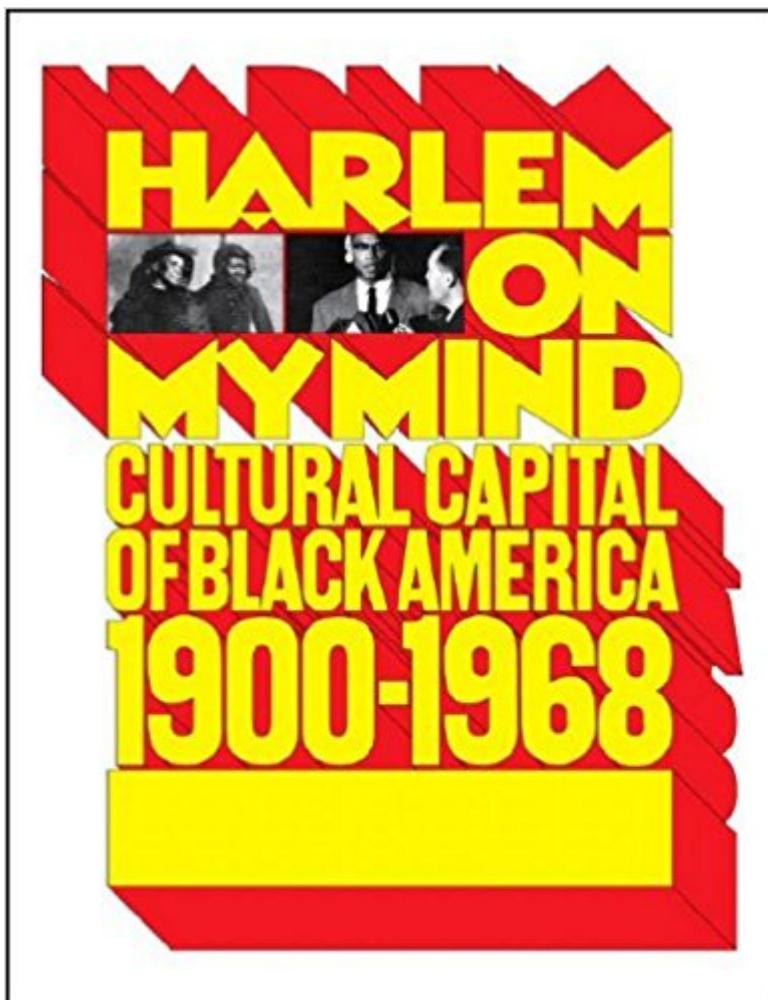


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# Harlem On My Mind: Cultural Capital Of Black America, 1900-1968



## Synopsis

Long before Harlem became one of the trendiest neighborhoods in the red-hot real estate market of Manhattan, it was a metaphor for African American culture at its richest. Alton Schoener's *Harlem on My Mind* is the classic record of Harlem life during some of the most exciting and turbulent years of its history, a beautiful and poignant reminder of a powerful moment in African American history. Including the work of some of Harlem's most treasured photographers, among them James Van Der Zee and Gordon Parks, there are photographs of Harlem's literary lights—Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen, and Richard Wright; its politicians—Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, and Adam Clayton Powell Jr.; and its musicians—Ethel Waters, Duke Ellington, and Billie Holiday. The book also includes the photographs of the everyday folk who gave life to this legendary community. These extraordinary images are juxtaposed with articles from publications such as the New York Times and the Amsterdam News, which have helped to record the life of one of New York's most memorialized neighborhoods. Originally published in 1969 as the catalogue to the Metropolitan Museum of Art's controversial exhibition of the same name, *Harlem on My Mind* is as compelling today as it was when first published.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book illustrates the daily life of Harlem in the 1920's and 1930's. It gives the reader an examined perspective of what it was like to be part of a community struggling to be heard. The photos of the funeral processions were especially heart grabbing! When this exhibit first showed at

the Metropolitan Museum it caused a great controversy. Many of the leaders of civil rights movement thought the photos were displaying black people as subjects not art. There were massive demonstrations outside the museum to have it closed. Many of the photos are still part of the museum's collection although they are not on display. This book offers great insight into the life of Harlem Renaissance. I also recommend, *The Sleeper Wakes* Edited by Marcy Knopf and *A Renaissance in Harlem* by Lionel C Bascom. These books offer additional information on what life was like during the New Negro Movement. A valuable art history lesson for us all.

Heard about this book some years ago and had been meaning to check it out. Haven't read the entire book yet but the photos are amazing and the accompanying text really captures the historical essences of life in America's most well-known Black community. This book is a must have for past, present and future residence of this community as time and gentrification slowly erase the memory of the people and events that shaped Harlem and made it truly unique.

This book shows actual photographs taken at the time without the newspaper half-tone pictures that made them look fuzzy, these are quite clear to view easily. They retyped the news articles, you can see a lot of effort and time went into publishing these accounts now found in aging newspapers crumbling into tiny pieces, but here you do not have to read fine print typeface. Everything is in chronological order. This is a nice large soft cover book that you'll have to refer where you bought it in case someone wants to "borrow it" later. The price is very reasonable, get it today!

I have in the past wondered about and would I ever see photos I knew were taken in year 1968 (Merv Griffin Telecast- "Give A Damn") when many celebrities put on a concert/show in my community when I was a little girl and where I was raised which is in the book, I actually see photos of people I grew up with. Love it! I would recommend this book!

Had this book by in the early 70's, lost in my moving out of Harlem. Thought I would never find this book again after searching some of the Black book stores in Harlem....then I was told, try "...WOW!!!

wonderful book. *Harlem on My Mind*, book replacing the book that was bought years ago, it is a little different, but still a wonderful book. Thank you for the very good condition of the book..

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