

## Station 3: Solange, "When I Get Home"

In March 2019, singer-songwriter, artist, and producer Solange Knowles released her fourth album When I Get Home. Read Solange's interview on The Daily Show with Trevor Noah, examine the images, and answer the questions below.

**Trevor Noah:** I truly appreciate what you've created with the short film that goes with [the album] because it's very rare that you get a visual representation of what your mind couldn't even comprehend... I mean you see imagery of cowboys but, at the same time, in, like, a fine arts space... But, like, how did you chose that style? And why did you choose to signify that album in this way?



**Solange Knowles:** ... I really actually developed a fear of power and feeling powerless and not feeling control of my body.

And so going back home to Houston was really me reclaiming that and the Black cowboys and their stories and reclaiming their stories. I did a fashion campaign and I remember it was supposed to be about Americana and American Western culture, and it was all white men. And I was like, 'That don't look like the cowboys that I grew up seeing in Houston, Texas.' Like my uncles and the thousands of men who get on horses from Houston to Louisiana and do trail rides and saying through this film that our Black stories are art, our everyday notions are art. The way we move and the way we speak and just elevating the experience. I don't know, I just feel like when I think about creating these landscapes that I want to leave behind and reimagining what the Coliseum could look like in 20 years with these bodies and these faces and these stories and these celebrations, that's what I'm trying to achieve.







THANK U TO ALL THE BLACK COWBOYS IN THE LAND, SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME!

Directed and Designed by me and my heart





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## **Questions:**

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In the interview Solange mentions that none of the cowboys and imagery associated with Americana and the American West looks like the cowboys she grew up seeing. Why might this be?
How is reclaiming the ignored cultural contributions of Black cowboys a form of reclaiming power, according to Solange?
Based on the stills from the short film for When I Get Home, how are cowboys represented?