HOFSTRA CULTURAL CENTER

presents

THE GREATEST: CASSIUS CLAY TO MUHAMMAD ALI

THURSDAY and FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13 and 14, 2008

"Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee, his hands can't hit what his eyes can't see."



young man,
Cassius Marcellus Clay
was known as "The Lip
From Louisville,
Kentucky." Over the



Muhammad Ali Fighting, 1961 Art Shay, Courtesy Stephen Daiter Gallery, Chicago, IL

years, he has inspired millions of people throughout the world not only with his boxing prowess, but also with his courageous opposition to war and other violence, his faith and his humanitarian efforts. He has also made his mark with his words, which are now in vogue even among the hip-hop generation.

To make America the **greatest** is my goal, so I beat the Russian, and I beat the Pole, and for the **USA WON** the medal of **gold**.

ROSA SAT, SO MARTIN COULD WALK. MARTIN WALKED, SO OBAMA COULD RUN.

That mantra was increasingly popular during the 2008 presidential election. Gunnar Myrdal, author of An American Dilemma, wrote that race relations were the litmus test for how well American democracy was working. We learn from the Wachtel Archives at Hofstra that when Martin Luther King, Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, he insisted on making a side trip to Stockholm to visit Myrdal. For King, the Swedish scholar had highlighted the American Dream, calling on the nation to close the gap between its noble principles and its unfair practices, to have deeds match words about liberty, justice and equality.

Shortly after the Nobel Prize trip, Dr. King came to Hofstra to give the 1965 commencement address. He broadened his call for American civil rights to global human rights when he asked everyone in the audience to become activists against the triple evils of racism, poverty and war. In sponsoring this conference, The Greatest: From Cassius Clay to Muhammad Ali, we have the opportunity to examine a man whose influence in the ring and in the global community has spanned half a century. We have the opportunity to assess Ali's values, experiences and conduct in the context of the 1960s, a decade described by some historians as America's "second civil war."

Hofstra is pleased to welcome scholars, journalists, athletes, students and sports fans to these days of deliberation about issues that continue to resonate throughout our society and the world. Cornel West, in his book *Race Matters*, wrote that as many as 86 percent of white suburbanites never encounter a person of color in their daily lives. The extent to which that is a representative reality for most Americans, says West, indicates that addressing still unresolved issues of race relations may not even lie on the radar screens of most white people.

In his pioneering book *The Souls of Black Folks*, W.E.B. DuBois said, "The problem of the 20th century is the problem of the color line." How far have we progressed from that warning? What role did Ali play in calling on our nation to live up to its highest standards? These are key matters that President-elect Barack Obama will seek to address as he prepares to take the highest office of power in the world.

Surely, Ali and Obama would concur with Frederick Douglass (whose new stature now graces the Monroe Hall courtyard) when he said, "Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never has and it never will."

We hope you will find the forums engaging, and we hope you will attend the Department of Drama and Dance's production of *The Great White Hope*, the Hofstra University Museum's Ali exhibition, and Hofstra Entertainment's special boxing poetry event, *Fightin' Words*. Thanks to the superb people who served on the conference planning committee and to Natalie Datlof for her continually wise guidance. We are especially indebted to the indefatigable and talented Athelene A. Collins.

Michael Barnes

Associate Professor of Psychology and Faculty Athletic Representative Hofstra University

Michael D'Innocenzo

Professor of History and Harry H. Wachtel Distinguished Teaching Professor for the Study of Nonviolent Social Change Hofstra University

The participation in the conference by those who are active professionals in their field is subject to the priority of their professional commitments.

BOOK DISPLAY at the Hofstra University Bookstore, Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center, North Campus

Display of Sports Illustrated magazine Classic Covers of Muhammad Ali courtesy of Sports Illustrated.

