

Sep 19 – Oct 31

Kayode (1955 – 1989)

ROTIMI FANI



© Rotimi Fani-Kayode, courtesy Autograph ABP & Tiwani Contemporary, London

Tiwani Contemporary is hosting the exhibition Rotimi Fani-Kayode (1955-1989), a solo retrospective of the work of this seminal and highly influential figure in 1980s black British and African contemporary art. Although his career was cut short by his untimely death at the age of 34, Fani-Kayode nonetheless remains one of the most significant names in the history of black photography. Fani-Kayode's photographic portraits explore complex personal and politically-engaged notions of desire, spirituality and cultural dislocation. They depict the black male body as a focal point both to interpret and probe the boundaries of spiritual and erotic fantasy, and of cultural and sexual difference. Fani-Kayode uses the medium of photography not only to question issues of sexuality and homoerotic desire, but also to address themes of diaspora and belonging, and the tensions between his homosexuality and his traditional Yoruba upbringing.

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