Tom Olin is interviewed outside the, “Road to Freedom” bus. He wears a T-shirt commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the ADA and a Rev-Up sticker.

♫ propelling music ♫

Tom: I'm constantly seeing people, you know,

all over the U.S. seeing my work.

And what I get from it is,

most of them have never seen anything like it.

Tom Olin is the photographer who captured many of the greatest moments of the disability rights movement. His iconic black and white photographs, like the ones contained in this video, continue to inspire the next generation of advocates.

Photo of disability rights activists crawling up the steps of the U.S. Capitol Building. Followed by a crowd of activists of mixed abilities marching towards the camera with signs that read, “We shall overcome,” and, “Access is a civil right.”

I'm known for my work for the ADA

and that little bit of history that we have for the culture.

Photo: two adapt activists sit blocking a revolving door. Bicycle locks around their necks secure them to the door’s handles.

Unfortunately,

there's not very much graphic history on that

and so I feel it's up to me

to make sure that it stays there.

Photo: A crowd of protestors, many in wheelchairs, fill the room Inside a government building with their fists in the air.

Photo an adapt activist, with his wheelchair parked in front of a greyhound bus, his fist in the air and holding a sign that reads, “busses are for everyone.”

For a lot of people the expressions of empowerment,

especially on young people with disabilities,

will keep me doing it for awhile.

Until I can't do it anymore.

A recent image of Tom Olin looking through his camera while standing beside a young person holding up their smartphone.

A young kid, I remember him turning over a page

and here was a picture of a hundred wheelchairs

going down a - from above - going down a street

and he just turned to me and said,

"I didn't know there were over a hundred people

in the whole world that used chairs!"

Because he never saw them,

that's what you believe, you know.

On the next page,

we had a demonstration in San Francisco.

Time magazine called the ADAPT group,

"wheelchair warriors."

A photo of activists marching with the ADAPT flag that is the American flag but with the stars re-configured to form the symbol for access. The carry signs that read, “Attendant services equal civii rights,” and, “Down with nursing homes.”

So here's this little kid,

finally seeing that there are more than just him

and then seeing in the next page,

"I can become a wheelchair warrior!"

Just completely threw him a curveball, you know?

Photo: activists in wheelchairs and men in suits push against each other in a crowded doorway.

One of the things I loved about photos is,

left to another generation, they can interpret it.

An mage of Tom taking a photo of a group of young people with mixed abilities gathered in front of the “Road to Freedom” bus.

What I see back then,

even though a lot of it is still there

and powerful in my way,

they need to find their power and empowerment

through what is happening today.

Show the movement to the world. Take photos.

Write stories. Lead on.

Photographs by: Tom Olin, Anthony Tusler, and Thomas J. Neuville

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