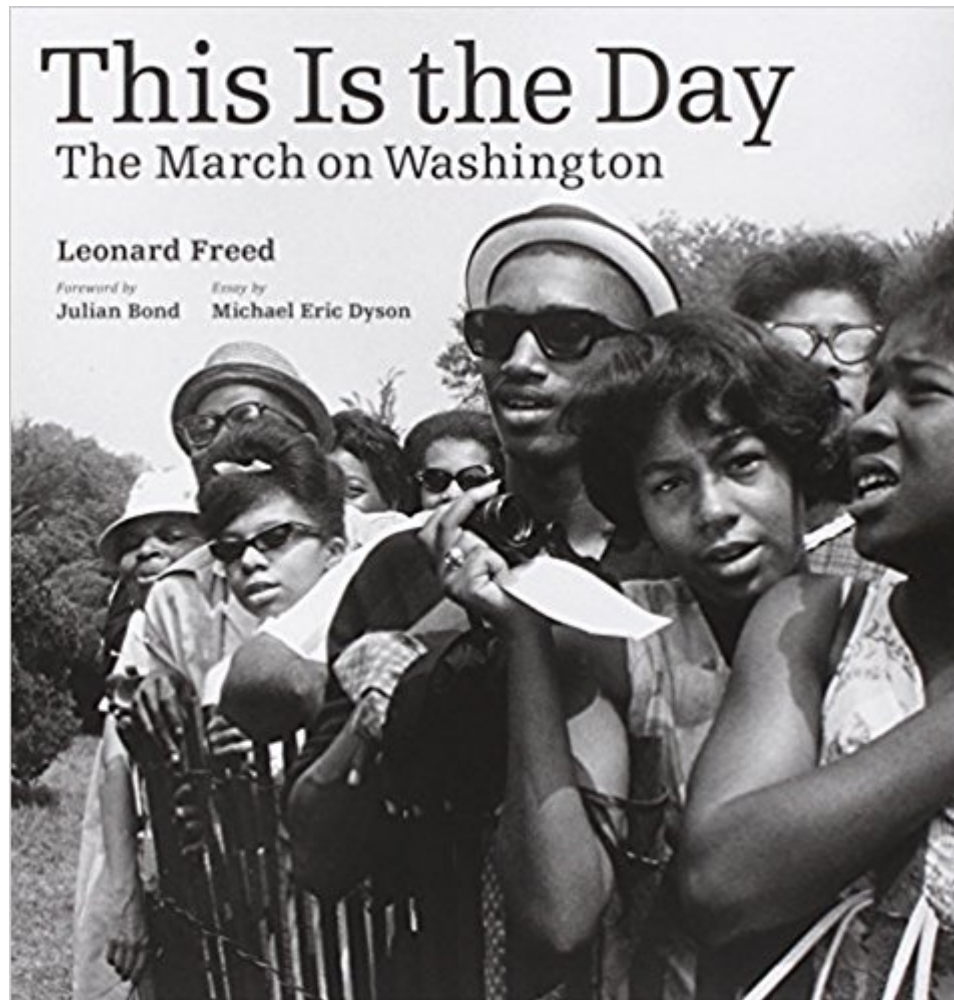




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# This Is The Day: The March On Washington



## Synopsis

This Is the Day: The March on Washington is a stirring photo-essay by photographer Leonard Freed documenting the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom of August 28, 1963, the historic day on which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech at the base of the Lincoln Memorial. This book commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the historic march that ultimately led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Never before published in book form, the seventy-five photographs in this volume were chosen from among the hundreds of images that Freed made in the nation's capital before, during, and after the march. These images not only present us with stunning wide-angle views of hundreds of thousands of marchers overflowing the National Mall but also focus on small groups of people straining to see the speakers and on individual faces, each one filled with hope and yearning, epitomized by the beautiful young woman who throws her entire being into singing "We Shall Overcome." In addition are eighteen pictures from the twentieth-anniversary march of August 1983, conveying a sense of celebration coupled with peaceful protest. Accompanying the photographs are a first-hand, backstage account of the preparations leading up to the march by social activist and civil rights leader Julian Bond; an essay on the importance of the march and Dr. King's involvement by sociology professor and author Michael Eric Dyson; and an informative discussion of Freed's approach to the photographic project by scholar Paul Farber.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Leonard Freed’s photographs provide one of the best records of the geographic, racial and generational diversity of the marchers and the groups they represented. . . . These photographs unveil the intimate human connections that together produced one of the nation’s most consequential events.” •New York Times “Riveting. . . . Leonard Freed focused on the details: People arriving by buses and vans to join in the protest. Shots of the many volunteers preparing placards for distribution show the marchers’ determination. But then he pulls back to get some of the most stunning images in the book: wide-angle shots of an overflowing crowd yearning for freedom.” •Chicago Tribune “A visual document showcasing the diversity of marchers who gathered that day.” •CNN “Leonard Freed’s work exposed the racial inequalities and tensions that plagued a growing nation. He captured the emotions of a group of people whose past were filled with struggles and futures were populated with great hope.” •ABC News “This Is the Day is an important lens through which to relive one of the peak moments of the civil rights movement.” •Washington Post “This handsome black-and-white collection of 79 photos showcases Magnum Photos photographer Leonard Freed’s . . . deft eye for capturing important and emotional moments.” •Publishers Weekly “Leonard Freed’s statement that ‘photography is an emotional thing, a graceful thing’ is most evident on these pages, where determined individuals of all colors, who were willing to literally stand up for equal rights for all, are aptly represented.” •Choice

Leonard Freed (American, 1929–2006) was a pioneer in the genre of socially conscious photojournalism. Freed’s photographs are represented in many public and private collections. His book *Black in White America*, first published in 1967/68, was reissued by Getty Publications in 2010. Julian Bond helped found the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and is currently professor of history at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Michael Eric Dyson is a professor of sociology at Georgetown University and the author of sixteen books, including *April 4, 1968: Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Death and How It Changed America* (Basic Civitas Books, 2008). Paul Farber is currently completing his doctorate in American studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Leonard Freed book, *This Is the Day: the March on Washington* is a very wonderful book to have and to read. Its texts by Julian Bond and Michael Eric Dyson are exceedingly thought provoking.

And the pictures by Freed are riveting. It was the everyday people who changed America then and who will continue to change it in the future. Freed captures that obvious but often overlooked notion by selecting the people of the King. His leadership is certified by his vast following. Freed captures the strength of the following not only in its numbers but its reflection of the real America's variety. I love this book; it will be on my coffee table for a long time.

The pictures in the book say it all! This is a great coffee table book to have - especially with the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington coming up.

I can feel the emotion from the images displayed in this book's photographs! It makes for an excellent source for dialogue in a group setting. These pictures tell the story..

This is an excellent table book that chronicles history. I absolutely love it. The pictures are dynamic and expressive. A must read.

Love this book

The best next thing to being there. I was there and I know!

Outstanding photojournalism! The pictures are moving, emotional, historical and memorable. Good for everyone's library. Anyone who is into history will enjoy this book.

Wonderful book

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