

M+B

20 YEAR PHOTO
ANNIVERSARY



HOWARD BINGHAM: *The Rumble in the Jungle*

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HOWARD BINGHAM

The Rumble in the Jungle

M+B is pleased to present Howard L. Bingham, *The Rumble in the Jungle*, a commemorative exhibition part of the gallery's ongoing twentieth anniversary online exhibition series. Featuring newly produced estate prints, the exhibition revisits one of the most storied moments in twentieth-century cultural history, Muhammad Ali's triumphant 1974 bout against George Foreman in Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo).

Rendered in vivid color, these photographs capture Ali's charisma and complexity as he navigated the eight-week odyssey that culminated in the legendary heavyweight championship known as *The Rumble in the Jungle*. Bingham, Ali's longtime confidant and chronicler, moves fluidly between the spectacle and the intimate, tracing the boxer's presence from the ring to the streets, from jubilant public appearances to moments of quiet reflection.

Beyond the fight itself, Bingham's lens unfolds a panorama of the era: the electric atmosphere of the "African Woodstock" music festival featuring James Brown, B.B. King, Bill Withers, and Miriam Makeba; the convergence of global media; and the charged intersection of sport, celebrity, and postcolonial politics. What emerges is not simply a record of athletic achievement, but a portrait of an epoch of power, pride, and transcendence.

A pioneering photojournalist whose work has appeared in *Life*, *Look*, *Time*, and *Ebony*, among others, Howard L. Bingham remains one of the essential visual narrators of modern America. These newly released estate prints affirm his legacy, offering a luminous reintroduction to an artist whose empathy, precision, and historical vision continue to shape the photographic canon.



