

Labor History

BOOKS

Death in the Haymarket: A Story of Chicago, the First Labor Movement, and the Bombing That Divided Gilded Age America (2006), by James R Green

From the Folks Who Brought You The Weekend: A Short, Illustrated History of Labor in the United States (2012), by Priscilla Murolo, A.B. Chitty and Joe Sacco

Going Down Jericho Road: The Memphis Strike, Martin Luther King's Last Campaign (2007), by Michael Honey

Hard Work: Remaking the American Labor Movement (2004), by Rick Fantasia

Labor Rising: The Past and Future of Working People in America (2012), by Richard A Greenwald and Daniel Katz

A People's History of the United States: 1492-Present (Revised) (1995), by Howard Zinn

Rank and File: Personal Histories by Working-Class Organizers (2012), by Alice and Staughton Lynd

A Short History of the U.S. Working Class (2016) by Paul Le Blanc

Strike! revised (1997), by Jeremy Brecher

Sweat and Blood: A History of U.S. Labor Unions (2009), by Gloria Skurzynski

There is Power In a Union: the Epic Story of Labor in America (2010), by Philip Dray

Three Strikes: The Fighting Spirit of Labor's Last Century (2001), by Howard Zinn, Dana Frank and Robin Kelley

Triangle: The Fire That Changed America (2004), by David Von Drehle

Why Unions Matter (1998), by Michael Yates

Wobblies: The Story of the IWW and Syndicalism in the United States, revised (1999), by Patrick Renshaw

Labor History

BIOGRAPHIES

A. Philip Randolph: A Biographical Portrait (reprint, 1987), By Jervis Anderson

The Bending Cross: A Biography of Eugene Victor Debs (reprint, 1969), by Ray Ginger

Burning Bridges: America's 20-Year Crusade To Deport Labor Leader Harry Bridges (2017) by Peter Afrasiabi

The Fight In The Fields: Cesar Chavez and the Farmworkers Movement (1998), by Susan Ferris, Ricardo Sandoval and Diana Hembree

Iron In Her Soul: Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and the American Left (1995), by Helen Camp

Lucy Parsons: An American Revolutionary (2013) by Carolyn Ashbaugh

John L. Lewis: A Biography (reprint, 1986), by Melvyn Dubofsky and Warren Van Tine

The Man Who Never Died: The Life, Times, and Legacy of Joe Hill, American Labor Icon (2012) by William M. Adler

Mother Jones: The Most Dangerous Woman In America (2002), by Elliot Gorn

The Rebel Girl: An Autobiography – My First Life (1973), by Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

Labor History

MOVIES

American Dream (1991, 98 minutes): Academy Award winning documentary focusing on the 1984 Hormel Plant strike in Austin, MN; directed by Barbara Kopple

At The River I Stand (1994, 58 minutes): Documentary of the 1968 AFSCME sanitation workers' strike in Memphis, TN, and the intersection of the civil rights and labor movements

The Big One (1998, 90 minutes): In search of an answer to the question: "When corporations are reaping record profits, why are workers being laid off?"; directed by Michael Moore

Bound For Glory (1976, 147 minutes): Bio-pic of Woody Guthrie, winner of Academy Awards for musical score and cinematography; David Carradine

Bread And Roses (2000, 110 minutes): Drama, loosely based on a 1990 janitor's strike in Century City, CA, the film tells the story of union efforts to organize office-cleaners in Los Angeles; Adrien Brody, Pilar Padilla

The Grapes Of Wrath (1939, 129 minutes): Excellent film version of John Steinbeck's novel of the Great Depression, about Oklahoma migrants driven from their fields and ending up as agricultural workers in California; Henry Fonda, John Carradine

Harlan County, USA (1977, 103 minutes): Academy Award winning documentary of a bitter 1974 strike of coal miners in Harlan County, Kentucky; directed by Barbara Kopple, this film has been hailed as a landmark in the history of American documentaries

Harlan County War (2000, 104 minutes): Drama, based on the events depicted in *Harlan County, USA*; Holly Hunter

How Green Was My Valley (1941, 118 minutes): Drama, winner of five Academy Awards, classic film about a Welsh mining town; Walter Pidgeon, Maureen O'Hara

The Inheritance (1964, 55 minutes): Documentary providing an overview of U.S. labor history, emphasizing the dedication to social justice

Made in Dagenham (2010): A dramatization of the 1968 strike at the Ford Dagenham car plant, where female workers walked out in protest against sexual discrimination.

Matewan (1987, 130 minutes): Drama, fact-based story of diverse miners in 1920's West Virginia battling a powerful coal company and its hired army of gun thugs; directed by John Sayles

Labor History

The Molly Maguires (1970, 123 minutes): Drama, based on the story of a secret society of militant Irish-American coal miners in Pennsylvania in the 1870s who used violent tactics to fight the oppression of coal company owners; Sean Connery, Richard Harris

Newsies (1992): A musical based on the New York City newsboy strike of 1899. When young newspaper sellers are exploited beyond reason by their bosses they set out to enact change and are met by the ruthlessness of big business.

Norma Rae (1979, 113 minutes): Drama, portrayal of a union organizing drive in a Southern textile mill, based on the true story of union activist Crystal Lee Sutton; Sally Field (who won the Academy Award for best actress)

Pencils Down! The 100 Days of the Writer's Guild Strike (2014): The story of the Writers Guild of America strike of 2007-08 that pitted Hollywood's writers against the major studios.

Pride (2014): U.K. gay activists work to help miners during their lengthy strike of the National Union of Mineworkers in the summer of 1984.

Roger and Me (1989, 87 minutes): Devastatingly funny documentary of the closing of the General Motors plant in Flint, MI in the mid-1980s, and the impact on the city of losing 30,000 jobs; directed by Michael Moore

Salt of the Earth (1953, 94 minutes): Based on a strike of predominantly Mexican American zinc miners in New Mexico in 1950; most of the roles are played by the strikers and their family members; written and produced by filmmakers who were blacklisted at the time, the film is now included in the Library of Congress's National Film Registry

Silkwood (1983, 128 minutes): Dramatization of the life of Karen Silkwood, a union activist in a plutonium processing plant who blew the whistle on unsafe practices at the company and who died under suspicious circumstances; Meryl Streep, Cher

10,000 Black Men Named George (2002, 112 minutes): Docudrama of the life of A. Philip Randolph and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Andre Braugher

This Is What Democracy Looks Like (2000, 70 minutes): Documentary about the 1999 WTO protests in Seattle; narration by Susan Sarandon and Tim Robbins