AL HIRSCHFELD AND SYRACUSE
A Most Talented Association

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SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERIES
“The passion of personal conviction belongs to the playwright; the physical interpretation of the character belongs to the actor; the delineation in line belongs to me. My contribution is to take the character -- created by the playwright and acted out by the actor -- and reinvent it for the reader.”

Al Hirschfeld in The World of Hirschfeld, 1970

Al Hirschfeld was born in St. Louis in 1903 but his family moved to New York City in 1914 where he would remain for most of the next 90 years. Always the artist making drawings, prints and paintings, Hirschfeld completed artwork for more than twenty publications including The Herald Tribune, The New Yorker, The Los Angeles Times, Business Week, Playbill, TV Guide, Town & Country, Playboy, People, Collier’s, Life, Time, Look, Rolling Stone, and Reader’s Digest.

In 1943 Hirschfeld married Dolly Haas who was a well-known European actress he met when on assignment to draw a sketch of a summer theater company. The two were married for just over 50 years and had one daughter, the famous Nina. Finding her name hidden in his drawings became an obsession for some of his fans. Less well known is that his wife Dolly occasionally appeared in the background of his drawings.

Al Hirschfeld became the first artist in history to have his name on a U.S. Postage Stamp Booklet when five stamps were commissioned in 1991 to honor Laurel & Hardy, Jack Benny, Edgar Bergen & Charlie McCarthy, Abbott & Costello, and Fanny Brice. After his passing Hirschfeld was honored with an extensive note in the Congressional Record recognizing his long career and special talents. In 1996 the Oscar-nominated full-length documentary about Hirschfeld, The Line King, opened in select movie theaters around the country.

This exhibition explores the graphic art of Hirschfeld as he captured the talents of Syracuse University alumni who entered various fields within the entertainment business. Theater, television and film actors Frank Langella, Bob Dishy, Taye Diggs, Vanessa Williams, Jerry Stiller, Peter Falk, Suzanne Pleshette, and Dick Clark were the subject of Hirschfeld designs as well as noted literary agent Morton Janklow, television journalist Steve Kroft, and television, screen, and stage writers Lynn Ahrens and Aaron Sorkin. This exhibition brings together drawings, lithographs and other designs by the master of 20th century entertainment illustration.

Among the awards won by these former Syracuse University students are the Academy Award, Golden Globe, Tony and Emmy Award as well as Drama Desk Awards, Cable Ace Awards and Obie Awards. Alumni in this exhibition represent a number of Syracuse University Schools and Colleges: The College of Visual and Performing Arts, The S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, the Whitman School of Management, and the College of Arts and Sciences.

DOMENIC J. IACONO
Director, Syracuse University Art Galleries
In the world of publishing, Morton L. Janklow ’50 is a legend. Since the 1970s, he has been one of the country’s most powerful literary agents, representing best-selling authors, National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize winners, celebrities, scholars, scientists, journalists, presidents, poets, pundits, and even a pope.

Renowned for his negotiating prowess, he regularly nets seven-figure advances for his clients. Among some of the prominent authors who have had Janklow grapple with publishing houses are Danielle Steel, Sidney Sheldon, Anne Rice, Richard Price, Thomas Harris, David McCullough, Barbara Walters, Malcolm Gladwell, and Michael Moore.

As a political science major in the College of Arts and Sciences in the late 1940s, Janklow probably didn’t envision negotiating blockbuster deals for top-selling wordsmiths. A Queens native, he supported himself at Syracuse by playing poker and working at a freight company, then went on to earn a J.D. degree from Columbia University School of Law.
Frank Langella is considered among America’s greatest stage and film actors. Known for his powerful onstage presence and extreme versatility, his performances range from Strindberg’s drama *The Father* to Noel Coward’s comedy, *Present Laughter*. During his long and distinguished career, he has won international acclaim with well over two dozen nominations and awards, including Tonys, Oscars, Emmys, Golden Globes, Cable ACE Awards, Obies, and various critics’ awards.

Not long after graduating from Syracuse University’s College of Visual and Performing Arts with a degree in theater arts, Langella made his New York stage debut as the lead in an off-Broadway revival of *The Immoralist*. During the next decade, he won three Obie Awards for his work off-Broadway and a Drama Desk Award for his work in *A Cry of Players* by William Gibson. In 1974, he made his Broadway debut in Edward Albee’s *Seascape*, for which he won another Drama Desk Award and the first of three Tony Awards.

Langella made his film debut in 1970 in *Diary of a Mad Housewife*. While appearing regularly in films and on television, he has continued to be in great demand as a stage actor. In 1977, his outstanding performance as the bloodthirsty count in the Broadway revival of *Dracula* earned Langella his second Tony nomination. He reprised his performance for the film version of *Dracula* in 1979.
**60 Minutes**, 1993
published December 20, 1993
lithograph on wove paper, AP VI/X  
19 1/8 x 24 inches
Collection of the Al Hirschfeld Foundation

Description: **60 Minutes**: Reasoner, Rather, Wallace, Kroft, Sawyer, Viera, Safer, Rooney, Stahl, Bradley, Hewitt, 12/93

Steve Kroft joined *60 Minutes* television news magazine in May 1989 and delivered his first report that September. The 2013-14 season is his 25th on the broadcast. Kroft reported one of the biggest news stories of 2011, getting the only interview of President Barack Obama on the killing of Osama bin Laden.

