

# THE NEW YORKER



"3 Painted Boys, Carnaval a Jacmel, Haiti, 2004," by Phyllis Galembo, at Sepia.  
Short List, THE NEW YORKER, June 27, 2005, Vol. LXXXI, No. 18

July 4, 2005, Galleries – Chelsea

*The New Yorker*, Vol. LXXXI, No. 19, p. 21

## PHYLLIS GALEMBO

In Galembo's photographs of carnival celebrants and vodou priests, her subjects are usually costumed and masked, but even when their faces are uncovered it's clear that they've left their everyday identities far behind. Made over the past twenty years in Nigeria, Haiti, and Brazil, these terrifically theatrical images suggest that clothes – and a belief in the power of transformation – can indeed make the man or woman. All though the outfits here (many of which involve cross-dressing and body paint) can be comically outlandish, we can't fail to appreciate their ritual weight. Through July 29. (Sepia, 148 W. 24<sup>th</sup> St. 212-645-9444.)