

ANTIGUA PRIDE

MARGO DAVIS
PHOTOGRAPHS 1967-1973



As young artists, we are drawn to projects that help us understand truths about who we are and what we want to become. When we are just starting out, that process is intuitive, at times random; it is also intense and thrilling. This was my experience when I began photographing in Antigua in 1967. It was the very beginning of a long journey in photography that is evolving to this day, 40 years later.

From my first days in Antigua, I was overwhelmed by the timeless beauty of the place and especially by the strength of its people. I was born on the East Coast of the United States, a few thousand miles to the north. I was welcomed into a world and culture different from my own.

Starting with the Antigua photographs in this exhibit, my life's journey has been with a camera and with an eye for the landscape of the human face. Although I was often moved to photograph the beaches and sunsets, and the shapely old sugar mills and estate houses of the island, I am primarily a portraitist. Drawn to the people of the villages that dotted the island, my early inspirations came from the faces you see here. Whenever possible, I asked permission to photograph — because the power of my portrait style depended on the comfort of the people that I was photographing.

Since those early years, my interest in humanistic photography has propelled me into the world of various cultures. I have exhibited those photographs internationally and produced four books. However, it was on the island of Antigua where my passion for photography first began to flourish. *Antigua Black; Portrait of an Island People* was created and published in 1973. I want to thank again all the Antiguan who helped make this collection possible.

Margo Davis

ANTIGUA PRIDE

MARGO DAVIS

Photographs 1967-1973

The Powder Magazine, English Harbour Antigua

December 1 2013 – March 1 2014

The photographs of Margo Davis grow out of the humanistic tradition in photography following in the footsteps of predecessors like Dorothea Lange, Walker Evans and Paul Strand. Davis' photographs focus on the cultures of the world and are distinguished by the unique connection she forges with her subjects.

From 1967 to 1973, Davis produced a series of wonderful black and white images of the land and people of Antigua, W.I. They were published in *Antigua Black; Portrait of an Island People*. Only 5000 copies were printed in 1973. They are now collectors' items. It is for this reason that I felt inspired to bring these powerful images to a new generation of Antiguan.

The Reverend George A. Weston, a native son of Antigua, used to emphasize the importance of "knowing one's own history." His words continue to resonate with my vision for this exhibition and catalogue entitled: ANTIGUA PRIDE.

Margo Davis has a remarkable sensitivity that captures the true soul of a very human landscape. Her photographs are classic compositions that transmit to a contemporary audience the island life of Antigua from the last century.

Niki Michelin Feilles

Curator

ANTIGUA PRIDE

PHOTOGRAPHS 1967-1973

- 7 *English Harbour
from Shirley Heights 1967*
44" x 44" edition of 6
- 8 *Palms at Carlisle 1970*
44" x 44" edition of 6
- 9 *Young Antiguan Beauty
with White Scarf 1969*
20" x 20" edition of 25
- 10 *St. John's Market 1972*
14" x 14" edition of 25
- 11 *Woman Washing 1970*
16" x 20" vintage
- 12 *Curtain Bluff 1970*
20" x 24" edition of 25

- 13 *The Reverend George A. Weston 1970*
30" x 30" edition of 10
- 14 *Abandoned Sugar Mill 1969*
20" x 20" edition of 25
- 15 *Carrying Home Mangoes 1970*
20" x 20" edition of 25
- 16 *Portrait of Cane Cutter 1970*
14" x 14" edition of 25
- 17 *In the Cane Fields 1970*
14" x 14" edition of 25
- 18 *Steel Band at Carnival 1970*
14" x 14" edition of 25
- 19 *Bolans Woman 1967*
20" x 24" edition of 25

- 20 *Dead Sands 1970*
44" x 44" edition of 6
- 21 *Bendal's Girl with Bucket 1970*
20" x 20" edition of 25
- 22 *Cades Bay Stone House 1969*
20" x 20" edition of 25
- 23 *Foundation Mixed School Girls 1967*
14" x 14" edition of 25
- 24 *Village Kids Dancing
to Otis Redding 1970*
- 25 *Village Life 1970*
20" x 24" edition of 25
- 27 *Zell 1967*
20" x 20" edition of 25

Front cover: *Old Woman of Bolans
in Straw Hat 1969*, 30" x 30" edition of 10

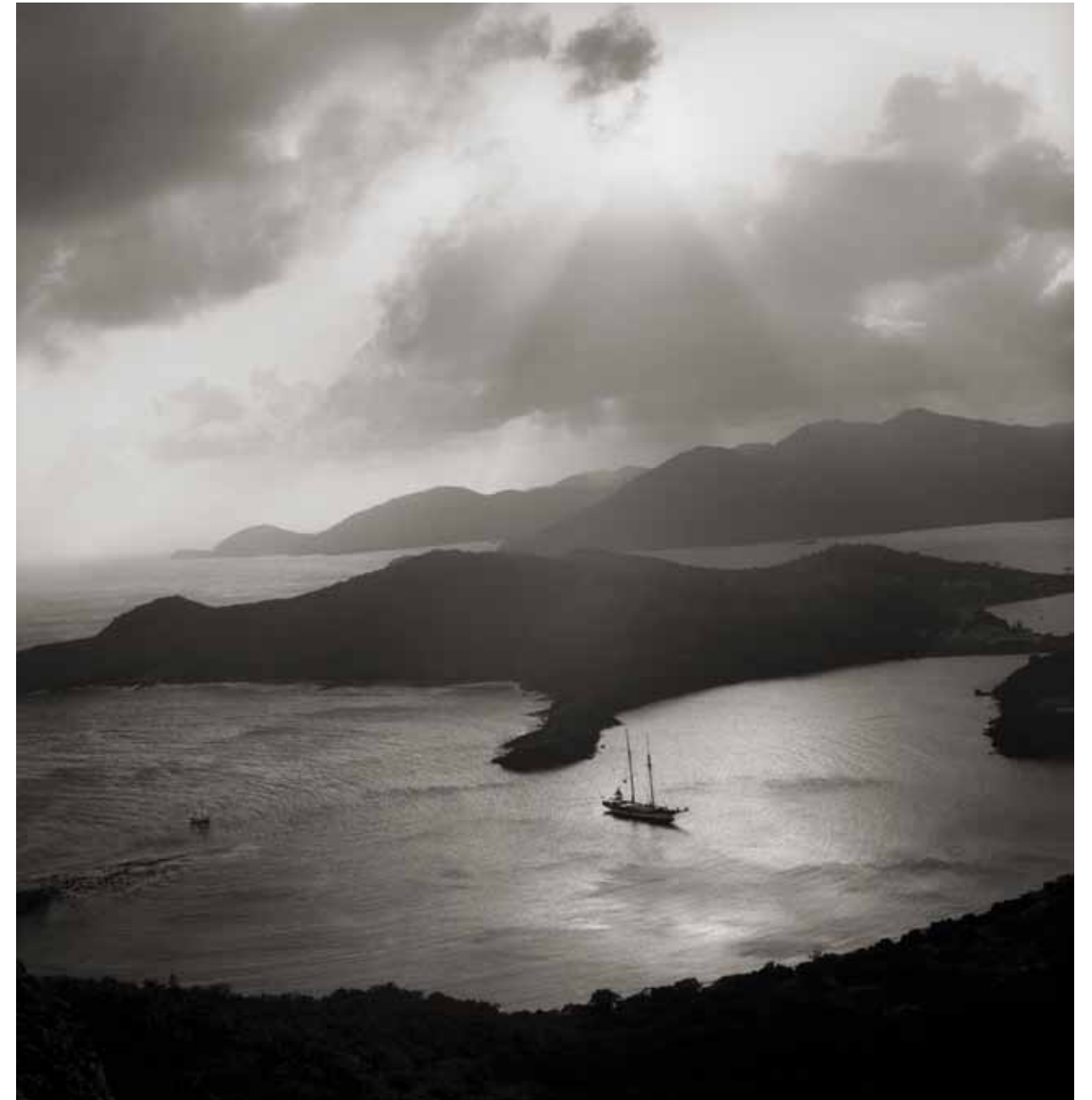
Back cover: *Bolans Girl in Tin House 1967*,
20 x 20" edition of 25