Kroft’s work on the program has earned numerous awards, including the 2010 Paul White Award by the Radio, Television and Digital News Association, the highest honor from the industry’s peer association. He is the only *60 Minutes* correspondent to win two Peabody Awards in the same year, bringing his total number of Peabody awards to five. Kroft received the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award for his joint investigation with *The Washington Post* on the forensic science of bullet lead analysis; the Sigma Delta Chi Award for the same story; and the coveted Alfred I. Dupont-Columbia University silver baton for his investigation into the disappearance of $500 million from the Iraq treasury. He has won Quinnipiac University's Fred Friendly First Amendment Award, as well as 11 Emmy awards. In 2003, he was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Emmy for his considerable body of work.
Lynn Ahrens began her musical career fresh out of college, when she became one of the principal songwriters and singers for the animated television series *Schoolhouse Rock*.

Since then, she has written extensively for theater, film, and television, winning theater’s triple crown: the 1998 Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle awards for the lyrics of the acclaimed Broadway musical, *Ragtime*. In the same year, she received two Academy Award nominations and two Golden Globe nominations for Twentieth Century Fox’s animated feature film *Anastasia*.

With her longtime collaborator, composer Stephen Flaherty, other credits include *Once On This Island*, *Chita Rivera: The Dancer’s Life*, *My Favorite Year*, *Lucky Stiff*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Dessa Rose*, *The Glorious Ones*, and *Seussical*. For the recording of *Songs from Ragtime*, and the original Broadway cast recordings of *Ragtime* and *Seussical*, she received three Grammy nominations.
Description: *Into The Woods* with Molly Ephraim, Vanessa Williams, Stephen De Ross, Laura Benanti, & Gregg Edelman. 4/28/02

Vanessa Williams has sold over 15 million albums worldwide and achieved critical acclaim as an actress on stage, in film, and on television. Her albums *The Right Stuff, The Comfort Zone,* and *The Sweetest Days* earned multiple Grammy nominations and include such hits as “Save the Best For Last,” “Dreamin,” “Work To Do,” and “Love Is,” and the Academy Award-winning single “Colors of the Wind,” from Disney’s *Pocahontas,* among many others.

Her recordings also include *Vanessa Williams Greatest Hits: The First Ten Years, Everlasting Love,* and two holiday albums, *Star Bright,* and *Silver & Gold.* Her album *The Real Thing* debuted at #1 on the Billboard Jazz Charts in June 2009, and she received an NAACP nomination for “Outstanding Jazz Artist.”

In 1994, Williams replaced Chita Rivera in *Kiss of the Spider Woman,* to critical acclaim. She garnered rave reviews and was nominated for a Tony Award for the 2002 revival of *Into the Woods.* She also headlined a limited special engagement of the classic *Carmen Jones* at the Kennedy Center and starred in the Encore! Series staged concert production of *St. Louis Woman.* She performed to rave reviews in Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine’s Broadway musical *Sondheim on Sondheim.*
Rent, 1996
lithograph on wove paper, AP IV/XV
19 1/8 x 24 1/8 inches
Collection of the Al Hirschfeld Foundation

Description: Rent with Daphne Rubin-Vega, Taye Diggs, Fredi Walker, Adam Pascal, Wilson Jermaine Heredia, Anthony Rapp, Idina Menzel, and Jesse L. Martin, 4/28/96

Taye Diggs is an award-winning actor and author best known for his roles in the Broadway musical Rent, the motion picture How Stella Got Her Groove Back and the hit ABC series Private Practice. Shortly after graduating, Diggs appeared in the Tony Award-winning revival of Carousel. In 1996, he originated the role of the landlord Benny in Jonathan Larson’s Tony Award- and Pulitzer Prize-winning Rent. Other Broadway appearances include Chicago and Wicked.

His film debut as Winston in How Stella Got Her Groove Back brought Diggs critical acclaim and exposure to a wider audience. Other film roles include reprising the role of Benny in Rent, the bandleader in Chicago, Roland in The Wood, and Harper in The Best Man. In addition to his role in the ABC hit drama Private Practice, he has appeared in numerous television shows, including Grey's Anatomy, Daybreak, Will & Grace, Ally McBeal and The West Wing.

Diggs received a bachelor’s degree in drama from Syracuse University’s College of Visual and Performing Arts, and has been extremely active with his alma mater throughout his post-graduate years.
West Wing, 2001
lithograph on wove paper
15 x 18 1/2 inches
Collection of the Al Hirschfeld Foundation


After writing a number of off-Broadway plays, Aaron Sorkin had great success with the 1989 drama A Few Good Men. In 1992 the play made it to big screen and became an Oscar-nominated film. Sorkin was equally successful with television, as he and his close friend Thomas Schlamme collaborated Sports Night, West Wing and Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip. Sorkin projects have garnered a dramatic number of honors including the 2010 docudrama The Social Network which won both an Oscar Award and Golden Globe for the Best Adapted Screenplay. He has either been nominated or won an Emmy Award for his work on eleven creative projects.

