
Dustin Hoffman on Oscars: 'It's always been racism'

04/03/2016



The two-time Oscar winner, who didn't attend Sunday night's ceremony or watch the broadcast, weighed in on racism in Hollywood when asked to comment on the controversy on Wednesday night.

"Well, it's always been that way. It's not anything new; like Chris Rock, I heard, said, 'Why this year'," the 78-year-old actor responded.

"It's always been racism. It's kind of a reflection of what the country is," he added.

Hoffman made the comments while attending the opening of New York City's Metrograph, the first independently-owned movie theatre to open in Manhattan in more than decade.

"They call my era, the Golden Age of film, but I think the Golden Age of film still exists, but it's done by the indies, and I think that is what this theatre is for," the *Rain Man* star said.

On bringing more diversity to Hollywood, he said: "We change when the people that are oppressed force it to change."

So, where was Hoffman when the 88th Academy Awards were taking place? He was in the same place as this year's recipient of an Honorary Academy Award who boycotted the show.

"I went to see the Knicks game and saw my friend Spike Lee there all dressed up for the Oscars, but he was at the Knick game."

Comedian Tracy Morgan, who appeared in a taped skit at the Oscars, also was at the game.



A fan snaps a selfie with Dustin Hoffman and Tracy Morgan at Madison Square Garden in New York on Sunday. *Source:AP*