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## We Insist: A Timeline Of Protest Music In 2020

# Beyoncé's 'Black Parade' Is A Pro-Black Rallying Cry

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TAYLOR CRUMPTON

### Beyoncé BLACK PARADE (Official Audio)



YouTube

There is no Black identity in the United States without the South. For thousands of Black Americans, it's one of the few places where ancestors and descendants can share the same physical ground, and that makes the region worthy of celebration. "Black Parade" is a reclamation and invitation for those who return home to that fertile

ground, where contact to the motherland is felt via those who carried motherland's energy and spiritual beliefs to the Southern soil.

White supremacy attempts to monolith Blackness through the removal of ancestry, yet the ancestral practices of Oshun and Yemaya are more popular than ever before, as generations disinvest from the institutional structures of white Protestant Christianity. The decentralization of whiteness is the removal of colonial beliefs that dehumanize the "motherland" and people of the African Diaspora.

"F\*\*\* these laid edges, I'ma let it shrivel up (Shrivel up) / F\*\*\* this fade and waves, I'ma let it dread all up (Dread all up) / Put your fist up in the air, show Black love (Show Black love) / Motherland drip on me, motherland, motherland drip on me." American capitalism is built and sustained through anti-Blackness; Beyonce's radical imagination on "Black Parade" is a call to those on the frontlines, marching with their signs in remembrance of George Floyd to march on because their steps and spirits are with the ancestors who advocate and fought for the future of a pro-Black generation.

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Beyonce