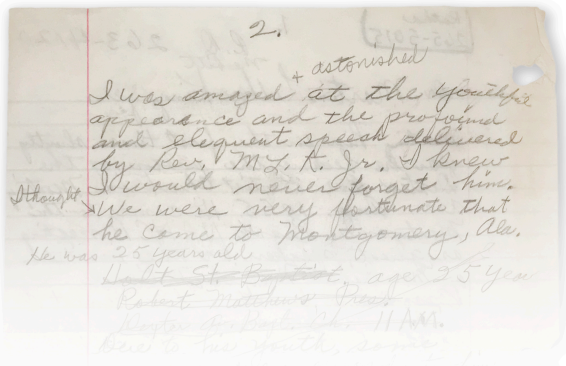


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Rosa Parks, Malcolm X, and Michael Jackson

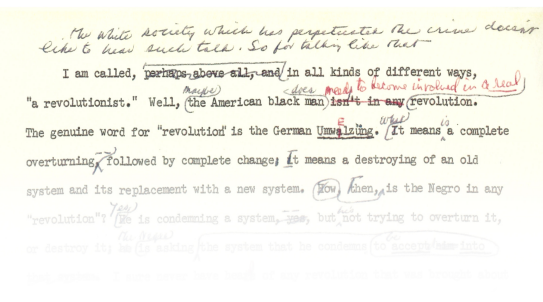
Guernsey's July event brings together African American Historic and Cultural Treasures

What do the Jackson Five's (and Michael Jackson's) first recording contract, the Larry Richards "A Cinema Apart" African American Movie Poster Collection, the McCauley family home that Rosa McCauley Parks stayed in after fleeing the Deep South, Mrs. Parks' handwritten thoughts on the day she first met Dr. Martin Luther King, and Alex Haley's manuscript for the Malcolm X biography (which includes many of Mr. X's personal notes) have in common? These and hundreds of other extraordinary items are being brought to the block by Guernsey's, the New York City-based auction house, this coming July. Largely focusing on the Civil Rights Movement, African American movies, and music, this auction will include items that are of huge cultural and historical importance.



The Gregory Reed Collection is an archive of Civil Rights documents, rare books, and African-American musical ephemera, all from the offices of the prominent African-American lawyer who counted Rosa Parks among his clients. In an extraordinary two-page document, Mrs. Parks describes the occasion she first encountered Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Astonished that so young a man could speak so eloquently, she writes "I knew I would never forget him." It was only months later that this giant of a little woman refused to give up her bus seat. Jail and

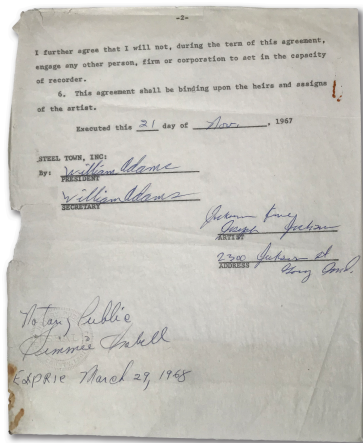
death threats soon followed, causing Mrs. Parks to flee northward to Detroit where, along with her husband, she found shelter in her family's small, 23' x 23' two-story wood home. Now, six decades later, the very structure where Rosa Parks stayed has been carefully disassembled and become the subject of an international tour extensively covered by the media. The BBC and CNN reported on the story as did the New York Times, which ran three separate articles about the historic Rosa McCauley Parks family home which, most recently, was exhibited as part of a symposium with the Rhode Island School of Design.



In 1992, the estate sale of the then late author Alex Haley was conducted. Internationally renowned for his historic novel, Roots, the top lot in the auction proved to be Haley's original 257 page manuscript for the Autobiography of Malcolm X (as told to Alex Haley), with many handwritten notes and edits from both Malcolm X and the author. Separately sold in the event were the "lost chapters" - portions of the book thought too controversial to be published. Attorney Reed was the successful bidder back then; now, more than a quarter century later, these extraordinary documents will be offered again.

Gregory Reed was also in possession of a large collection of the Temptations' original sheet music, as well as sheets for the Isley Brothers and Marvin Gaye. Complete with handwritten edits and notes, these are the scores for such songs as the Temptations' 'Ball of Confusion,' and 'Papa Was a Rolling Stone,' the Isley Brothers' 'It's Your Thing,' and Marvin Gaye's 'Mercy Mercy Me.'