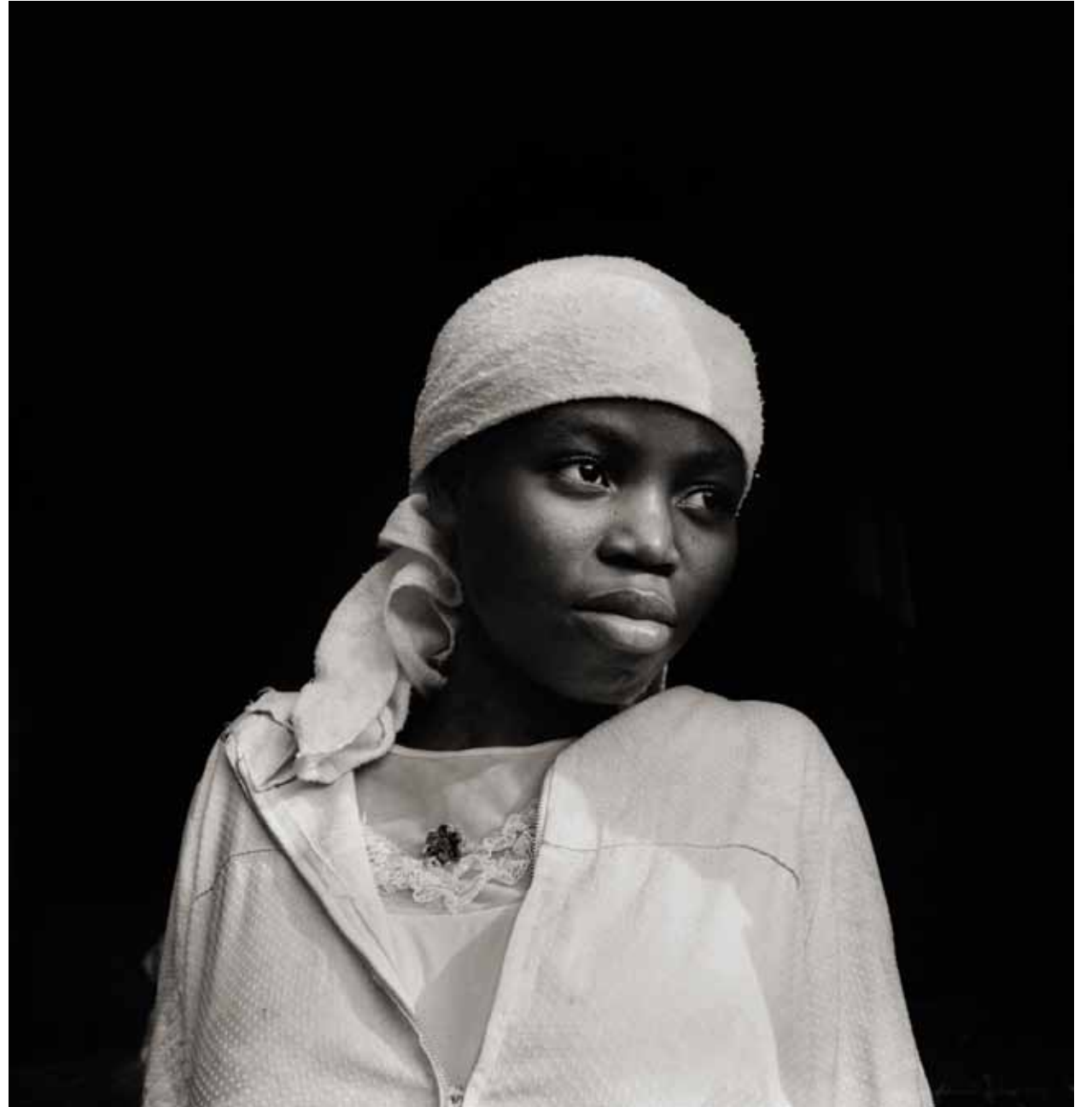
Prints are available: limited edition of 25 - 20 x 24 inches, 20 x 20 inches, 14 x 14 inches
 limited edition of 10 - 30 x 30 inches
 limited edition of 6 - 44 x 44 inches
 (English Harbour, Dead Sands, Palms at Carlisle Bay)

