



WITH ALL THY MIGHT

THE BATTLE AGAINST BIRTH OF A NATION

1 x 90 HD



PBS®

INTERNATIONAL

WITH ALL THY MIGHT

THE BATTLE AGAINST BIRTH OF A NATION

1 x 90 HD

CONTACT

Tom Koch, Vice President
PBS International
10 Guest Street
Boston, MA 02135 USA

TEL: 617-300-3893
FAX: 617-779-7900

jtkoch@pbs.org
pbsinternational.org

With All Thy Might: The Battle Against Birth of a Nation is an historical documentary that tells the little-known story of William Monroe Trotter, a fire-breathing editor of a Boston black newspaper who helped launch a nationwide movement in 1915 to ban a flagrantly racist film, *The Birth of a Nation*. This film tells the story of a black civil rights movement few are familiar with—one that occurred a full 40 years before the one we know.

D.W. Griffith's masterpiece *The Birth of a Nation* is credited with transforming Hollywood and pioneering many of the techniques that have made the feature film one of America's most celebrated and widely exported cultural creations. The movie was also flagrantly racist and glorified the Ku Klux Klan as its central protagonist. But what is neither famous nor infamous is the way America reacted to this revolutionary film. While *The Birth of a Nation* was a box office smash that became the first motion picture ever to be screened at the White House, it proved divisive in a country still struggling in the aftermath of Civil War Reconstruction and galvanized leaders of the national African American community into adopting a more aggressive approach in their fight for equality.

With All Thy Might interweaves the civil rights story of newspaperman Trotter and the years leading up to the release of *The Birth of a Nation* with the story of D.W. Griffith and the rise of a new medium, the feature film.

170235

CREDITS

Producer: Susan Gray

Director: Bestor Cram

Image: © The Birth of a Nation Courtesy of WNET



PBS.

INTERNATIONAL