

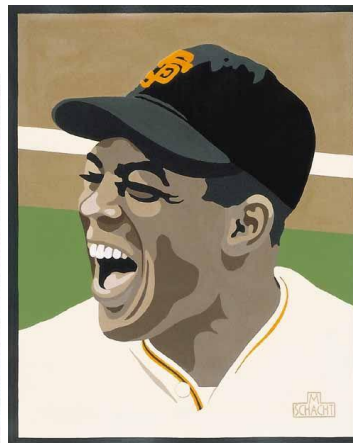
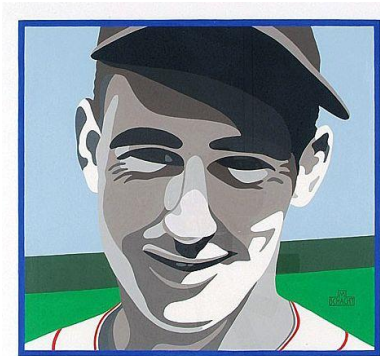
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday July 21, 2016

BASEBALL, FINE ART TEAM UP FOR LIBRARY EXHIBIT

“PLAY! The Art of Mike Schacht” Features Baseball Greats; Opens with MLB Historian John Thorn, USA Today Baseball Weekly founder Gene Policinski



(L-R): Ted Williams and Willie Mays portraits by artist Mike Schacht.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Nashville fans of fine art and of baseball are invited to celebrate both as Nashville Public Library (NPL) opens “PLAY! The Art of Mike Schacht” in the Courtyard Gallery of the Main Library, 615 Church St., on Aug. 7.

“PLAY!” features paintings, etchings and silkscreen prints of baseball greats, including Schacht’s trademark iconic portraits of his own heroes, such as Ted Williams, Jackie Robinson, Joe DiMaggio and Willie Mays. “PLAY!” represents a wide range of artwork from Baseball Hall of Fame and Upper Deck artist Schacht and is the first retrospective of his work since 2008.

The exhibit opens with a conversation and reception featuring official Major League Baseball historian John Thorn and “USA Today Baseball Weekly” founder and former “USA Today” Sports Editor Gene Policinski, now Chief Operating Officer of the Newseum Foundation and the First Amendment Center.

“PLAY! The Art of Mike Schacht” runs through Dec. 31, 2016.

Conversation and opening reception featuring:

John Thorn: Official Historian, Major League Baseball; Author and Founder, “Total Sports”

Gene Policinski, Founding Editor, “USA Today Baseball Weekly”; COO, Newseum Foundation and First Amendment Center

Sunday, Aug. 7, 2016, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium, Main Library, 615 Church St.

For more information, visit the [NPL events calendar](#).

About Mike Schacht

Mike Schacht (1936-2001) and his work have been profiled in *Sports Illustrated*, *New York Magazine*, *Print* magazine, ESPN's *Baseball* magazine, *Newsday*, the *New York Daily News*, *Baseball Weekly*, and CNN. Schacht's art has been featured on Upper Deck baseball cards, a series of neckties by designer Nicole Miller, and at Major League Baseball's national office. Schacht was named to the Baseball Art Hall of Fame by Sport Collectors Digest, and MLB official historian John Thorn named him one of the top baseball artists. For more information, visit <http://mikeschacht.com/>.

About Nashville Public Library

Nashville Public Library maintains a collection of 2 million items, including books, periodicals, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks, and downloadable books, movies and music. The library also offers more than 800 public-use computers, free art exhibits, educational programs, events for all ages, 24/7 reference assistance, online databases, interlibrary loan and special collections. Metro Archives, located at the Main Library, houses 5 million historic documents. Equal access is provided by the Talking Library audio reading service for the print disabled and Library Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. For more information, call (615) 862-5800 or visit library.nashville.org.

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