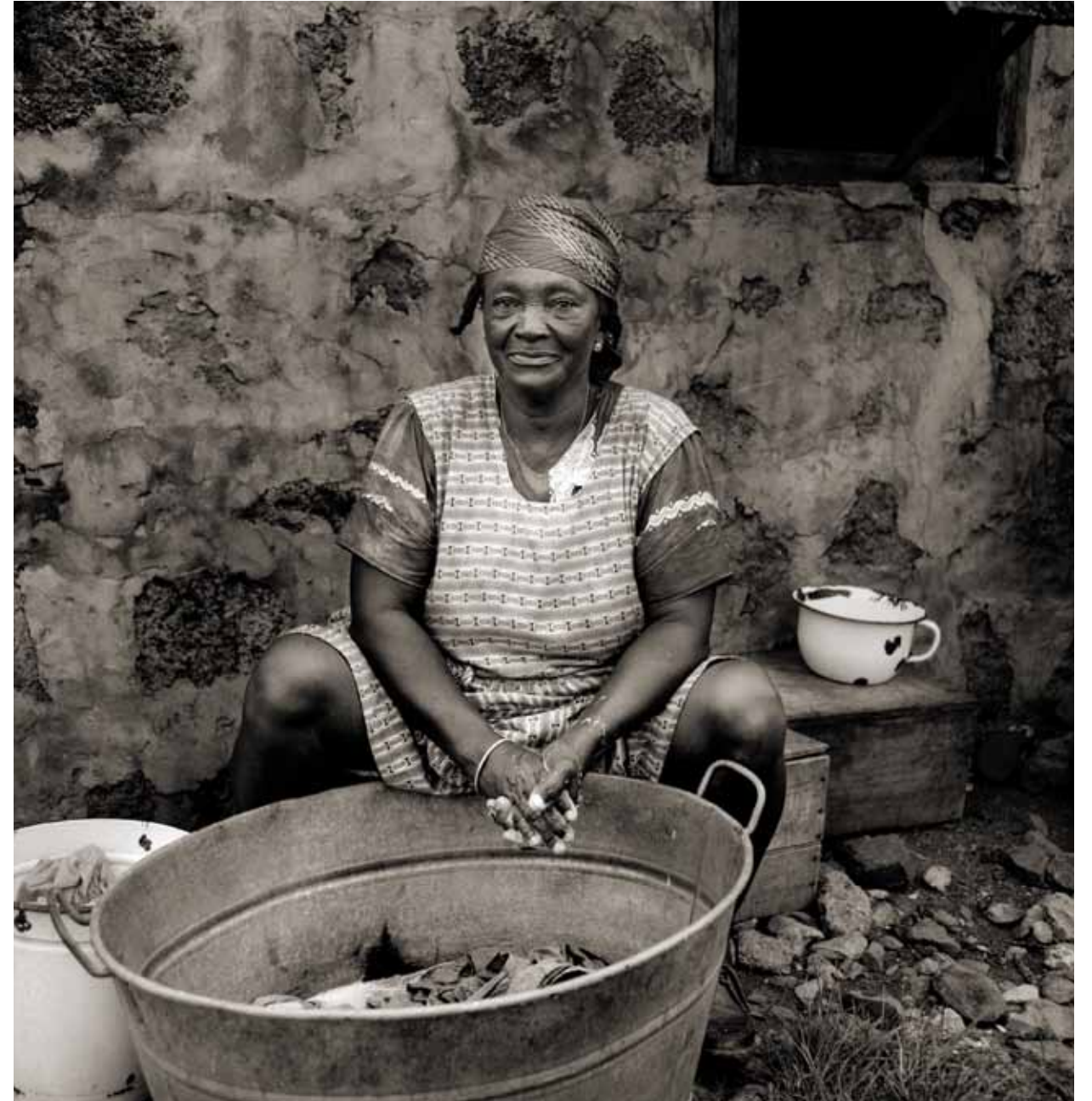
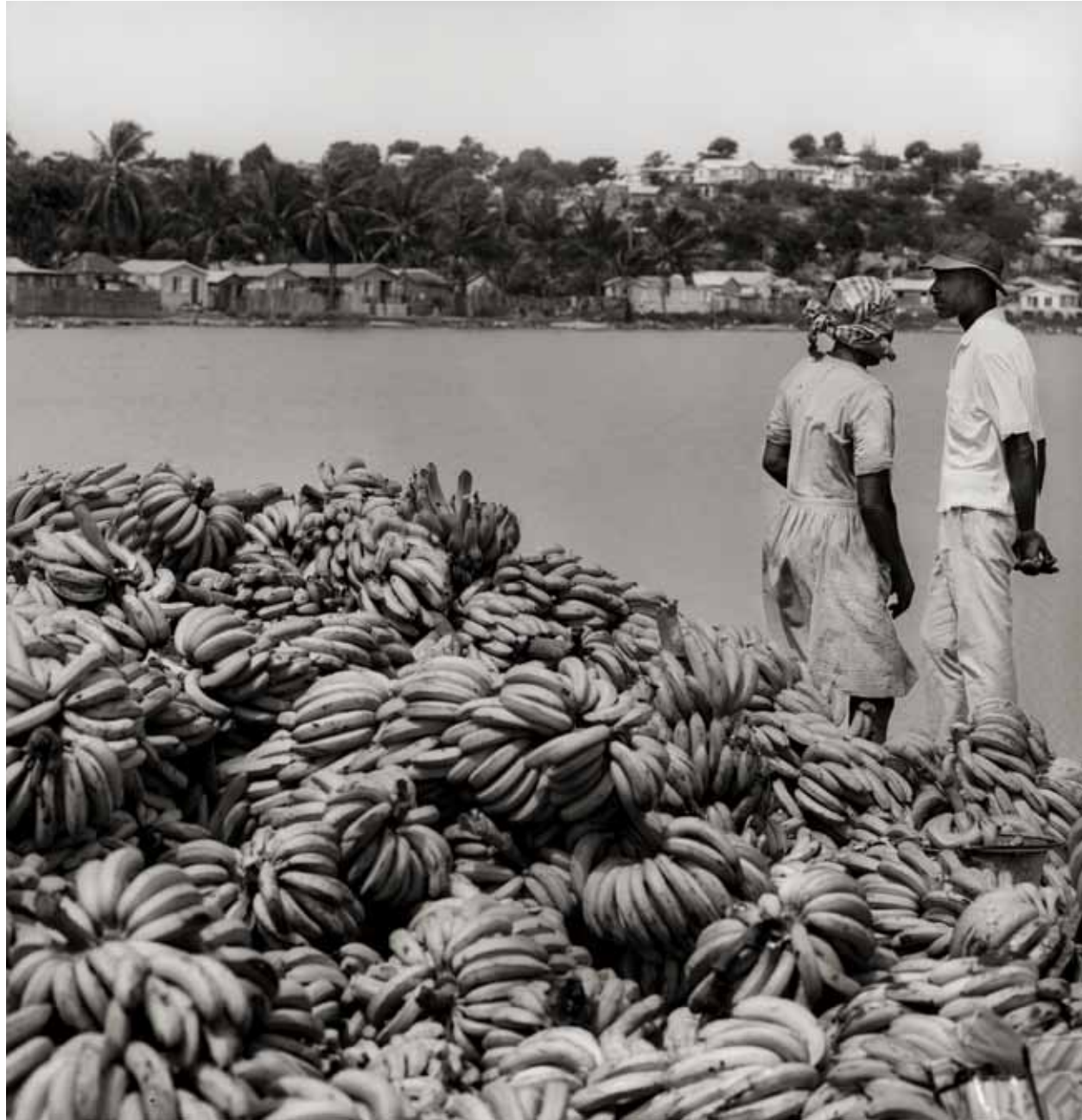
All photography print enquiries please contact nikimichelin@hotmail.com