A 2001 Arents Award recipient, Sorkin serves on the College of Visual and Performing Arts Board of Advisors and sponsors the Sorkin L.A. Learning Practicum for Drama. Since its establishment in 2006, the highly successful Learning Practicum—also known as “Sorkin Week”—has allowed drama and film students in the College of Visual and Performing Arts to get a taste of life in the Los Angeles entertainment world.
Description: Dick Clark shown giving his ‘signature’ salute and sign off, “For now, Dick Clark. So long.”

Dick Clark was the host of the television show *American Bandstand* beginning from 1956 to 1989. He became affectionately known as “America’s oldest teenager” and became synonymous with rock and rock music. He began his broadcasting career with radio stations in Central New York, including Syracuse University’s WAER-FM and Utica’s WRUN radio. During his senior year at SU, he joined WOLF-AM in Syracuse. In the early 1950’s he headed to Philadelphia where he joined WFIL-AM, a stepping-stone to hosting *American Bandstand*. The program was eventually broadcast nationwide on ABC and with it Clark helped introduce rock ‘n’ roll to mainstream America.

Along with his on-air talents, Clark built a business empire as a TV producer, creating game shows, awards shows, and made-for-TV movies. Clark, who earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration, maintained his fondness for and ties to Central New York and SU throughout his life. He was a supporter of SU and welcomed visiting students to his California offices. Recordings of some of his radio broadcasts are part of the Dick Clark Collection in the SU Library’s Special Collections Research Center. The S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications will name its newly renovated studio facility Dick Clark Studios, in honor of the legendary broadcaster.
Peter Falk appeared in more than 100 feature films and television series after graduating from Syracuse University in 1953 with a Master’s degree in Public Administration from the Maxwell School. Arguably best known for his TV portrayal of Lt. Columbo, Falk had played a wide range of characters during his more than 50 years as an actor. He was equally at home staring mid-life depression in the face as Archie Black in John Cassavetes’s *Husbands* (1970); starring on Broadway in the Neil Simon farce, *The Prisoner of Second Avenue* (1971); or playing himself as a guest on *The Larry Sanders Show* (1992).

Falk won five Emmy Awards for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series during his career but was nominated on 18 different occasions for best actor awards either by the Oscar, Golden Globe, or Emmy Award organizations.
**The King of Queens**, 2001

published December 1, 2001

lithograph on wove paper, AP 6/20

20 x 22 1/2 inches

Collection of the Al Hirschfeld Foundation

Description: *The King of Queens* with Leah Remini, Kevin James, and Jerry Stiller 12/01

Jerry Stiller received a Bachelor’s degree in Speech and Drama from Syracuse in 1950. Early in his career Stiller performed with an improvisational group (where he met his wife Anne Meara) that later became known as the Second City troupe. He and Anne appeared on *The Ed Sullivan Show* more than 30 times. In recent years he is best known for his roles on *Seinfeld* (1989-1997) and *The King of Queens* (1998-2007).

Stiller has more than 100 credits as an actor but has also written and produced television shows. He and his wife were recently honored with a ‘Made in NY’ Mayor’s Award for Lifetime Achievement. The award is given annually to individuals that have made significant contributions to various fields in the city’s entertainment and digital media industries.
After completing his studies at Syracuse University, Bob Dishy had an immediate impact on Broadway when he got his first stage role in the original production of the musical *Damn Yankees* in 1955. After being drafted Dishy worked with the Second City troupe where he polished his comedy skills. His first major TV opportunity came with the show, *That Was The Week That Was*, where he spent the 1964-65 season.

His theater, film and television credits are numerous. Character and comedic roles are arguably most common on his resume but Dishy has also played serious characters in film and on stage. Some of his most famous roles are the father in Neil Simon’s *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, a school principal in the 1999 film *Judy Berlin*, Abner Truckle in the stage performance of *Sly Fox* (for which he received a Tony Award nomination and won a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play) and Jake in *Grown Ups*, a 1982 stage production written by Jules Feiffer.
Bob Newhart, 1985
lithograph on wove paper, edition 43/200
18 x 14 inches
Collection of the Al Hirschfeld Foundation

Description: The Bob Newhart Show with Bob Newhart and Suzanne Pleshette for Viacom, 1985

Not an alumna of the University, Suzanne Pleshette spent part of 1955 at Syracuse, before transferring to Finch College. Probably best known as a tv and film actress, Pleshette also had brief theater career. In 1961 she landed the role of Annie Sullivan in The Miracle Worker and later appeared in Special Occasions (1982.) Her film career was memorable with parts in The Birds (1963), Nevada Smith (1966), and more than 20 other roles. It may have been her TV performances, especially as Emily in the 1970s series The Bob Newhart Show that won her the most fans. A string of TV movie roles also garnered her kudos including The Queen of Mean (1989) for which she was nominated as best actress.
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cover: Al Hirschfeld, Self Portrait in Barber Chair, 1988
Courtesy of the Al Hirschfeld Foundation
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