HOFSTRA CULTURAL CENTER presents

THE GREATEST:

FROM CASSIUS CLAY TO MUHAMMAD ALI

Thursday and Friday, November 13 and 14, 2008

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2008

Unless otherwise indicated, the conference registration and round-table panels will be held at the Leo A. Guthart Cultural Center Theater, Joan and Donald E. Axinn Library, First Floor, South Campus.

8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

9:30-10:30 a.m. A Conversation With

DAVE ANDERSON, Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist, The New York Times

Author of, In the Corner: Great Boxing Trainers Talk About Their Art

Moderator/Commentator: Ed Ingles, Professional-in-Residence, WRHU, Hofstra University

10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. ALI'S IMPACT ON SOCIETY

Moderator/Commentator: Greg Dunmore, Co-Chair, Arts and Entertainment Task Force

National Association of Black Journalists

Rock Brynner, Assistant Professor of Political Science

Western Connecticut State University Muhammad Ali and His Bodyguard

Ronnie L. Smith, Assistant Professor of the Humanities

Edward Waters College

From "I Am the Greatest" to "Bow in the Presence of Greatness"

James Von Schilling, Professor of English

Northampton Community College Ali vs. Quarry in Atlanta: An Anti-War Victory

12:15-1:15 p.m. Lunch (on your own)

1:15 p.m. GREETINGS FROM THE HOFSTRA COMMUNITY

Stuart Rabinowitz

President and Andrew M. Boas and Mark L. Claster Distinguished Professor of Law

Hofstra University

Michael Barnes, Associate Professor of Psychology and Faculty Athletic Representative

Hofstra University Conference Co-Director

Michael D'Innocenzo, Professor of History and Harry H. Wachtel Distinguished

Teaching Professor for the Study of Nonviolent Social Change

Hofstra University
Conference Co-Director

1:30-3:15 p.m.

ON THE ROAD WITH ALI:

TRAINERS, PROMOTERS, JOURNALISTS

Moderator/Commentator:

Ed Ingles, Professional-in-Residence, WRHU, Hofstra University

Dave Anderson, Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist, The New York Times

Bill Gallo, Cartoonist and Columnist, New York Daily News

Stan Isaacs, Columnist, Newsday (retired)
Gene Kilroy, Muhammad Ali's Business Manager

Arthur Mercante, Referee (retired); refereed Ali/Norton; Ali/Frazier; Frazier/Forman fights

Phil Pepe, Columnist, New York Daily News (retired)

3:15-4 p.m.

DOCUMENTING ALI - PHOTO ESSAY

Sonia Katchian, Documentary and Corporate Photographer*

Author, The Ali Folio

Sonia Katchian is an established documentary and fine-art photographer with photographs in private and public collections, and in museum collections worldwide. She has photographed Muhammad Ali since 1974 in locations around the world, and her photos are part of the permanent collection of the new Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky; The Metropolitan Museum of Art; and the Smithsonian Institution.

Introduction by:

Athelene A. Collins, Senior Associate Director

Hofstra Cultural Center Conference Coordinator

4:15-5 p.m.

Hofstra University Museum presents DESSERT RECEPTION and

Viewing of Conference Exhibition:

THE GREATEST OF ALL TIME: MUHAMMAD ALI

September 21-December 2

Emily Lowe Gallery, Behind Emily Lowe Hall, South Campus

Featuring interpretive dances by Hofstra University students under

the direction of Dyane Harvey-Salaam.

Greetings:

Beth Levinthal, Director

Hofstra University Museum

5-6:15 p.m.

Dinner (on your own)

^{*} Presenting The Ali Folio™, a collector's edition of 14 of the best of Sonia Katchian's Ali images in a handmade, linen-colored box. The edition is limited to only 50 sets. The Ali Folio™ will be shown by the photographer during breaks at the conference. Be sure to see it!

6:30-7:45 p.m.

REFLECTIONS OF A FIGHTER



A Conversation With

MARYUM "MAY" ALI, Author, I Shook Up the World: The Incredible Life of Muhammad Ali ANGELO DUNDEE, Cornerman and Trainer to Muhammad Ali and

BERT RANDOLPH SUGAR, Columnist, HBO Sports

Co-Authors, My View From the Corner

Introductions by:

8 p.m.