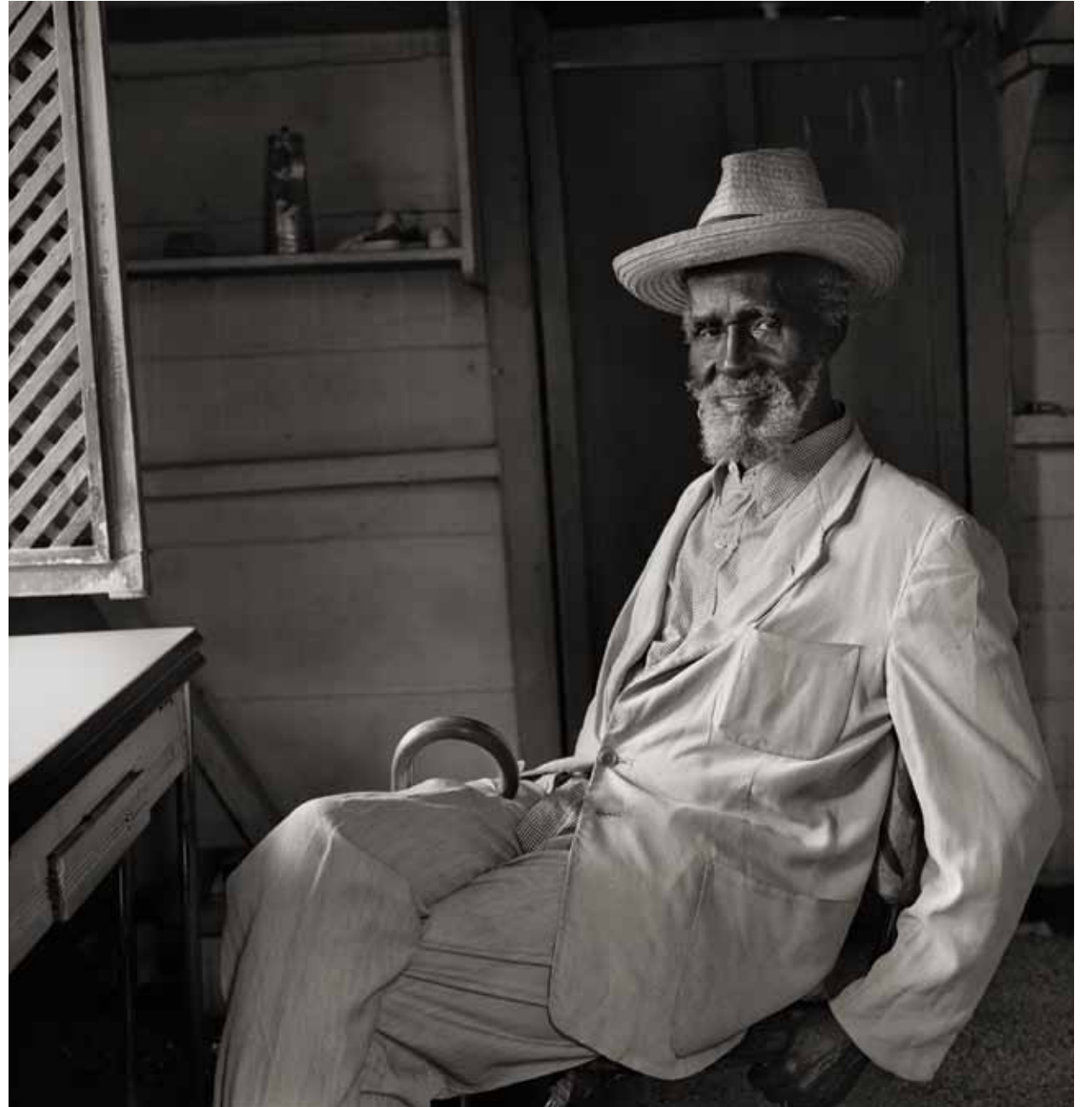
“A Photographer who is also an artist is able to summon from her subject the viewer, not only the viewed. Margo Davis is such an artist.”

