

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

14th and CONSTITUTION AVENUE N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

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SCHEDULE--SEPTEMBER 1985

OPENING EXHIBITS

- FEATURED ACQUISITION:** "Zhandra Rhodes Gown," September 1 through September 30.
In recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Smithsonian's Resident Associate Program, the Museum will put on view a chiffon evening gown created by British designer Zhandra Rhodes. Rhodes, who designed the gown in 1977, donated the dress to the Museum's Division of Costume after she participated in the Resident Associate Program course entitled "Extraordinary Women in Fashion" in March 1978. Located in the Pendulum area on the Museum's first floor.
- EXHIBIT:** "Aditi: The Monies of India," September 26 through March 15.
The broad sweep of India's history is suggested by approximately 300 coins, medals and other numismatic objects. Installed in eight cases in the Hall of Money and Medals, the exhibit will illustrate Indian numismatic history from the earliest period of punch-marked silver pieces to the modern decimal system. Various foreign influences have affected Indian history and, thus, contributed to Indian numismatics, iconography and metrology, among them the cultures of Persia, Greece, Rome, Central Asia, Portugal, Denmark, The Netherlands, France, and Britain. Located on the Museum's third floor.

CONTINUING PROGRAMS, EXHIBITS AND EXHIBITIONS

- PROGRAM:** "Concerts in the Bandstand"
September 8, 15, 22--The U.S. Marine Band recreates Sousa's concerts.
September 29--The Commodores, the U.S. Navy Jazz ensemble, perform early jazz pieces.
Programs will be presented at the National Bandstand at 2:00 p.m.
- PROGRAM:** "Saturday After Noon"
September 14--"The Nation's Dream Insurance: The 50th Anniversary of the Social Security Act."

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Activities from 1:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Film, concert, performance, and oral histories related to the the Social Security Act. 1:00-2:30 p.m., Make Way for Tomorrow, a 1937 film about a couple's attempt to cope with financial difficulties after retirement. 1:00-4:00 p.m., "Moving Toward the Dream," interviews with individuals who helped create and implement the Social Security Act (Reception Suite). 2:30-3:15, "Dreams Lost and Found," prose and poetry about hard times and hope (Carmichael Auditorium). 3:15-4:15, "Too Old to Work, Too Young to Die: The Search for Security," concert by Joe Glazer (Carmichael Auditorium).

September 28--"A Free Press: Endangered or Dangerous?" This program is presented in commemoration of National Freedom of the Press Day. The event, co-sponsored with the National Press Club, will bring journalists to the platform to discuss the big issues--and how the press handled them--from the 1930s to the 1980s (Carmichael Auditorium, 1:00-4:00 p.m.).

EXHIBIT: "A Share in America: Selections from the Defense Bond and Savings Stamp Campaign, 1941-1945," through September 2. On view are five paintings, four of which were used as the basis for posters, billboards and other advertisements encouraging Americans to buy U.S. Treasury Department defense bonds and savings stamps during World War II. They represent the government's first use of human-interest themes to sell bonds and stamps. Located on the Museum's third floor near the Hall of Money and Medals and the Hall of Armed Forces History.

EXHIBIT: "Benjamin Franklin and the Colonial Posts," through September 22. Thirteen illustrative examples, such as a broadside, record books, silkscreen images and postage stamps, that document Benjamin Franklin's career as Postmaster General of Philadelphia and later as Deputy Postmaster General of North America and his influence in improving mail schedules, introducing "light postriders between major cities, and extending mail service to British Canada. Located in the west corridor of the Museum's first floor.

EXHIBIT: "Industrial Design: An American Case History," through September 29. This exhibit of approximately 45 drawings, photographs and objects illustrates the influence of 20th-century industrial design on mass-produced goods, using Singer sewing machines as a case study. The exhibit includes 17 machines, ranging from Isaac Singer's first cast-iron patent model of 1851 to an electronic model of 1975. Also shown are 8 drawings, models, and machines created by the well-known industrial designer Henry Dreyfuss, as well as more than 20 works by some of his colleagues, including Raymond Loewy. These selections from a recent donation of the

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Singer Industrial Design Archive Collection reveal the effect of industrial designers on the form, function, and presentation of sewing machines. The exhibit is located on the Museum's first floor, west corridor.

EXHIBIT: "Panorama of India," through September 30.
An exhibit of 19 books and one manuscript dating from 1698 to 1898. The materials, many with color illustrations, include descriptions and accounts by British officials serving in India and pictorial displays of Indian arts and design motifs as publicized in Europe through exhibitions and museums. Featured is a set of the Daniel brothers' Oriental Scenery (1795-1815), a collection of colored aquatints showing scenery and architectural monuments throughout India, on loan from Mr. and Mrs. J. Roy Galloway. The exhibit is on view by appointment Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (call 357-1568) in the Dibner Room on the Museum's first floor.

EXHIBIT: "Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder: Al Jolson Centennial," extended through ~~October 21~~ November 21.
An exhibit of more than 35 objects and documents, including record albums, phonograph records, music sheets, photographs, and books of the early 20th century. His professional success was part of the rise of the "star system" in American show business. Located in the Pendulum area on the Museum's first floor.