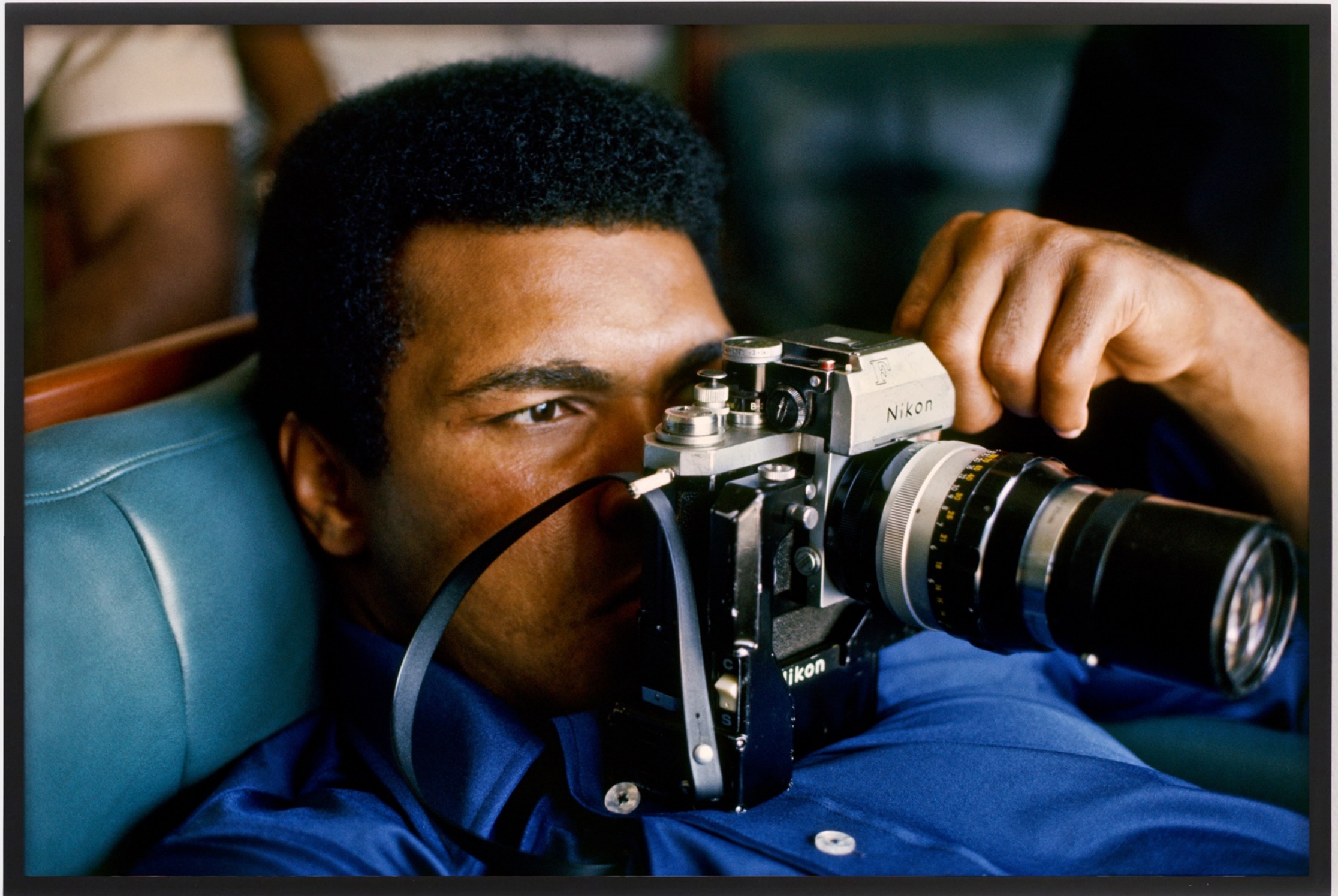
HOWARD BINGHAM

Howard L. Bingham (1939–2016) was an American photographer celebrated for his intimate documentation of Muhammad Ali and his empathetic portrayal of Black life and culture across five decades. Born in Jackson, Mississippi, and raised in South Central Los Angeles, Bingham's path to photography was anything but conventional. After failing a college photography class, he learned the craft through persistence—volunteering at the *Los Angeles Sentinel* before becoming a staff photographer. There he met a young Cassius Clay, beginning a lifelong friendship that became one of the most iconic artist-subject relationships of the 20th century.

Bingham went on to break barriers as the first Black photographer in the Hollywood Camera Guild, working on *The Bill Cosby Show* and feature films such as *The Candidate*, *All the President's Men*, and *The Electric Horseman*. His images appeared in *Life*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Ebony*, and *Sports Illustrated*, where he chronicled defining moments of the civil rights era and portraits of cultural leaders from Martin Luther King Jr. to Nelson Mandela. His landmark book, *Muhammad Ali: A Thirty-Year Journey*, and later contributions to *GOAT: A Tribute to Muhammad Ali*, solidified his legacy as Ali's visual biographer and as a chronicler of moral courage, friendship, and American history.



