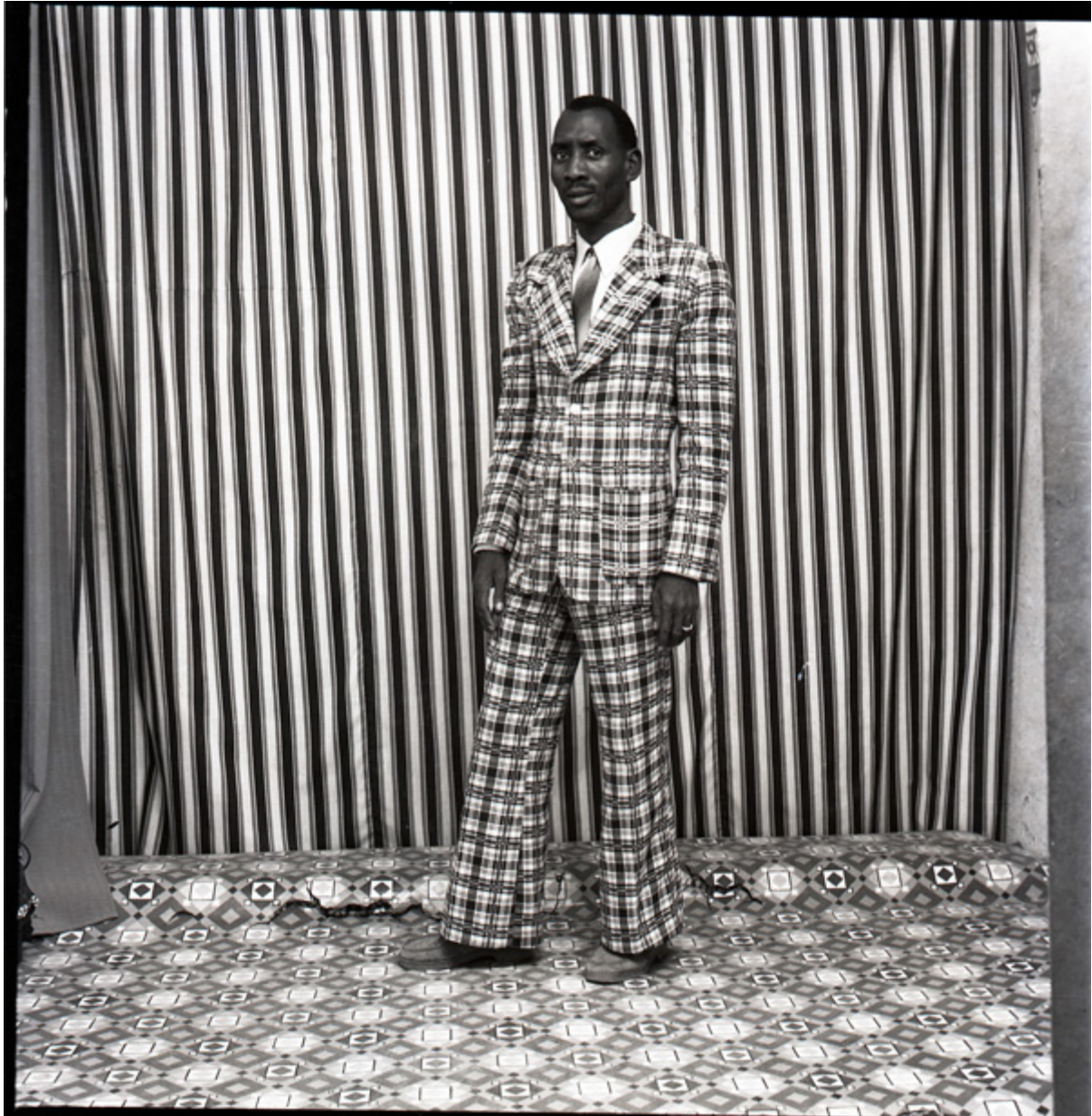
capital Bamako were still celebrating the country's independence. The show is curated by Andre Magnin and Philippe Boutte and will show over 40 of Sidibé prints taken during the 1960's and '70's. The exhibition is split into three themes and across three separate rooms – each reverberating to the specially commissioned audio track by Rita Ray. It was Sidibé's proclamation that 'music freed us'.



Malick Sidibé *Nuit de Noël (Happy Club)*, 1963 Tirage argentique baryté Image : 100x 100 cm. Papier : 120 x 120 cm Signé et daté © Malick Sidibé Courtesy Galerie MAGNIN-A, Paris

The rooms focus on 'Beside the Niger River', 'Nightlife in Bamako' and 'The Studio' – the later being where his trademark style is at its strongest. Sidibé was the first African photographer to receive a Golden Lion at the Venice Biennale, in 2007. His life's work is said to include over 400,000 negatives, most of which were taken in his small studio in Bamako.





Malick Sidibé A moi seul, 1978 Tirage argentique baryté Papier : 50 x 60 cm Signé et daté © Malick Sidibé Courtesy Galerie MAGNIN-A, Paris.

**Malick Sidibé: The Eye Of Modern Mali**

6th October to 15th January 2017.

Free entry – Terrace Rooms, Somerset House, London

#MalickSidibe

<http://photography.news/malick-sidibe-mali-somerset-house/>