EXHIBIT: "Building the Bomb: Forty Years After Hiroshima," through November 3.
The exhibit commemorates the fortieth anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It contains approximately 45 photographs, drawings, documents, and artifacts illustrating the development of the atomic bomb under the Manhattan Project, the decision to use it in the war, and the destructive effects on Japan. The exhibit includes casings for Hiroshima and Nagasaki type bombs. Located on the Museum's first floor, east corridor.

EXHIBITION: "History As Seen From the National Museum of American History," through December 1.
The exhibition consists of approximately 55 photographs taken at events near the Museum in 1984 and early 1985. The photographs are divided into three categories. The first section shows the strong sense of patriotism that has become more visible in the 1980s. Included are pictures of events such as the Olympic festivities, the Presidential Inauguration and Fourth of July activities. The second section presents coverage of protests that illustrate public involvement with the American system. Some of the topics covered are protests against involvement in Latin America and demonstrations against barriers to the handicapped on public transportation. The third section depicts Washington as a city. Here, images of events such as the Japanese Sankai Juku Dancers and the Cherry Blossom Parade are displayed. Located in the Museum's lower level corridor.

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EXHIBITION: "Pain and Its Relief," through 1986.
More than 300 objects, photos, and other graphics trace the scientific discoveries and technological developments that allow unprecedented, but still imperfect, control of pain in medical settings and daily life. Made possible through the support of the American Anesthesiologists. Located near the Hall of Medical Sciences on the Museum's first floor.

EXHIBITION: "The Fat and the Lean: American Wood Type in the 19th Century," through 1985.
On view are more than 100 examples of printers' wooden display type that transformed the American advertisement and led to the type faces used in ads today. Posters made by processes that had superseded the use of wood type by the end of the century are also displayed. Located on the Museum's third floor.

EXHIBITION: "The Naming of America," through February 17, 1986.
A unique world map from the early 1500s, possibly the first to use the name "America," is on view, as well as a companion volume which justifies the name choice, other books of the time, and related photos and objects. Located on the Museum's third floor.

EXHIBITION: "The Postal Service of the Confederate States," through 1987.
A special five-panel exhibition offers stamps, envelopes, and documents used in the South during the U.S. Civil War. Located in the Hall of Postal History and Philately on the Museum's third floor.

DEMONSTRATION CENTER PROGRAMS: Thirty-minute demonstrations and discussions.
Monday through Saturday, noon to 2:00 p.m., or as listed.

- Electricity Demonstration Center--Hall of Electricity, located in the east wing of the Museum's first floor. Two different demonstrations are presented. One traces the development of electrical science and the subsequent capability to produce electrical energy; the other illustrates the social impact on the capability in the field of instant, long distance communication. Appropriate for adults and school-age children.
- Spirit of 1776 Demonstration Center--Hall of Armed Forces History, located in the east wing on the Museum's third floor. The program is devoted to the life of the soldier in the American Revolution. Visitors may handle the various pieces of equipment used by the soldier such as his uniform, cooking equipment, tinder box, canteen and powder. Appropriate for adults and school-age children.
- Pain Clinic Demonstration Center--"Pain and Its Relief" exhibition, located in the west wing of the Museum's first floor. The program explores various techniques for relieving pain, including thermography, acupuncture, bio-feedback and others. Appropriate for adults and older children.

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TOURS: "Highlights," Monday and Sunday at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1 p.m. Tours begin from Constitution Avenue entrance only, unless otherwise indicated by docent.

"First Ladies Hall," Monday through Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. Tours begin from entrance to First Ladies Hall - 2nd floor.

"Needlework: 'Threads of History,'" Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. (beginning September 10th). Tours begin at the Mall information desk.

DEMONSTRATIONS: Machine Tool Hall demonstrations, Saturdays, 11 a.m. through 2 p.m. First floor, east wing.

The National Museum of American History is devoted to the collection, exhibition, care, and study of artifacts that reflect the experience of the American people. It also offers lectures, concerts, and other programs which interpret that experience. Among the objects on view are national treasures, such as the original Star-Spangled Banner; scientific instruments; inventions; implements of everyday life from spinning wheels to steam locomotives; memorabilia of our national pastimes; stamps and coins; musical instruments; the gowns of our First Ladies. Together, they illustrate America's cultural, scientific, technological, and political history.

The Palm Court--a turn-of-the-century environment designed for rest, reflection, light refreshments, and salon music of the period--is located on the first floor. The Palm Court features installations of a Horn and Hardart Automat and Stohlman's Confectionary.

The Museum, located at 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, except December 25. Admission is free.

Arts and Industries Building

The dynamic spirit of America over a century ago is recaptured in "1876: A Centennial Exhibition," the largest installation mounted by the Museum of American History.

TOURS: "Centennial," Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:15 a.m., leaving from Main entrance. Piano demonstrations following tour on Thursdays.

The Arts and Industries Building, the second-oldest building on the National Mall, is located at 900 Jefferson Drive, S.W. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, except December 25. Admission is free.

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