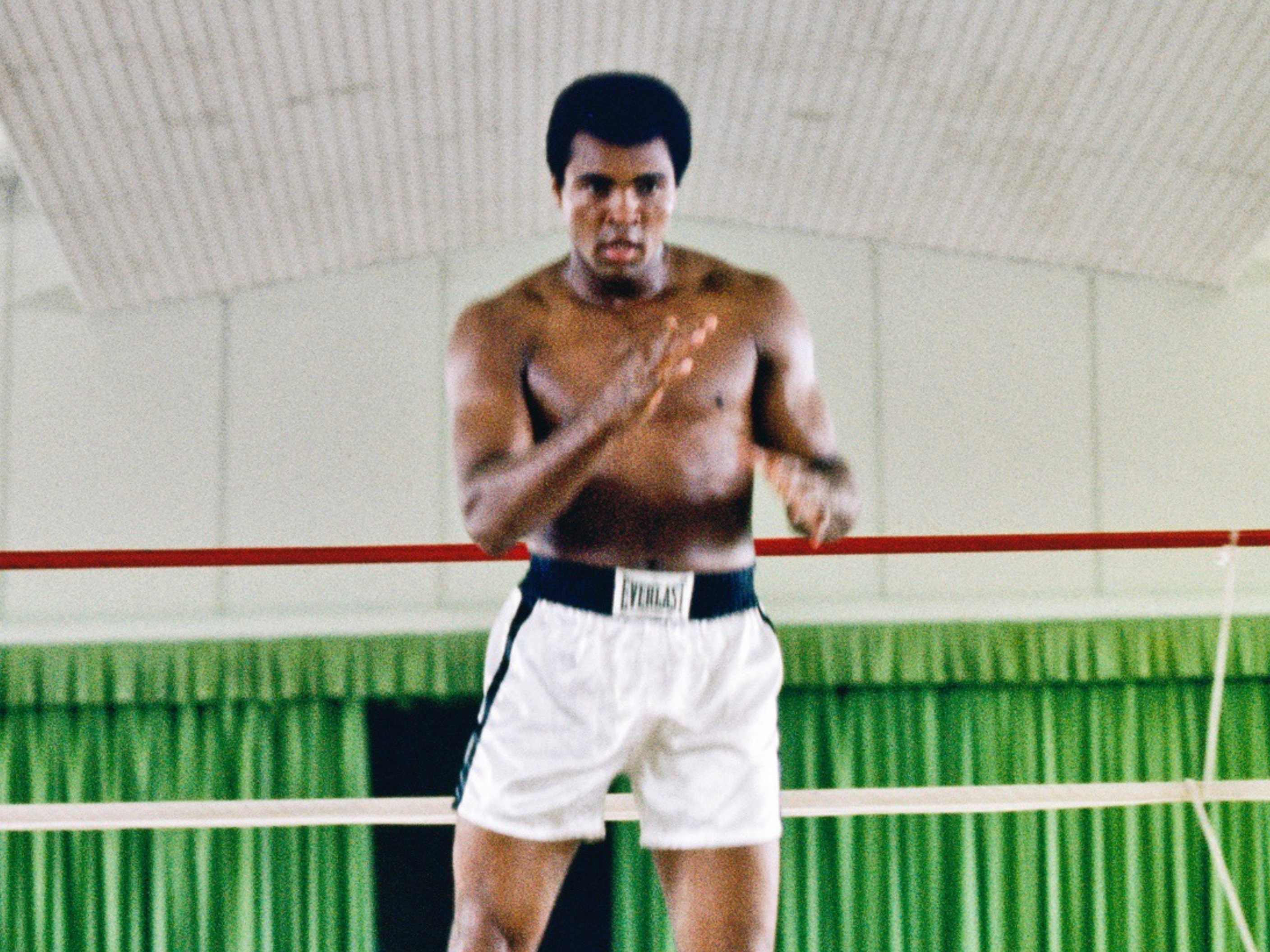
Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #323*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali Spying on Foreman, Zaire #325*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #382*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham

