

Arts & Entertainment : Picks

"Twelve Years That Shook and Shaped Washington: 1963–1975" at Anacostia Community Museum

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By Caroline Jones • December 18, 2015

With new buildings going up nearly every day and the cost of homes rising citywide, D.C. is in the midst of rapid redevelopment. What most residents and visitors don't realize, however, is that many commonplace elements of D.C. life have only been part of the city for slightly



more than 50 years. The Anacostia Community Museum's latest exhibition, "Twelve Years That Shook and Shaped Washington: 1963–1975," looks at a period in which the District transformed dramatically. Beginning with the construction of the Southeast-Southwest Freeway that pushed low-income black residents out of their homes and into the then less populated neighborhoods east of the Anacostia River, and culminating with the first mayoral inauguration under home rule, the period included changes in political activism, led by activists like Marion Barry and Mary Treadwell, ethnic demographics, marked by an influx of immigrants from Latin America and Southeast Asia, and culture, including the birth of go-go and the work of Washington Color School artists. On interactive video screens, visitors can also hear stories from residents of D.C. during that period. You'll learn more about D.C. in an afternoon than you ever did before. *The exhibition is on view daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., to Oct. 23, at the Anacostia Community Museum, 1901 Fort Place SE. Free. (202) 633-4820. anacostia.si.edu.*