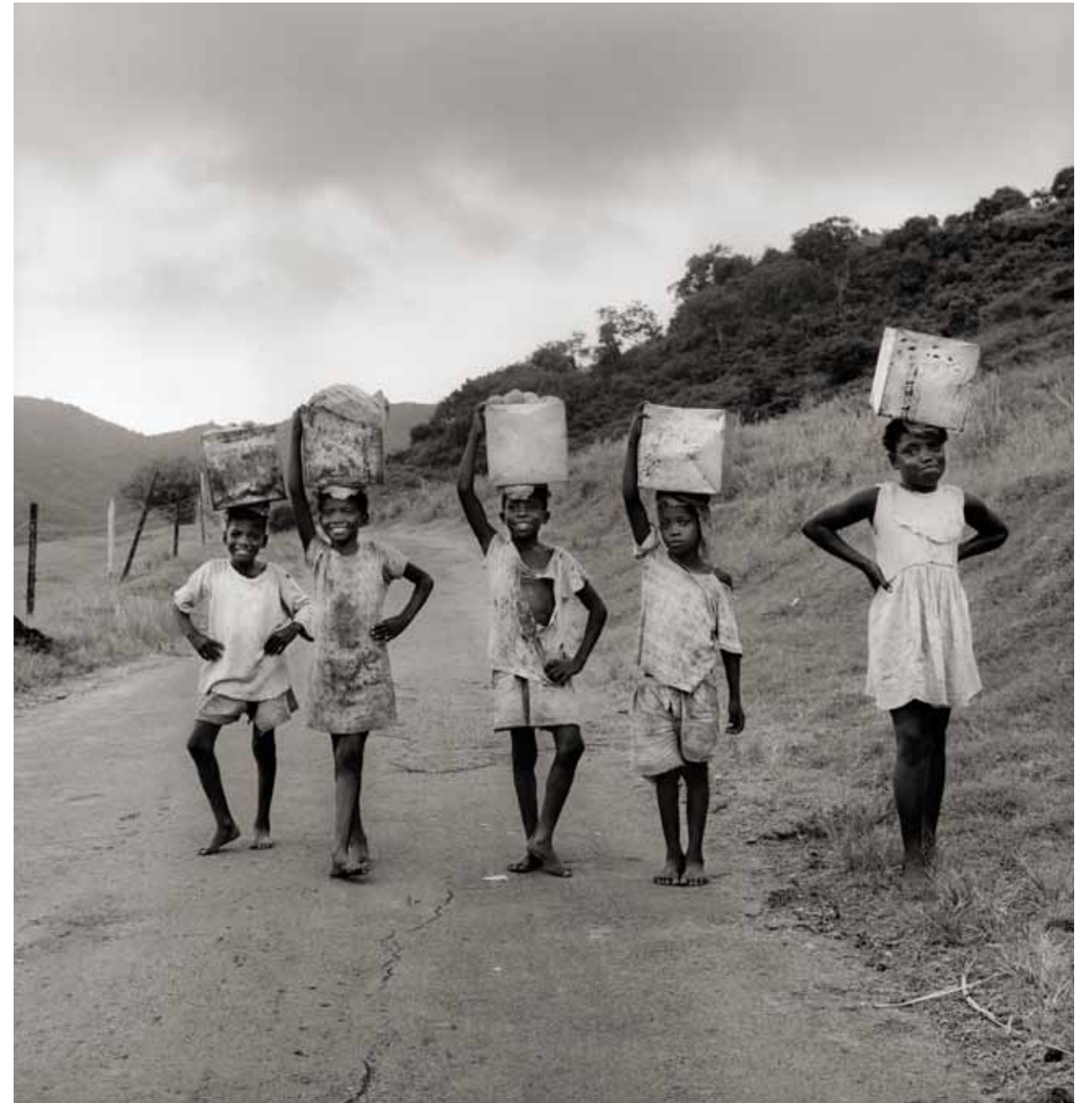
Toni Morrison, nobel Prize-winning novelist



