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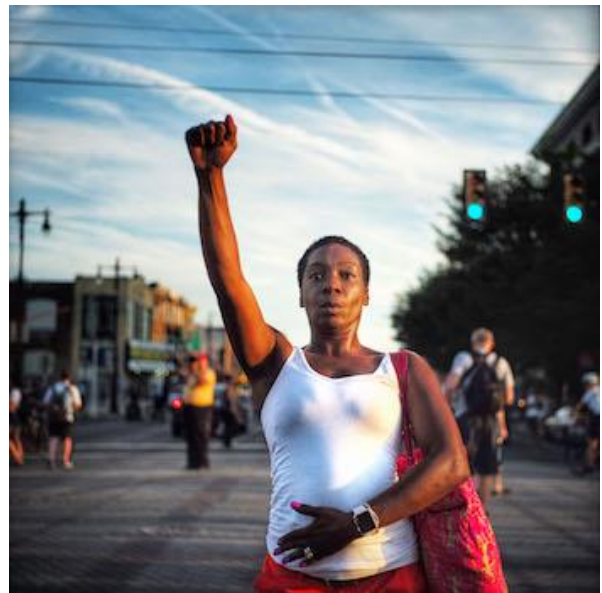


Radcliff “Ruddy” Roye Shows What It’s Like “When Living Is A Protest”

By Vikki Tobak

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Photographer Radcliffe “Ruddy” Roye likes to walk. And look. And see. His first solo exhibition *When Living Is A Protest*, opens Friday, September 16th at Steven Kasher Gallery featuring intimate, telling portraits of people he meets walking the streets, many of them in his Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood in Brooklyn.



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The exhibition features 20 large scale photographs, the portraits inviting you to look closely as Roye's images give equal visibility to the disenfranchised living for the day to the activists raising a fist in protest. He views himself as an equal parts activist, humanist and photographer (on Instagram he describes himself as an "Instagram Humanist/Activist").

The Jamaica native spends meaningful time with each subject, listening to their stories and capturing images that convey dignity and understanding. At a time when visual representation of black lives, everyday life and social justice activism is so crucial, a documentarian like Roye seems necessary and right on time.

Roye has photographed dancehall musicians, protests in Ferguson and in New York, and is one of the youngest members of the Kamoinge Workshop, the seminal black photography collective founded in 1963. He gets closer to his subjects than is typical in street photography. Take a walk with him...