Comprised of hundreds of rare film unique Cinema Apart Collection, assembled by the late Larry Richards, traces the course of African American cinema throughout the 20th century, and represents an important part of American and of cinematic history. In earlier times, films starring African American actors, or 'all-black casts' were made specifically for black audiences. These movies were not generally mainstream, and for a time their cultural significance not realized. Titles included Bronze Venus, Smiling Hate, Rhythm in a Riff, Congorilla, Two-Gun Man from Harlem, Voodoo Devil Drums, Midnight Menace, Porgy and Bess. Featuring names such as Paul Robeson, Lena Horne, Sammy Davis Jr., Eartha Kitt, Dorothy Dandridge, and Sidney Poitier, A Cinema Apart's significance was recognized when a portion of it was selected for inclusion in the collection of the Smithsonian Museum. This collection also includes approximately 100 rare 19th century documents addressing slavery and abolition.



In the 1960's, emerging, wannabe record labels were almost too numerous to count. One of the upstarts, out of Gary, Indiana, was Steeltown Records, headed by William Adams. At a performance in a junior high school gym, Adams was riveted by five young men (boys, really). From this unheralded performance sprang the Jackson Five and the then nine year old Michael Jackson. On November 21, 1967, a contract between Steel Town and the Jackson Five was worked out and signed by Joe Jackson on behalf of his sons. Agreeing to "employ Steel Town, Inc.," a career began that changed the world. Consigned directly by Mr. Adams, that remarkable contract is in this auction!

Guernsey's by the inclusion in this event of many of Art's most enduring treasures. Included among these is his stunning Steinway Grand piano, and a vintage Bulova wrist watch inscribed to the pianist and given to him by none other than Frank Sinatra.

Motown Records is legendary for the artists that achieved success with the label, such as Marvin Gaye, the Temptations, and the Supremes. The piano from Motown's studio is a part of this auction, a legendary instrument that was used in songwriting and rehearsal sessions by all of the above-mentioned artists, perhaps most notably for Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On."



Also to be featured are items from the Collection of Michael Mitchell. Michael Mitchell is the son of Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr., who is known as the 101st United States Senator and considered a principal architect of civil rights legislation of the 1950s and 60s. Included is an original brief from *Brown vs. Board of Education*, and treasured items relating to Martin Luther King, Jr., Robert Kennedy, and Lyndon Johnson.

On Wednesday, November 2nd, 2005, thousands crowded the Greater Grace Temple in Detroit, Michigan, to pay their respects at the funeral of Rosa Parks, the Mother of the Civil Rights Movement. Luminaries such as the Rev. Jesse Jackson, former President Clinton and his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, and singer



Aretha Franklin were all in attendance. The artist Queen Bee painted and brought a 4 x 6' banner to the funeral, featuring a portrait of Mrs. Parks, that was signed by hundreds, with heartfelt and sincere messages that are a testament to the deep love and respect felt for Mrs. Parks. This unique banner is one of many items related to Mrs. Parks and her legacy to be included in this auction.

Among these hundreds of other items, one incredible standout is a powerful letter from Martin Luther King, Jr., in which he speaks of his opposition to the Vietnam War, stating that it is his "deep belief that every citizen of this country should speak out against this intolerable war..." Dr. King, up until the end of his life, was opposed to the war, and saw it as inextricably connected to civil rights issues, feeling that the draft was "grossly unjust" to African Americans, that they should not then have to return "to face indignities and de facto slavery in his own country." Dr. King ends with a powerful call to action: "I encourage you to speak out. The evils of oppression are only aided and abetted by the tyranny of silence. If all persons of good will were to speak against oppression the bright day of freedom and dignity for all men would be close at hand."

The vast majority of the approximately 700 items in this auction are being offered information on this important event can be found at www.guernseys.com and the auction house can be also reached at 212-794-2280. The event will be held live on July 25th and 26th at the historic George F. Baker Mansion on the corner of Park Avenue and 93rd Street, in New York City. Online bidding will take place at liveauctioneers.com and invaluable.com.

ABOUT GUERNSEY'S

In its forty-third year, Guernsey's has built a reputation as the auction house known for representing the most extraordinary properties. From the largest auction in history (the ocean liner S.S. United States) to vintage racing cars to artwork from the Soviet Union, pre-Castro Cuban cigars and the \$3 million baseball, the firm has few rivals when it comes to the presentation of wildly diverse artwork and artifacts. The John F. Kennedy, Franklin Roosevelt, Princess Diana, Elvis Presley, Jerry Garcia, John Coltrane, Dick Clark, Mickey Mantle and the Beatles events were all conducted by Guernsey's. The auction house is particularly proud of its work with the Library of Congress in the preservation of the complete Rosa Parks Archive.