Michael Barnes, Associate Professor of Psychology and Faculty Athletic Representative Hofstra University

Conference Co-Director

Hofstra University Department of Drama and Dance presents The Great White Hope

by Howard Sackler

directed by Royston Coppenger, Associate Professor of Drama and Dance

Thursday, November 13 and 20, 8 p.m. Friday, November 14 and 21, 8 p.m. Saturday, November 15 and 22, 8 p.m. Sunday, November 16 and 23, 2 p.m.

Black Box Theater, New Academic Building, South Campus

The Great White Hope tells the fictionalized story of Jack Johnson (called "Jack Jefferson" in the play), who, in 1908, became the first African-American heavyweight champion of the world. As white America searched high and low for a champion capable of reclaiming the title, lefferson mounted a doomed battle against the forces of institutionalized racism.

10:15 p.m. Talk back with the director and cast following the performance.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2008

Unless otherwise indicated, the conference registration and round-table panels will be held at the Leo A. Guthart Cultural Center Theater, Joan and Donald E.Axinn Library, First Floor, South Campus.

8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

9-11 a.m. FROM CASSIUS CLAY TO MUHAMMAD ALI

Moderator/Commentator: Jeffrey T. Sammons, Professor of History

New York University

Author, Beyond the Ring: The Role of Boxing in American Society Joseph G. Astman Distinguished Conference Scholar

Robert Lipsyte, Columnist, The New York Times (retired) Author, The Contender and Free to Be Muhammad Ali

Bert Randolph Sugar, Columnist, HBO Sports

Author, Bert Sugar on Boxing

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. RINGSIDE VIEW with LARRY MERCHANT, Columnist, HBO Sports

and

GENE KILROY, Muhammad Ali's Business Manager

Introductions by: Michael D'Innocenzo, Professor of History and Harry H. Wachtel Distinguished

Teaching Professor for the Study of Nonviolent Social Change

Hofstra University Conference Co-Director

12:15-1:45 p.m. LUNCHEON

The Rochelle and Irwin A. Lowenfeld Conference and Exhibition Hall

Joan and Donald E.Axinn Library, 10th Floor, South Campus

Greetings: Herman A. Berliner

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Hofstra University

Introduction by: Ed Ingles, Professional-in-Residence, WRHU, Hofstra University

Speaker: Sal Marchiano

Sports Anchor and Emmy Award Winner

CWII News at Ten

2-3 p.m. A Conversation With

BUDD SCHULBERG. Screenwriter and Author, On the Waterfront

Author, Loser and Still Champion: Muhammad Ali

and

STAN ISAACS, Sports Columnist, Newsday (retired)

Introductions by: Ruth Prigozy, Professor of English

Hofstra University

3:15 p.m. THE CURRENT STATE OF BOXING: IS BOXING DOWN FOR THE COUNT?

Moderator/Commentator: Wallace Matthews, Columnist, Newsday

Gill Clancy, Trainer, Manager, Broadcast Journalist (retired)

Kathy Collins, four-time women's boxing world champion, 1997, 1998 (2), 2000

Sal Marchiano, Sports Anchor, CW11 News at Ten

Arthur Mercante, Referee (retired); Author, Inside the Ropes

Larry Merchant, Columnist, HBO Sports

Franklin McNeil, Boxing/Mixed Martial Arts Columnist, NJ Star-Ledger, Columnist, ESPN

Chuck Wepner, fought Ali at the Coliseum, Cleveland, Ohio, March 24, 1975

CLOSING RECEPTION

The Rochelle and Irwin A. Lowenfeld Conference and Exhibition Hall Joan and Donald E. Axinn Library, 10th Floor, South Campus

