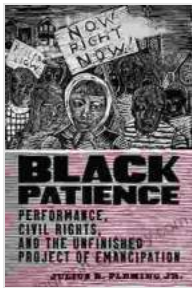


# Performance, Civil Rights, and the Unfinished Project of Emancipation Performance

The Civil Rights Movement was a transformative period in American history, marked by both great progress and ongoing struggle. Performance played a vital role in the movement, providing a powerful means of protest, education, and mobilization.



## Black Patience: Performance, Civil Rights, and the Unfinished Project of Emancipation (Performance and American Cultures) by Julius B. Fleming Jr.

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 5911 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 307 pages



This book explores the vielfältig ways in which performance has been used to advance the cause of civil rights. From the spirituals sung by enslaved Africans to the protest songs of the 1960s, from the street theater of the Black Arts Movement to the contemporary performances of Black Lives Matter activists, performance has been a constant thread in the struggle for equality.

This book argues that performance is not simply a reflection of social change, but an active force in shaping it. By providing a space for people to come together, share their experiences, and imagine a better future, performance can help to build solidarity, raise consciousness, and inspire action.

## **Chapter 1: The Spirituals of Enslaved Africans**

The spirituals sung by enslaved Africans were a powerful form of resistance and self-expression. These songs provided a way for enslaved people to connect with their African roots, share their stories of hardship and hope, and imagine a future of freedom.

Spirituals were often performed in secret, in the fields or in the slave quarters. But they also found their way into the public sphere, where they were used to protest slavery and demand equality.



## **Chapter 2: The Protest Songs of the 1960s**

The protest songs of the 1960s played a vital role in the Civil Rights Movement. These songs provided a soundtrack for the movement, expressing the hopes and fears of activists and inspiring people to take action.

Protest songs were performed at rallies, marches, and sit-ins. They were also broadcast on radio and television, reaching a wide audience and helping to raise awareness of the movement.



Protest songs were a vital part of the Civil Rights Movement.

### **Chapter 3: The Street Theater of the Black Arts Movement**

The Black Arts Movement of the 1960s and 1970s was a cultural and political movement that celebrated Black identity and culture. Street theater was a key part of the movement, providing a way for Black artists to express their experiences and challenge racism.

Street theater performances were often held in public spaces, such as parks and streets. They were often interactive, involving the audience in the performance and encouraging them to think critically about issues of race and inequality.



## Chapter 4: The Contemporary Performances of Black Lives Matter Activists

The Black Lives Matter movement is a contemporary civil rights movement that has used performance to raise awareness of police brutality and racial injustice.

Black Lives Matter activists have used a variety of performance strategies, including street theater, dance, and music. These performances have been used to protest police killings, demand accountability, and promote healing.

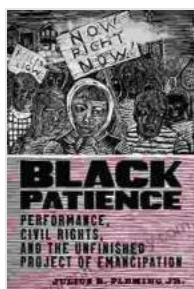


Black Lives Matter activists have used performance to raise awareness of police brutality and racial injustice.

Performance has played a vital role in the Civil Rights Movement and beyond. It has provided a powerful means of protest, education, and

mobilization, helping to build solidarity, raise consciousness, and inspire action.

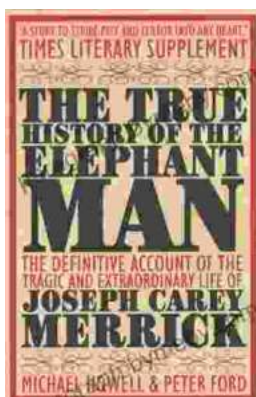
The performances of civil rights activists have helped to shape the course of history, and they continue to inspire us today. As we face new challenges in the fight for equality, let us remember the power of performance and continue to use it to create a more just and equitable world.



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