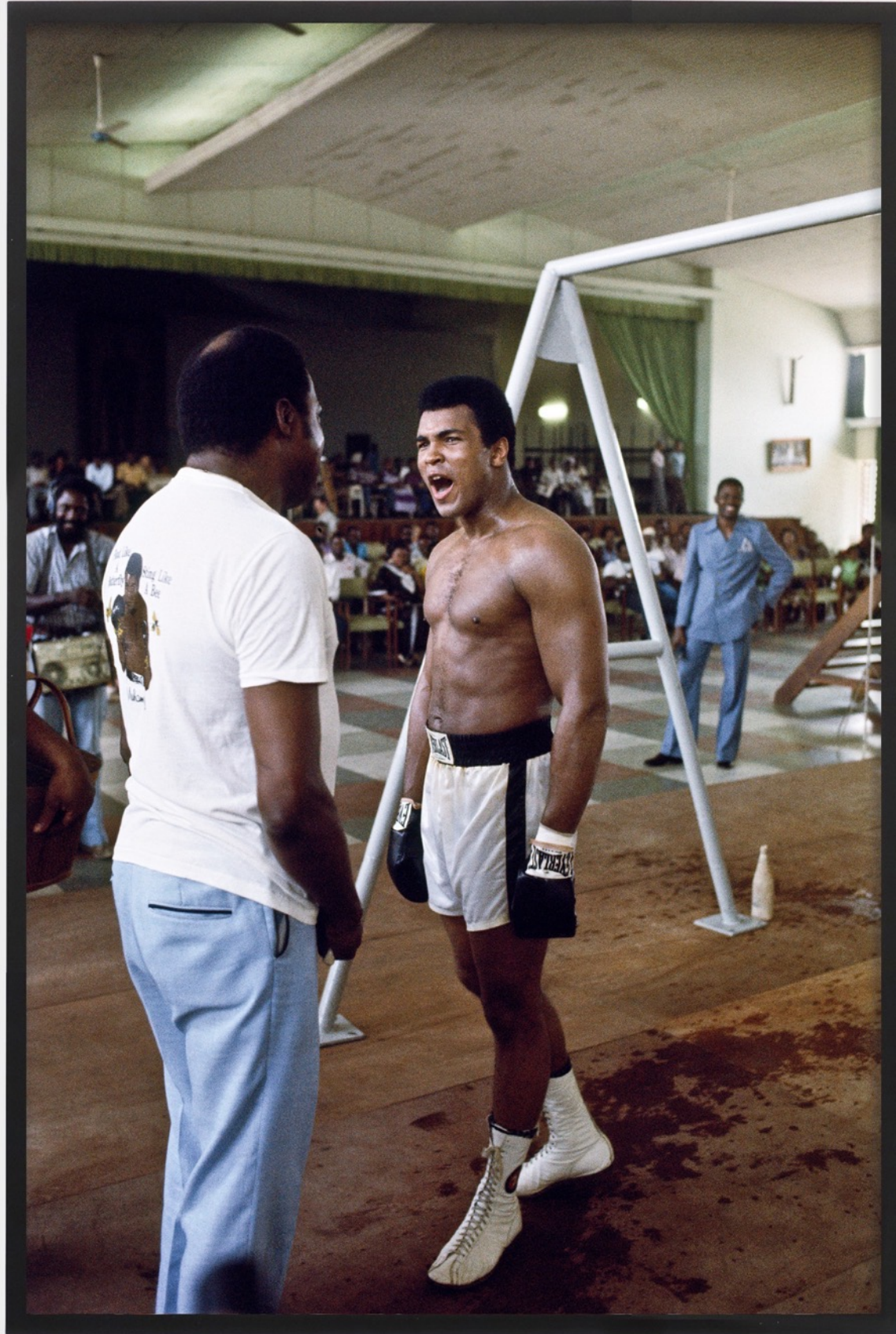




Howard L. Bingham | *George Foreman, Zaire #364*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #357*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #360*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #363*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #356*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham





Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Before the Fight, Zaire #397, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #371*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #374*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *George Foreman, Zaire #384, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *George Foreman, Zaire #381, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *George Foreman, Zaire #354*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #322, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali and Foreman, Zaire #380, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham





Howard L. Bingham | *Ali and Foreman, Zaire #378, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham





Howard L. Bingham | *George Foreman, Zaire #353*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #386*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham

