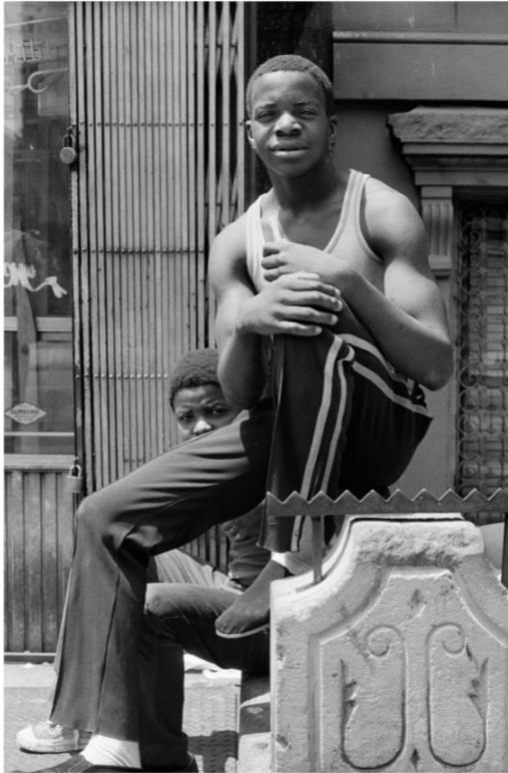


SEANKELLY

Allen, Brian T. "An Armory in New York?" National Review. March 7, 2020.

NATIONAL REVIEW



Two Young Men, Harlem NY, 1976, by Dawoud Bey. Gelatin silver print. (© Dawoud Bey. Courtesy the artist and Sean Kelly, New York)

With 180 galleries from 32 countries showing mostly new work, it's a massive show, so big no Armory in New York can show it. The 1913 Armory Show was indeed in an armory and famously supplied Americans with so massive a dose of new art from Europe that the New York art avant garde was born. This fair, held every year, borrows the name "Armory Show" and covers the globe.

There's a great early Bey portfolio at Sean Kelly, an always good New York dealer. "Harlem USA, 1975–1979" launched Bey, who does enigmatic portraits of teenagers and scenes of everyday city life. Bey has lived in Chicago for years, though he grew up in Queens and made these photographs when he was a teenager. I've followed his work for years and will quote myself as I always say this when I talk about Bey. "He is a pure artist and has never sold out." There's lots of honesty and kindness in his work. "Two Young Men" is part of the portfolio. There are 10 prints of this image, starting at \$7,000 for 1/10 and ending, at 10/10, at \$20,000. This simply means the fewer prints remaining, the higher the price. It's an easy example of supply and demand.