

Museum
für Gestaltung
Zürich
Freundeskreis

Edition 2021



Twins outside the “Temple du Python”, Ouidah, Benin,
2002

Alberto Venzago

Fine Art Print Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Baryta, 2021

Edition of 20

24 × 24 cm

Black ash frame, museum glass

Signed on print and mount

CHF 1000 / CHF 800 (members)

Available in the museum shops /the eShop

Alberto Venzago (b. 1950) grew up in a strict Catholic environment. From this background, he developed a fascination with rituals, oracles, and magic. While crossing Africa on his Vespa in 1988, he found himself stranded outside a Voodoo monastery in Ouidah. Over the next twelve years, he would return there often, staying for months at a time to shoot his first feature film, *Mounted by the Gods*. The spirit beings and ceremonies of the Voodoo religion, and especially the search for and enthronement of a supreme priest, reveal a complex, age-old community of faith. On his last trip to Ouidah, Venzago took photos with a Hasselblad medium-format camera (6x6cm). This image shows twin brothers in festive dress outside the most sacred “Temple of the Python” just before a procession. Twins are considered lucky charms in the Voodoo religion, transferring their magical powers to one another. Alberto Venzago is still today closely associated with the monastic community in Ouidah.