Hofstra Entertainment presents Fightin'Words

A spoken-word performance conceived and directed by Bob Spiotto

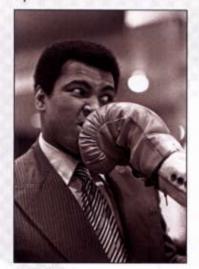
Featuring Alexio Barboza, Laura Carrington, David Groeger, Jacqueline Higgins, Ezell Jefferson, Ariann Miller, William McIntyre and Bob Spiotto.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 13, 14, 15 at 8 p.m. Emily Lowe Gallery, Behind Emily Lowe Hall, South Campus

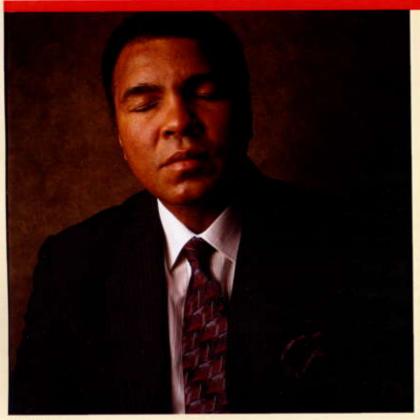
Performed "in the ring" and surrounded by the Hofstra University Museum's photo exhibition, The Greatest of All Time: Muhammad Ali, this knock-out performance consists of boxing poetry-in-performance, as well as many boxing stories, quotes and anecdotes. This performance packs a solid punch with works by Joyce Carol Oates, Richard Ford, Maya Angelou, Langston Hughes, Norman Mailer, Budd Schulberg, Theodore Roosevelt, and Muhammad Ali, among others.

6 p.m.

8 p.m.



C Sonia Katchian



Ali, 1991 © William Coupon

n this unconventional portrait of Ali with his eyes closed, we are shown a man who seems to have made peace with himself. The dramatic use of light affecting his skin tone, facial features, and even the background.

softens the subject. An air of serenity is created by the muted tones of the image and the relaxed posture of his body.

"The Greatest' - He is. To show me I have human frailties like everybody else does. That's all I am; a man."

JOSEPH G. ASTMAN DISTINGUISHED CONFERENCE/SYMPOSIUM SCHOLARS

,	
1986	Marilyn French, Author Conference: The World of George Sand
1988	Andrea Bonanome (Italy), Medical Researcher Conference: Chocolate: Food of the Gods
1989	Edmund W. Gordon, Psychologist Conference: Minorities in Higher Education
1989	Nicole Pellegrin (France), Scholar Conference: The French Revolution of 1789 and Its Impact
1990	Edmond Morris, Biographer, and Sylvia J. Morris, Biographer Conference: Theodore Roosevelt and the Birth of Modern America
1990	Dore Ashton, Art Historian Conference: Van Gogh 100
1990	John Cage, Composer and Artist Conference: Bamboo and Oak: The Impact of East Asia on American Society and Culture
1991	Paul Badura-Skoda (Austria), Musician, and Eva Badura-Skoda (Austria), Musicologist Conference: Mozart: 200 Years of Research and Analysis
1991	Charles W. Smithson, Banker Conference: Innovative Financial Instruments and Development in Financial Services
1991	Lucine Amara, Opera Singer Conference: Opera and the "Golden West"
1991	John G. Cawelti, Scholar Conference: Detective Fiction and Film
1991	Marc Shell, Scholar Conference: Money: Lure, Lore and Liquidity
1992	Artie Kamiya, Scholar Conference: East Coast Regional Conference on "Games Children Play"
1993	Paul John Eakin, Scholar Conference: First Person Singular: Autobiography Past, Present and Future
1994	Tovah Feldshuh, Actress Conference: Women in Theatre: On the Occasion of the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of Sarah Bernhardt
1994	Martin Bauml Duberman, Scholar Conference: Art, Glitter and Glitz: The Theatre of the 1920s Celebrates American Diversity
1995	Kazuo Sayama (Japan), Writer and Baseball Historian Conference: Baseball and the "Sultan of Swat": Commemorating the 100th Birthday of Babe Ruth
1995	Ngûgî wa Thiong'o, Novelist and Essayist Conference: Africa 2000