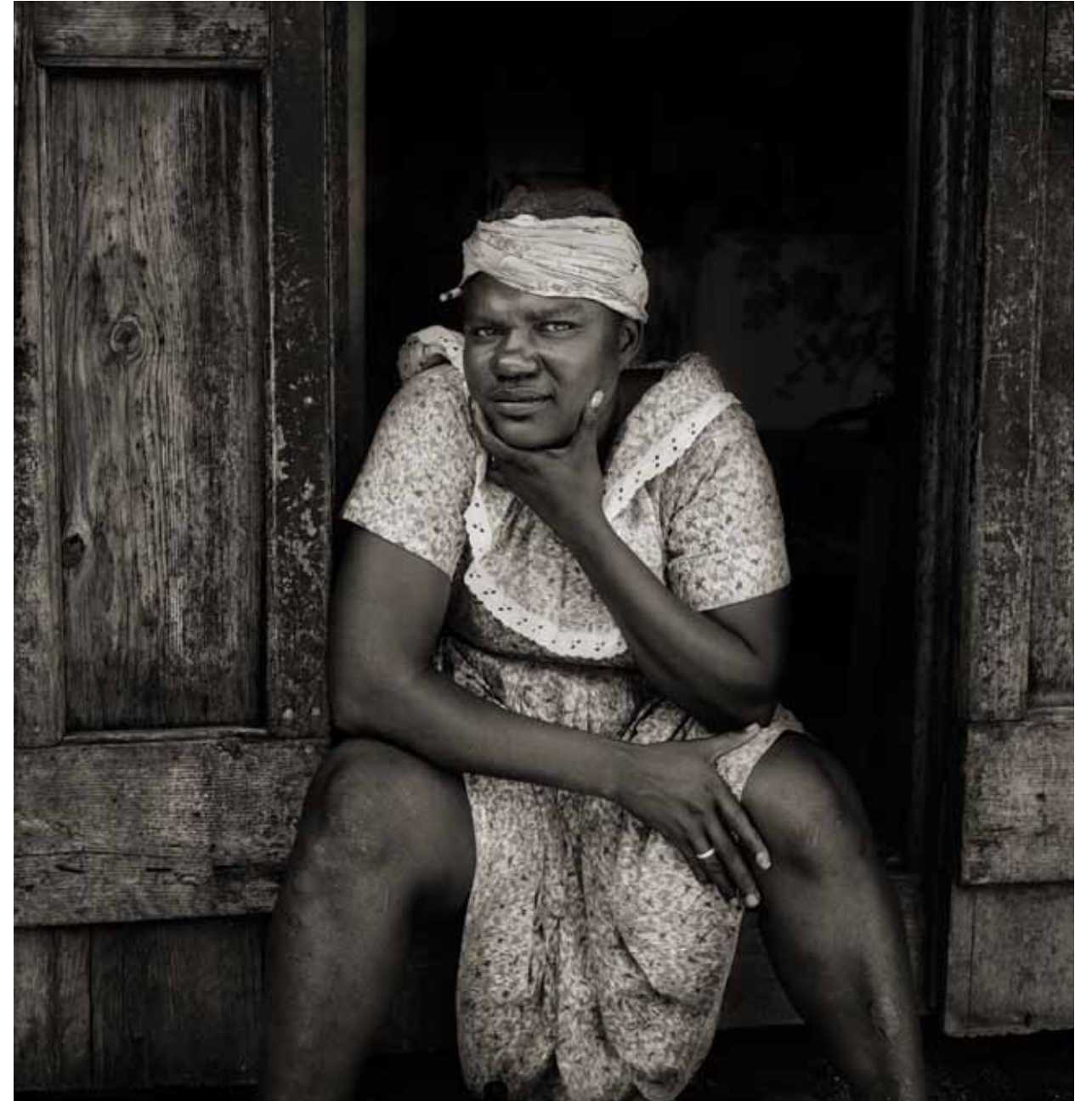
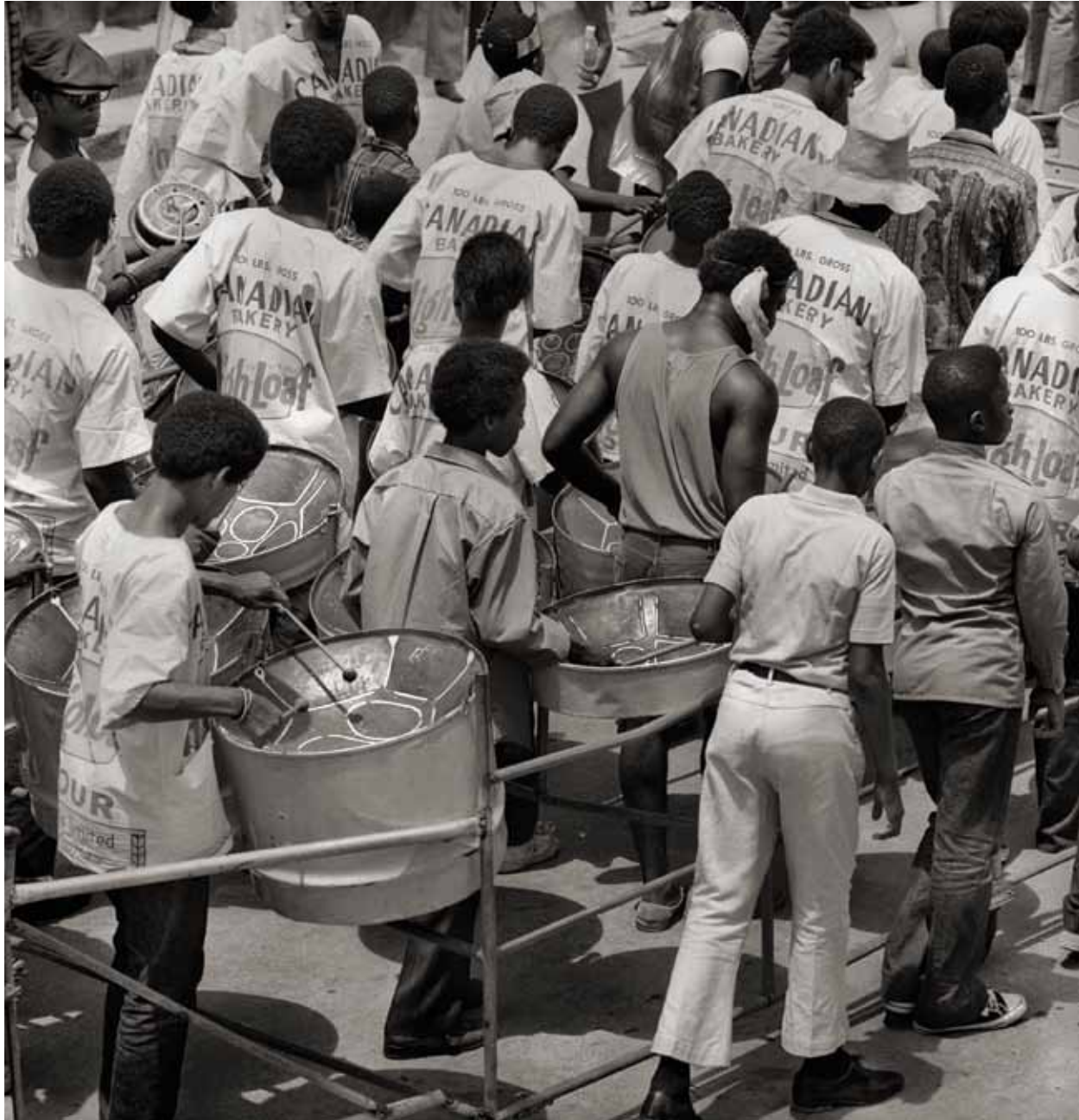


