

# 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics

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I utilized the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Atlanta Summer Olympics for my dissertation and following book, *Nationalism on the World Stage*. The games were an excellent example of using the ceremonies as a strategic opportunity to revise local, national, and global understanding of a host's identity. Unlike the Los Angeles Opening Ceremonies, the Atlanta cultural and historical segments highlighted a regional identity as its own unique brand of American.

Southern culture was established from its earliest roots as a creation story through the Civil War and then reprised as a post-war construction. The display diminished Atlanta's heritage in slavery and reconstruction while highlighting the cultural aspects of its identity and the role Atlanta played in the Civil Rights movements.

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