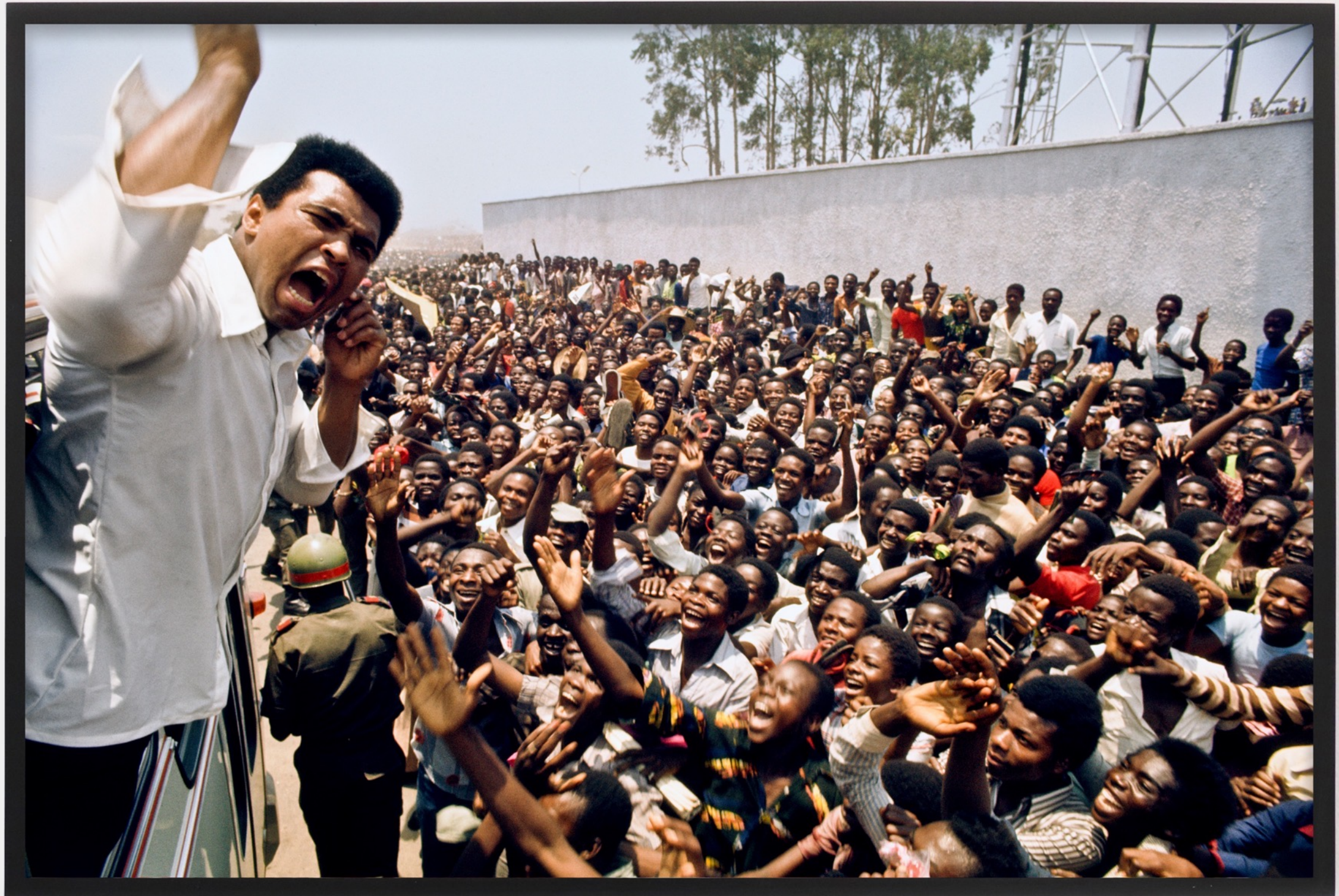


Howard L. Bingham | *Ali and Foreman, Zaire #326*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham





Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire* #376, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