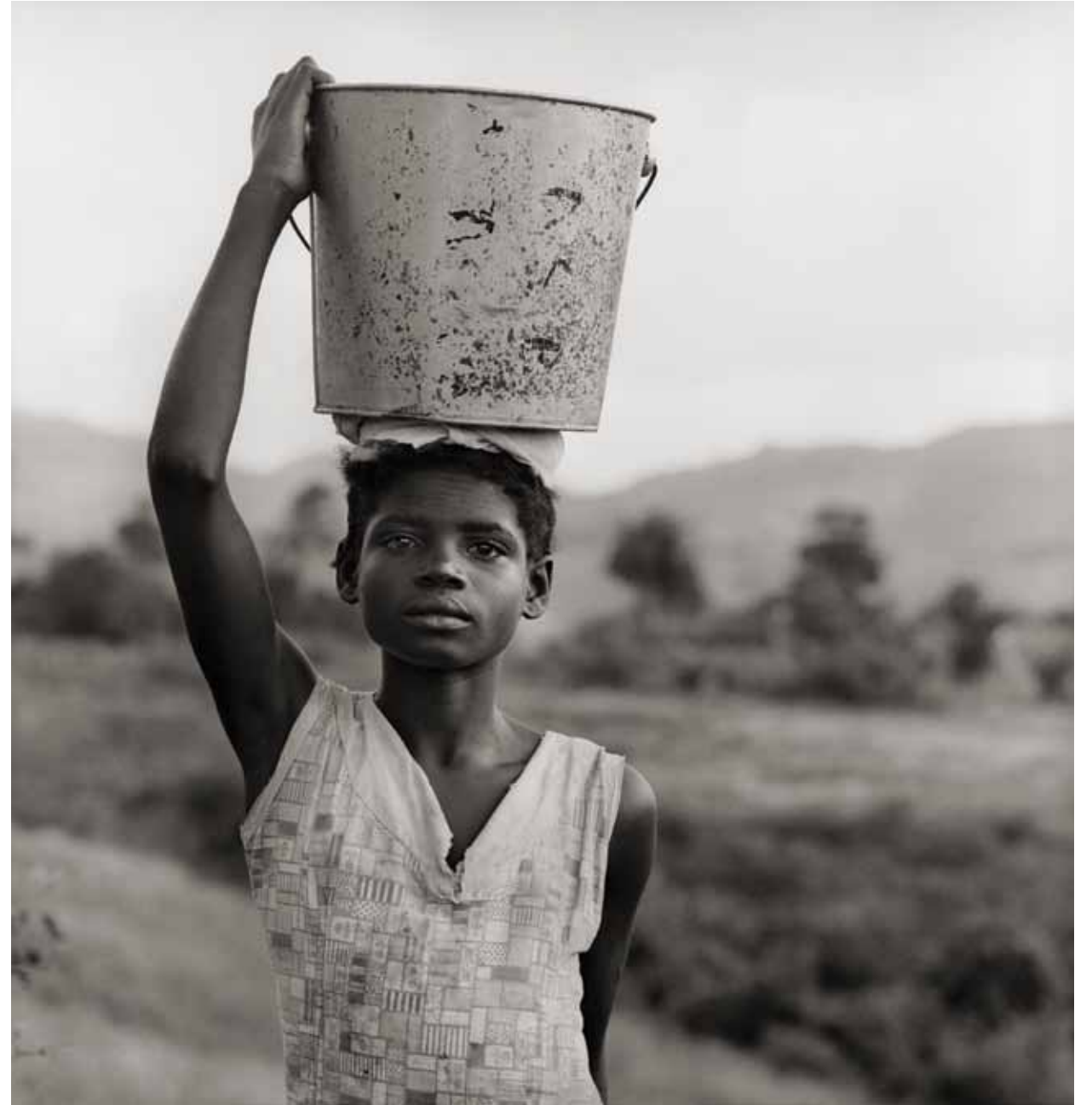
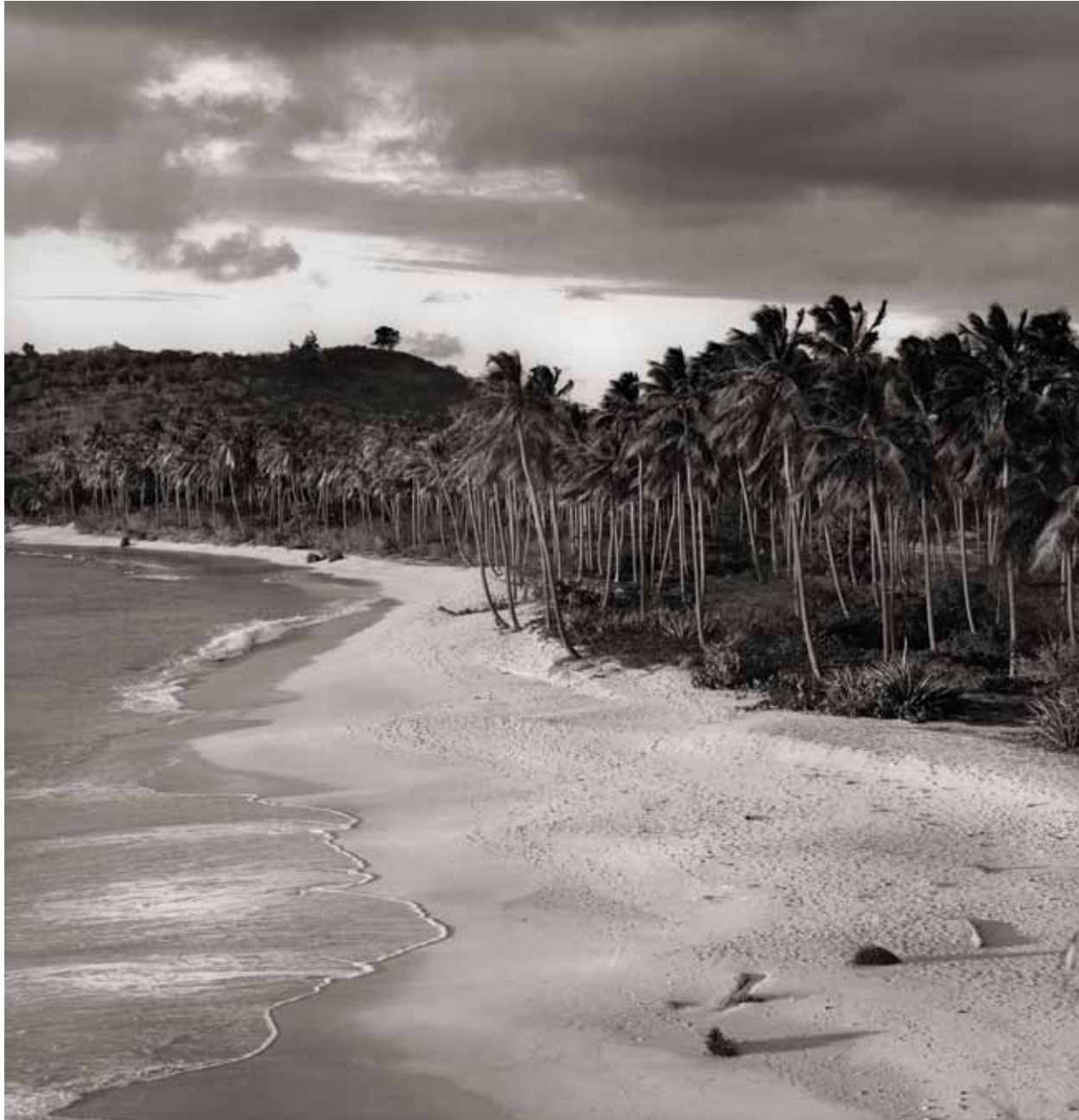


