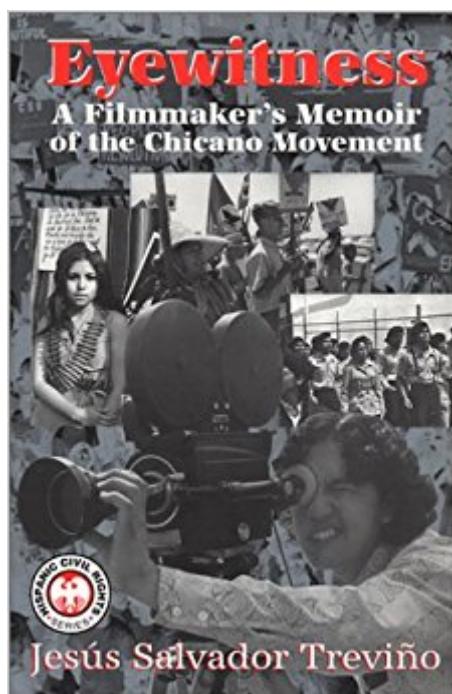


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Eyewitness: A Filmmaker's Memoir Of The Chicano Movement (Hispanic Civil Rights (Paperback))



Synopsis

Noted filmmaker Jesus Salvador Trevino participated in and documented the most important events in the Mexican-American Civil Rights Movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Coming of age during the turmoil of the sixties, Trevino recorded the struggles to organize students and workers into the largest social and political movement in the history of Latino communities in the United States.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"To read the book is to get an inside look at many of the characters and events that shaped a movement that gripped much of the Southwest in the 1960s and '70s."

Rememberances of a turbulent time in American history as seen through the eyes of a noted Chicano filmmaker.

As participants in the Chicano movement, we had some insight into what was happening as we advocated for our community. This book is an excellent documentation of our struggles. It is well written and provides good insight into some of the inner workings of the movement; it provides a good accounting of some of the actions.

The short message is this- just buy the book and read it. If you have an interest in contemporary

America and want to know how we got here, this is an important element in that story. I suppose I should say that I know Jesus Trevino. He and I graduated in Philosophy at Occidental College in 1968. Occidental is a small college and there were maybe eight philosophy majors that year. I went downtown and got a job because I had to earn a living and I had to pay back my student loans. Trevino recorded and made history. Chicano (Mexican American) filmmakers or directors were scarce or perhaps nonexistent before Trevino plunged in and, in effect, created that position. From the Mexican American War to the latest lame rant from a talk show host, the Chicano has been America's "other" minority. This is recent American history. This, of course, is not all of recent American history, because that history is complex. But this is, nonetheless, a big part of recent American history and a big part of who we are today. This is about Los Angeles and the rest of California and the American Southwest and this is about the immigrant controversy and the borders of our states and prison reform and police riots in the sixties and Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta and school kids and public television and police misbehavior and Mexican muralists working in the US. It's an amazing book from a significant figure of our time and you shouldn't miss it. For the other part of Trevino's life, go on the Internet to IMDB, look up Jesus Trevino and look at filmography. If you watch television, as I do, you've seen his directing work. There's so much in this book. I've mentioned just a little bit of what Trevino covers. Just read it.

Names and stories about so called "Role Models" fall short in front of this personal memoirs of Jesus Salvador Trevino. This book is a great collection of personal experiences and success in a society where not being "white" means to swim against the current. I highly recommend it for teachers to share with their students. Each page carries a message that says: Yes, it can be done!

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