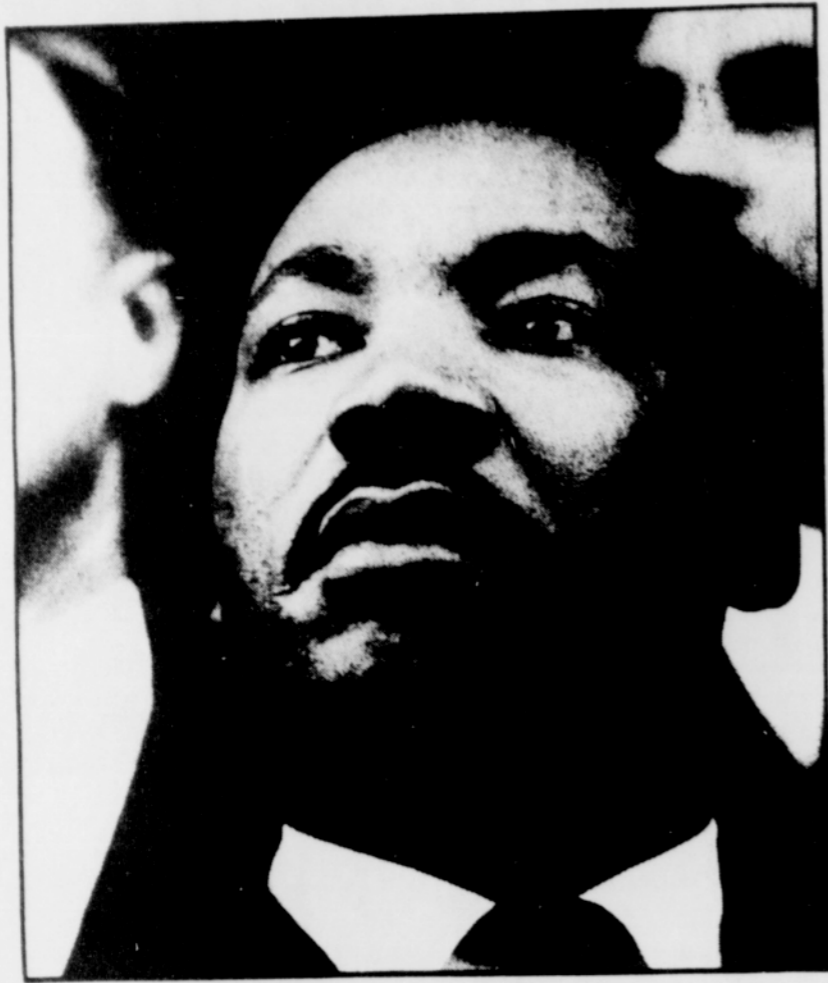


*HE HAD THE COURAGE
TO BREAK WITH TRADITION.*



**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 15, 1929 - April 5, 1968**

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Writer/Director/Composer Gordon Parks Creates Unique Ballet Tribute To Martin Luther King In "Martin"



Photographer, writer, film director Gordon Parks has composed an original five-movement classical ballet as a personal tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The ballet, "Martin," airs in conjunction with King's birthday, Monday, January 15, from 10-11 p.m. on most PBS stations (check local listings).

To evoke the spirit and vision of King, "Martin" recreates significant moments in the American leader's life, including his bus boycott, the march in Selma, his time in a Birmingham jail, and his 1968 assassination in Montgomery. The ballet concludes with King's funeral, during which his spirit rises from his funeral bier as a symbol of the undying power of his dream.

In addition to composing the music and the libretto, Parks also directed the one-hour production. The multi-talented Parks has already achieved fame as a photographer for LIFE magazine, a writer ("The Learning Tree," "Moments Without Proper Names"), a director ("Shaft," "Leadbelly," and "Solomon Northup's Odyssey"), as well as a composer. His production of "The Learning Tree" was recently selected by the Library of Congress as one of the first 25 films to be included in the new national film registry. Parks appears on camera to introduce his work in a documentary segment, which also includes Park's photo-

graphs from the tumultuous period in which King worked.

Dancer John Jones creates the role of King. Sheila Rohan dances as Rosa Parks, and James Edward Murphy dances the role of the assassin.

"Martin" is distributed in *Stereo* and is made possible by Southwestern Bell

Foundation with additional funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The program is a production of Winger Enterprises, Inc. and is presented by KCET Los Angeles. Choreographer: Rael Limb. Producer: Grace Blake. Director: Gordon Parks. KCET executive producer: Sam Paul. KCET executive-in-charge: Ricki Franklin.



DR. KING SAID IT BEST:

**"I HAVE THE AUDACITY TO BELIEVE
THAT PEOPLE EVERYWHERE CAN HAVE
THREE MEALS A DAY FOR THEIR
BODIES, EDUCATION AND CULTURE
FOR THEIR MINDS, AND DIGNITY,
EQUALITY AND FREEDOM FOR THEIR
SPIRITS."**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.--Acceptance speech, Nobel Peace Prize, Dec. 10, 1964

CONGRESSMAN RON WYDEN

