



## **Now in Production from Journey Films** *Prophetic Voices*

**A Trilogy of Documentary Films on  
Howard Thurman, Dorothy Day and Abraham Heschel**

**Religious Visionaries, Social Activists, and Peacemakers  
Who Shaped 20<sup>th</sup> Century America**

**Coming to Public Television beginning in 2019**

Award-winning Alexandria, VA-based Journey Films announces production of three new documentary films for public television on religious visionaries, social activists, and peacemakers Howard Thurman, Dorothy Day, and Abraham Joshua Heschel. Representing three distinct faith traditions in America, Thurman's, Day's, and Heschel's landmark work for social justice, civil rights, and peacemaking helped to transform society and to set a course for American spirituality in the twenty-first century.

"Thurman, Day and Heschel were all considered the 'radicals' of their day," says filmmaker Martin Doblmeier. "Yet looking back, we now see them as visionaries - prophetic and courageous examples of the best religion has to offer. What is remarkable is how much they have to say to our realities today as we continue to struggle over the legacy of racial injustice, social inequality and broken communities."

Through the *Prophetic Voices* trilogy, audiences are introduced to African-American theologian Howard Thurman, whose pioneering work on race and religion helped shape the Civil Rights Movement and deeply influenced the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; to Catholic Worker activist Dorothy Day, whose work with the poor in New York City and opposition to nuclear weapons and the Vietnam War provided a model for principled engagement for generations to come; and to Jewish theologian and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, whose mysticism and inter-religious advocacy found concrete expression as he marched beside Dr. King in Selma, protested America's involvement in Vietnam, and advocated for social equality---all modeled on the example of the Hebrew prophets.

Major themes of the *Prophetic Voices* trilogy include:

- Race and Religion in America
- Historic Links Between Spirituality and Social Justice

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- Religion and the Civil Rights Movement
- Non-violence and Peacemaking

Now in production, *Prophetic Voices* is written and directed by Martin Doblmeier, whose more than 30 award-winning films include *BONHOEFFER*, *CHAPLAINS*, *The Power of Forgiveness*, *An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story*, and many others.

The first of the *Prophetic Voices* trilogy, *Backs Against the Wall: The Howard Thurman Story*, will air on PBS stations nationwide in early 2019, shortly followed by films on Dorothy Day and Abraham Joshua Heschel. The *Prophetic Voices* trilogy is a presentation of Maryland Public Television. Major funding by The Lilly Endowment.

For more information about Journey Films and the *Prophetic Voices* trilogy, contact Producer Deryl Davis at [deryl@journeyfilms.com](mailto:deryl@journeyfilms.com) or 703.519.8200 or visit [www.journeyfilms.com](http://www.journeyfilms.com).