1995	Nicholas Johnson, Former Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Conference: Eleventh International Interdisciplinary Conference on General Semantics
1996	Seyyed Hossein Nasr, Scholar Conference: Inscription as Art in the World of Islam
1996	Peter A. Quinn, Author Conference: Irish Literatures: Old and New Worlds
1996	Rem Koolhas, Founder and Principal, Office for Metropolitan Architecture Rotterdam, Netherlands, and Professor of Architecture, Harvard University Conference: (In)Visible Cities: From the Postmodern Metropolis to the Cities of the Future
1996	Joyce Carol Oates, Author and Poet Roger S. Berlind Distinguished Professor of the Humanities, Princeton University Conference: George Sand: History, Politics and Society: From the First Empire to the Third Republic
1997	Herbert S. Parmet, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, City University of New York Conference: The Tenth Presidential Conference: George Bush: Leading in a New World
1997	Edward Peters, Scholar Conference: Pope Innocent III and His World
1997	Mario Lavista (México), Composer Conference:The Hispanic Connection: Spanish and Spanish-American Literature in the Arts of the World
1998	Oren Lyons (Iroquois), Scholar Conference: Native American Experience: Long Island, New York and Beyond
1998	Will Friedwald, Writer and Frank Sinatra Historian Conference: Frank Sinatra: The Man, The Music, The Legend
1999	Jon C. Teaford, Scholar Conference: Nassau County: From Rural Hinterland to Suburban Metropolis
1999	Michele Luzzati (Italy), Scholar Conference: The Most Ancient of Minorities: History and Culture of the Jews of Italy
1999	David B. Ruderman, Scholar Conference: The Most Ancient of Minorities: History and Culture of the Jews of Italy
1999	Blanche Wiesen Cook, Historian Conference: The Vision of Eleanor Roosevelt: World Citizen Ahead of Her Time
1999	Donald Spoto, Author Conference: Alfred Hitchcock: In Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Alfred Hitchcock
1999	Michael A. Morrison, Scholar Conference: Millennial Shakespeare: Performance/Text/Scholarship
2000	Peter Riddell, Associate Editor, The Times (London) Conference: The Thatcher Years: The Rebirth of Liberty?
2000	Walter Isaacson, Managing Editor, Time

2000	Jackson R. Bryer, Scholar Conference: A Robert Anderson Retrospective: Theater and Film
2000	Carlisle Floyd, Composer, Susannah Conference: Contemporary Opera at the Millennium
2001	Kenneth T. Jackson, Scholar Conference: Redefining Suburban Studies
2001	Bill Michaelis, Scholar Conference: The Child's Right to Play: A Global Approach
2001	E.L. Doctorow, Author Conference: Moby-Dick 2001: An International Celebration
2001	Richard A. Falk, Scholar Conference: 2001: A Peace Odyssey
2001	George Wein, Producer Symposium: Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong: A Celebration of Jazz
2002	John Seelye, Scholar Conference: John Steinbeck's Americas
2002	Gwen Kirkpatrick, Scholar Symposium: Spanish and Spanish-American Poetry: Transition 2000 and Beyond
2002	Howard Zinn, Scholar Symposium: Representing Sacco and Vanzetti
2002	lan Thomson, Scholar Conference: "If This Is a Man": The Life and Legacy of Primo Levi
2002	Gary Giddins, Biographer Conference: Bing! Crosby and American Culture
2003	Robert Kimball, Author and Historian of Musical Theatre Conference: The Broadway Musical: 1920-2020
2003	Carl R. Gunther, Historian and Archivist Conference: From Autogiro to Gyroplane: The Past, Present and Future of an Aviation Industry
2003	George D. Jackson, Historian Conference: St. Petersburg 300th Anniversary: The City as a Cradle of Modern Russia
2004	J. Richard Hackman, Scholar Conference: Applied Organizational Psychology
2004	Edith Grossman, Translator Conference: Don Quixote: The First 400 Years
2005	Robert Fishman, Scholar Conference: New Visions of Suburban Life: An Interdisciplinary Conference