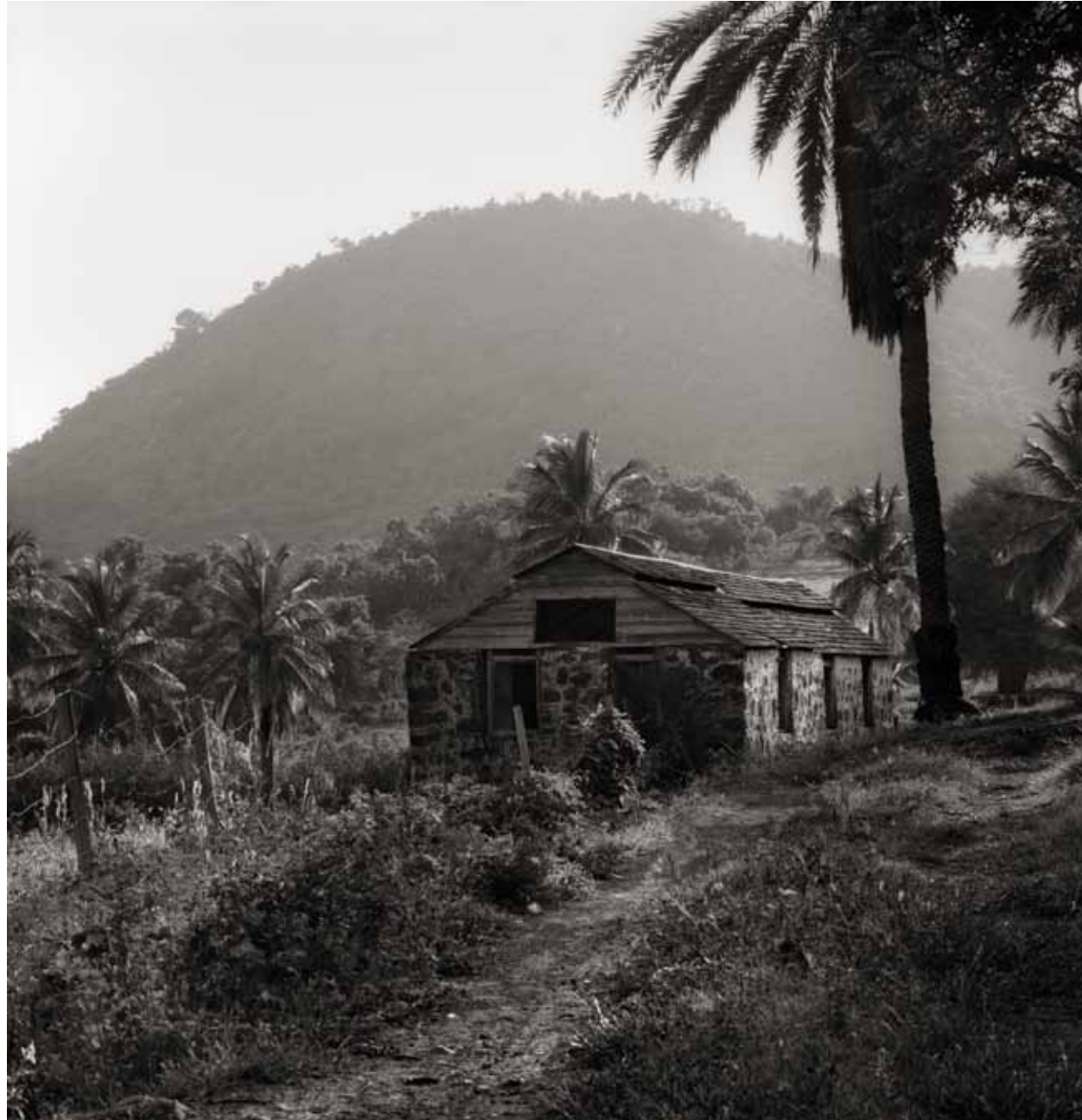


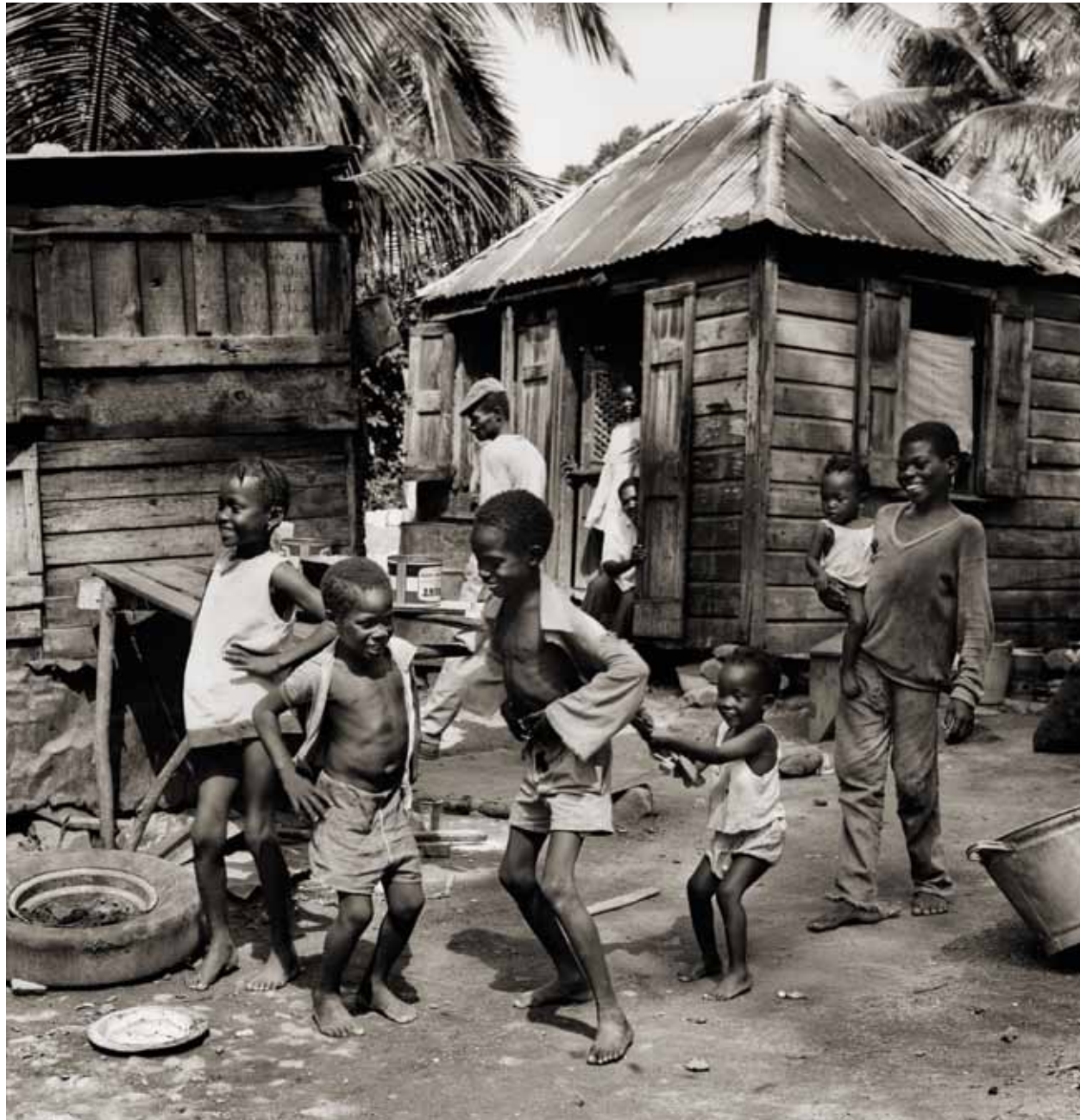














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