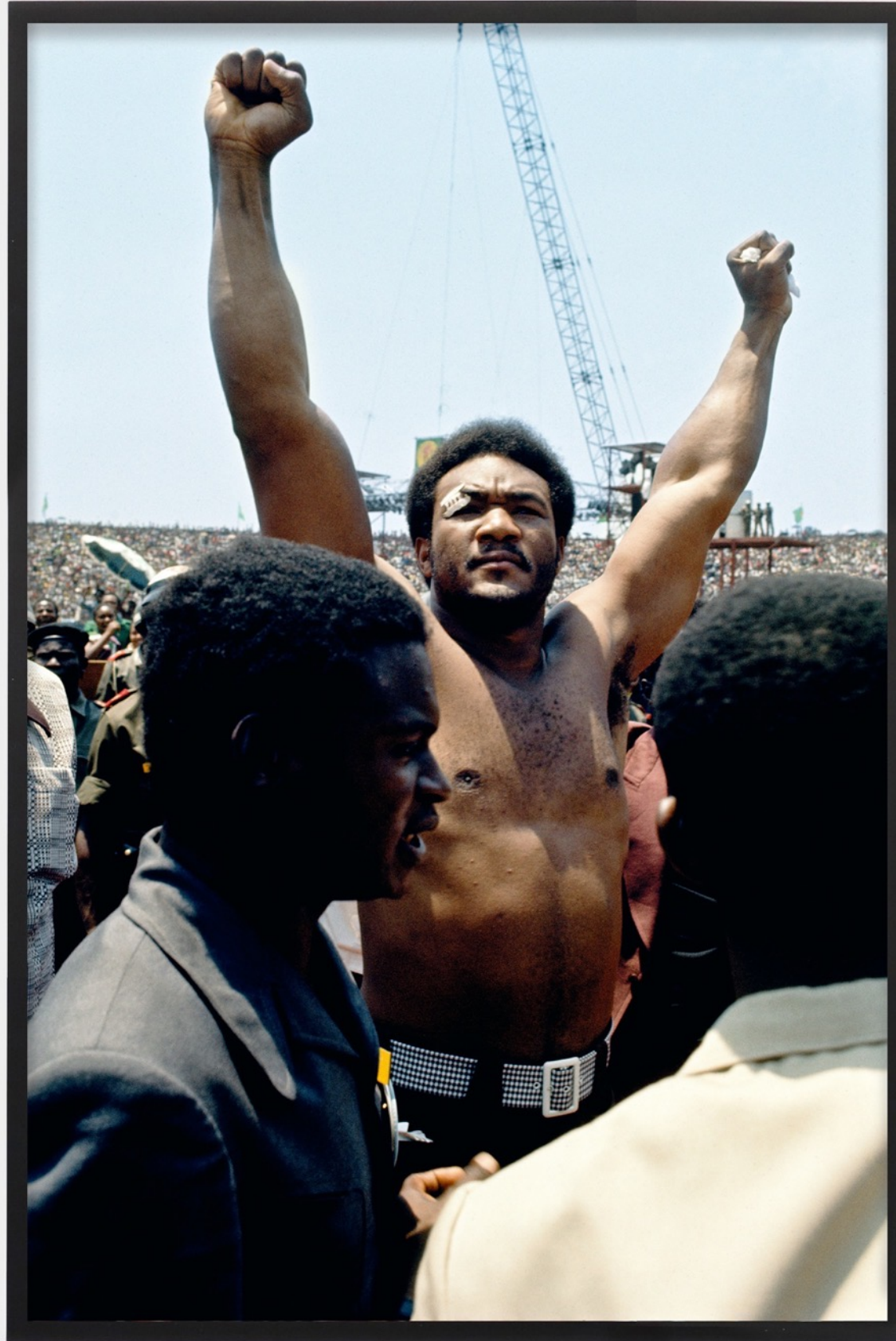
Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #383*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #330*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Don King, James Brown and Ali, Zaire #HB_17, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *George Foreman, Zaire #372*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *James Brown and Ali, Zaire #283, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *B.B. King, Zaire #359, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Bill Withers, Zaire #370, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Miriam Makeba, Zaire #366, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Don King and James Brown, Zaire #449, 1974*
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #367*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham





Howard L. Bingham | *Ali, Zaire #373*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham



Howard L. Bingham | *Foreman, Mobutu and Ali, Zaire #374*, 1974
chromogenic print | stamped by the estate of Howard L. Bingham