Louis Draper – the hugely influential, Harlem-focused proponent of the Black Aesthetic – referred to his photography as a means of ‘engaged resistance’ to the social inequalities rife across the US in the mid-20th century.

In 1963, Draper became a founding member of the Kamoinge Workshop collective, which strove to give agency to African-American photographic
subjects and thus shake off stereotypical conceptions of contemporary social victimhood.

On view until 20 February at New York’s Steven Kasher Gallery, ‘Louis Draper’ is a major retrospective of over 75 prints, taken from the 1950s to the 1980s, featuring portraits of civil rights leaders and artists, Civil Rights-era street photography and images taken in Senegal in 1977–78.