



1968  2012

**RESISTANCE:  
THE BEST OLYMPIC SPIRIT**

**John Carlos  
Doreen Lawrence  
& Janet Alder**



"Take a black fist and a white fist.  
Link them together and form a hammer"  
*Paul Robeson*

**Monday 21 May  
Friends House  
6PM Euston**

<http://uaf.org.uk/john-carlos>





# SEIZE THE TIME

"How can you ask someone to live in the world and not have something to say about injustice"

*John Carlos*



Quadium Designs

## 1968: The fire last time

It was a moment that changed far more than Olympic history. That it certainly did, *forever*.

The most iconic image of the Olympic Games and the Black Power movement also captured the mood, the anger and resistance of 1968.

1968 was the year the great civil rights leader, Martin Luther King, was assassinated. Across the US cities burned when the preacher of non-violence was gunned down in Memphis.

1968 was the year that marked the beginning of the end of the Vietnam War when the 'Tet Offensive' stunned the military might of the US.

1968 was the year when black workers in the car plants of General Motors, Ford and Chrysler got organised in the Detroit area launching the Dodge Revolutionary Union Movement and later, the League of Revolutionary Workers.

1968 was the year of the Prague Spring and, in France, the biggest General Strike in history.

1968 was a year of global resistance.

## Defiance

In Mexico City 1968, as students were mowed down by state troops, Tommie Smith took Gold, winning the 200m race in a world-record time of 19.83 seconds. Peter Norman took Silver with 20.06 seconds and John Carlos, Bronze with 20.10 seconds. As the stars and stripes rose and the Star-Spangled Banner played, Tommie

Smith and John Carlos bowed their heads and raised their fists in defiance.

Both athletes stood shoeless, wearing black socks representing the black poor of the ghettos. Tommie Smith wore a black scarf exhibiting black pride while John Carlos wore beads in memory of those who were lynched or killed, hung and tarred. With his tracksuit top unzipped, John Carlos expressed solidarity with workers in struggle. The Australian medalist, Peter Norman, wore the badge of the Olympic Project of Human rights in solidarity with the two Americans.

## 2012: The fire this time

Now, as the 2012 Olympics approach London, surrounded with missiles and warships to 'protect' the Games, the globe is engulfed in an ever sharpening recession.

Unemployment rises as entire countries teeter on the brink. Impoverishment and insecurity sinks deeper while the rich wine, dine and threaten to set the world aflame with wars and environmental destruction.

Our rulers scapegoat the poor and immigrants while their racist and corrupt police escort fascists on hate filled demonstrations across the country.

Families seeking justice for their loved ones, killed at the hands of the forces of 'law and

order', watch as the murderers in uniform walk freely, seemingly immune from prosecution.

But there is resistance. The Arab Revolutions have inspired 'Occupy' movements around the world from New York to London to Madrid. Workers are organising, striking and fighting from Mahalla to Wisconsin; from Athens to Rome.

Further, the recent elections in France and Greece not only indicate a clear rejection of austerity but also reflects the sharp elevation of struggle in Europe.

## This is your chance to hear the John Carlos Story.

On this special night, John Carlos will be joined by **Doreen Lawrence**, mother of Stephen Lawrence, murdered in a racist attack in 1993 and **Janet Alder**, sister to Christopher Alder who was left to die in Hull Police station by racist police in 1998.

**This will be a powerful night to remember. This will be a powerful night from which to organise. DON'T MISS IT!**

*All donations collected on the night will go to the Stephen Lawrence Trust and the Justice for Christopher Alder Campaign.*

**Book your free space now at:**  
<http://.uaf.org.uk/john-carlos>

7pm

7.10pm

8.10pm

8.30pm

8.45pm

Doors Open 6.30pm

Main Speakers join the Platform  
**Press**

**John Carlos**  
**Doreen Lawrence**  
**Janet Alder**

**Sam Rigg-David** (Sean Rigg Campaign for Justice and Change & UFFC)  
**Fahad Ansari** (We are Babar Ahmad Campaign)  
**Matt Wrack** (General Secretary FBU)  
**Mac McKenna** (RMT Rank & File activist on London Underground)  
**Weyman Bennett** (Joint Secretary, Unite Against Fascism)

**Dave Zirin**  
American Political Sports Journalist & co-Author: **The John Carlos Story: The Sports Moment that Changed the World**

**Book Signing**  
Both John Carlos and Dave Zirin will be available to personally sign your copy of the **John Carlos Story**