2005	Paul Ryan, Scholar Conference: Youth Employment in the Global Economy
2005	Douglas Brinkley, Scholar Conference: 11th Presidential Conference: William Jefferson Clinton: The "New Democrat" From Hope
2006	Ronald G. Knapp, Scholar Conference: Asian Merchant Cultures at the Crossroads
2006	Anthony Saunders, Scholar Conference: Managing Risk in Financial Institutions: From Theory to Practice
2006	Eric J. Topol, Scholar Conference: Biomedical Research and the Law
2006	Cathy L. Jrade, Scholar Symposium: Rubén Darío: 90 Years Later
2007	Jay Pasachoff, Scholar Conference: Building a Scientifically Literate Population and Workforce for the 21st Century
2007	Harold Koda, Scholar Conference: Defining Culture Through Dress: Individual and Collective Identities
2007	Talal Asad, Scholar Conference: The Politics of Religion-Making
2007	Robert Davi, Artist Symposium: Bond, James Bond: The World of 007
2007	Raymond Benson, Scholar Symposium: Bond, James Bond:The World of 007
2007	Richard Kadison, Scholar Conference: College Student Mental Health: Psychological, Institutional and Legal Issues
2007	Jessica Milner Davis, Scholar Conference: At Whom Are We Laughing? Humor in Romance Language Literatures
2008	Alison Stone, Scholar Conference: Philosophy of Luce Irigaray
2008	Doug Hesse, Scholar Conference: "Who Owns Writing?" Revisited
2008	John A. Pojman, Scholar Symposium: Building a Scientifically Literate Population and Workforce for the 21st Century: The Science of Patterns and Colors
2008	Stephen Hart, Scholar Symposium: I Am Going to Speak About Hope: International Poetry Symposium Celebrating the Work of César Vallejo
2008	Jeffrey T. Sammons, Scholar Conference: The Greatest: From Cassius Clay to Muhammad Ali

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Hofstra Cultural Center

Conference and Symposium Schedule

The Hofstra Cultural Center is an internationally renowned organization that includes a conference and symposium component. I a music program, and the publication of the proceedings of its conferences and symposia. The activities of the Hofstra Cultural Center augment the offerings of the academic departments of the University.

The conference and symposium component develops educational programs related to the cultural and interdisciplinary experience of students, faculty, staff, alumni and international scholars. It also plans and coordinates conferences and symposia in the fields of humanities, business, law and the sciences to promote the University as an international arena of scholarly thought and to foster Long Island as a cultural entity. The Hofstra Cultural Center has sponsored more than 130 conferences and symposia and has won international recognition for its Presidential Conference Series.

DARWIN'S REACH: CELEBRATING DARWIN'S LEGACY ACROSS THE DISCIPLINES PERLE FINE AND EARLY LEADERS OF ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM	SMARCH 12-14 APRIL 24 and 25
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FALL 2009 THE PETER S. KALIKOW PRESIDENTIAL STUDIES SYMPOSIUM:	
PREROGATIVE POWER AND THE IMPERIAL PRESIDENCY	OCTOBER
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1	SPRING 2010	MADCH
	AMERICA'S UNINSURED: ADDRESSING THE CRISIS	
	AMERICA'S DIVINGORED. ADDITECTOR OF THE POPULATION OF THE POPULATI	ODATION MARCH 19 and 20
	CHILD'S PLAY, CHILDREN'S PLEASURES: INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPL	ORATION

For "Calls for Papers" and conference and symposium registration materials, please contact:

Hofstra Cultural Center 113 Hofstra University Hempstead, NY 11549-1130 Phone: (516) 463-5669 Fax: (516) 463-4793

E-mail: hofculctr@hofstra.edu



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