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**California African American Museum Presents
Kinship & Community and *Rahim Fortune*
at Art + Practice**

**Complementary Exhibitions Contrast Archival and Contemporary
Photography from Black Texans**



(Los Angeles, CA) — The California African American Museum (CAAM) and Art + Practice (A+P) are pleased to announce two exhibitions that focus on everyday photographic narratives from Texas, part of CAAM's ongoing commitment to visualizing Black life in California and beyond. ***Kinship & Community: Selections from the Texas African American Photography Archive*** features images by community photographers from 1944 to 1984, while ***Rahim Fortune: Between a Memory and Me*** focuses on contemporary photography from the region. These exhibitions will be on view at A+P in Leimert Park from April 18 to September 5, 2026.

Throughout the twentieth century, nearly every small town in the United States boasted a local studio photographer. These skilled image makers were dedicated to recording the people and events of their communities. Much of this vernacular visual culture has been dispersed or

destroyed. *Kinship & Community* takes a look at a rare slice of that history, focusing on the work of Black photographers working in urban neighborhoods and rural villages across eastern Texas from 1944 to 1984.

Central to the exhibition is the role of the community photographer, who documents, even shapes, a close-knit place by emphasizing the people and rituals of everyday life: portraits, parties, rodeos, church meetings, parades, political gatherings, and school photos. Drawn from the Texas African American Photography Archive, the works span some of the most volatile and consequential years of the civil rights movement, collectively showing the daily experiences of Black life in Texas against the backdrop of segregation and a rapidly changing world.

Between a Memory and Me is the first solo exhibition in Los Angeles of work by Rahim Fortune. Born in Austin, Texas, and raised in the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, Fortune uses photography to explore the layered, complex nature of American identity, foregrounding the connections between the communities he photographs and the land they inhabit.

Fortune's black-and-white photographs from his Hardtack project weave together tender and reverent portraits of Black life, vast landscapes, and closeup studies. The exhibition also includes Fortune's new color photographs, commissioned by Aperture and Documentary Arts and created in response to the Texas African American Photography Archive. Fortune's short film, also on view, takes viewers through the fields and roads of rural Texas, lingering lovingly on quiet, exquisite details. Together they celebrate the histories embedded in the landscape of the American South and the traditions they carry forward.

CAAM Executive Director Cameron Shaw said, "These two exhibitions capture similar everyday scenes across time. From archival images to contemporary art, we see the uniqueness of place and point of view through the photographic medium. CAAM at A+P brings these distinct Black expressions into dialogue with one another and with the Leimert Park community."

Kinship & Community curator Nicole R. Fleetwood said, "'From school gatherings to marches to family celebrations, the Texas African American Photography Archive is remarkable for its ability to document the sheer voluminosity of Black everyday life. The images are testaments to the beauty, creativity, and endurance of Black communities under de jure and de facto segregation and the power of Black community photographers as documentarians, artists, and technologists."

Kinship & Community: Selections from the Texas African American Photography Archive is organized by the Center for Photography at Woodstock and curated by Nicole R. Fleetwood, independent curator and Paulette Goddard Professor at New York University, with research assistance from Eva Cilman and Anisa Jackson. The exhibition is co-presented by the California African American Museum and Art + Practice as part of CAAM at A+P, a five-year collaboration.

Between a Memory and Me is organized by the Center for Photography at Woodstock. The exhibition is co-presented by the California African American Museum and Art + Practice as part of CAAM at A+P, a five-year collaboration.

[Exhibition Press Kits](#)

Related Programming

Saturday, April 18, 2026 | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

In Conversation: Nicole R. Fleetwood and LeRonn P. Brooks @ Art + Practice

Media Contacts:

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[Please click here to download the press kit.](#)

About the California African American Museum

CAAM explores the art, history, and culture of African Americans, with an emphasis on California and the West. Chartered by the State of California in 1977, the Museum began formal operations in 1981 and is a state-supported agency and a Smithsonian Affiliate. In addition to presenting exhibitions and public programs, CAAM houses a permanent collection of more than 5,000 works of art, artifacts, and historical documents, and a publicly accessible research library. Admission to CAAM is free.

Museum hours: Tuesday–Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closed Mondays (except MLK Day), Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day. CAAM is located in Exposition Park at the corner of Figueroa Street and Exposition Boulevard, west of the 110 (Harbor) Freeway. Exposition Park parking is available for \$20 (daytime) at 39th and Figueroa Streets. The Metro Expo line Expo Park/USC station is a five-minute walk through the Exposition Park Rose Garden to the Museum.

About Art + Practice

A+P is a private operating 501(c)3 foundation based in the neighborhood of Leimert Park in South Los Angeles. A+P supports the local needs of transition-age foster youth and children experiencing displacement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zimbabwe through its collaborations with nonprofit providers First Place for Youth and Nest Global. A+P also provides Angelenos with access to museum-curated art exhibitions and diverse public programs, organized by CAAM. Admission to A+P is free.

Hours: Tuesday–Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closed Sundays, Mondays, and select national holidays. A+P is located in historic Leimert Park Village at 3401 W. 43rd Place, Los Angeles, with a space for public programs across the street at 4334 Degnan Boulevard. There is metered parking on Degnan Boulevard and W. 43rd Place. Free street parking can be found in the neighboring residential area with a two-block walk to A+P. Bus lines that stop nearby are 40, 102, 210, 705, 710, and 740. A+P is also serviced by the Metro K Rail Line. The station is Leimert Park.

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Images

Rodney Evans, *Photography students, Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas, 1961*. Gelatin silver print. Courtesy Documentary Arts/Texas African American Photography Archive

Rahim Fortune, *Prairie View Homecoming Parade, Prairie View, Texas, 2024*. Archival pigment print, 30 x 40 in. © Rahim Fortune, courtesy Sasha Wolf Projects, New York