

Artis—Naples

*Home of The Baker Museum
and the Naples Philharmonic*

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Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum Announces Opening of New York Yankees Memorabilia Exhibition From the Jay H. Baker Collection

On view October 16 – May 15

NAPLES, FL (October 15, 2021) – Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum announced today the opening on October 16 of *Baseball Heroes: Works from the Jay H. Baker Collection*, which will grant museum visitors exclusive access to one of the most significant collections of baseball memorabilia outside of the National Baseball Hall of Fame. The immersive multimedia installation celebrates baseball as an integral part of American life for nearly 200 years through the presentation of original objects related to the careers of five iconic New York Yankees players: Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio, Mickey Mantle and Derek Jeter. *Baseball Heroes* will be on view October 16 through May 15, 2022.

“Artis—Naples’ theme throughout our multidisciplinary 2021-22 season is *Esprit de Corps*, and *Baseball Heroes* is certainly a prime representation of the value of teamwork,” said CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen. “We are thrilled to welcome visitors again to experience communal cultural activities and to enjoy this unparalleled collection of baseball memorabilia that truly helps explain the grip that ‘America’s game’ has on the world.”

Museum Director and Chief Curator Courtney McNeil said she hopes the exhibition will inspire visitors to reflect on baseball’s influence on American identity. “These five players—Ruth, Gehrig, DiMaggio, Mantle and Jeter—are seen through the exhibition as not just baseball heroes, but also as figures who transcended the sport of baseball to become cultural icons,” McNeil said. “This exhibition celebrates both their talents and their humanity.”

Baseball Heroes presents original documents and artifacts coupled with historical photographs, film from iconic moments in the sport and dynamic large-scale graphics. More than 130 artifacts from the collection of Jay H. Baker are on view, including Ruth’s earliest known game-used bat, Mantle’s first signed professional contract and the jersey worn by Jeter for his Yankees debut in 1995. Seminal moments in the history of the sport are represented in the contract by which the Red Sox sold Ruth to the Yankees, giving rise to the legendary “Curse of the Bambino,” and the uniform worn by Don Larsen when he pitched the only perfect game to date in a World Series.

Through this extraordinary collection of public and private artifacts and documents, visitors will gain a heroic as well as an intimate view of the players represented and witness how they contributed to the game and to American life.

Baseball Heroes: Works from the Jay H. Baker Collection is organized by Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum and curated by H. Nichols Clark, guest curator.

Related Programming:

The Music of Baseball Naples Philharmonic Special Performance with Radu Paponiu, conductor.

Saturday, November 12, 8pm, Hayes Hall

How I Learned to Love Baseball and American History, In That Order lecture by Jonathan Eig, bestselling author of *Luckiest Man: The Life and Death of Lou Gehrig*.

Thursday, January 20, 2022, 10am, Signature Event Space

Flashing the Leather: Baseball and Contemporary Art lecture by Aaron Levi Garvey, independent curator.

Wednesday, February 16, 10am, Signature Event Space

Additional *Baseball Heroes* programming will be announced at a later date.

Also opening October 16:***Love in All Forms: Selections from the Art Collection of Patty and Jay Baker***

As a complement to *Baseball Heroes*, this exhibition will paint a fuller portrait of the noted collectors and philanthropists Patty and Jay Baker through the presentation of selections from their remarkable collection of fine art. From the Impressionist painting of Claude Monet to the art deco portraits of Tamara de Lempicka to the abstract sculpture of Henry Moore, the works in this exhibition represent some of the most significant artistic movements of the past 150 years.

October 16, 2021 – May 15, 2022, The Baker Museum, third floor

Opening October 21:***Florida Contemporary 2021-22***

An annual exhibition organized by Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum, *Florida Contemporary* highlights work by notable visual artists active in Florida. Three artists are invited for its ninth iteration this season: Gonzalo Fuenmayor, Akiko Kotani and Noelle Mason.

October 21, 2021 – July 17, 2022, Hayes Hall Galleries

Related Programming:

Artist panel discussion with Gonzalo Fuenmayor, Akiko Kotani and Noelle Mason.

Thursday, March 3, 2pm, Signature Event Space

Safety Protocols

Given the prevalence of the COVID-19 Delta variant in our community, we strongly encourage all visitors to wear masks. If you are unvaccinated, masks are required. All performances in Hayes Hall and Daniels Pavilion and exhibitions in The Baker Museum are presented with unrestricted audience capacity. Artis—Naples' policies and protocols will continue to be reviewed regularly in order to remain in accordance with current federal, state and local government and department of health guidelines.

To improve the safety of our patrons, team members, artists and musicians, Artis—Naples has made the following safety upgrades to our cultural campus:

Installation of a needlepoint bipolar ionization (NPBI) systems on 29 HVAC air handling units. This patented technology purifies indoor air by eliminating airborne particulates and pathogens in conjunction with increased filtration on the filters.

Treatment of 55,000 square feet of surfaces around the cultural campus with the antimicrobial coating system MicroShield 360, including restrooms, door handles and patron seating.

MicroShield 360 is an EPA registered and FDA approved antimicrobial technology used to create a coating on surfaces that neutralizes bacteria and viruses.

Use of air-assisted machines to sanitize spaces including Hayes Hall and Daniels Pavilion between performances.

For up-to-date information on Artis—Naples safety protocols, please visit artisnaples.org/protocols.

ARTIS—NAPLES

Home of The Baker Museum and the Naples Philharmonic, Artis—Naples is unique among cultural institutions nationwide, equally dedicated to both the visual and performing arts featuring artists of global distinction.

KIMBERLY K. QUERREY and LOUIS A. SIMPSON CULTURAL CAMPUS

Led by CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen and Sharon and Timothy Ubben Music Director Andrey Boreyko, we offer audiences more than 800 paid and free events annually within a variety of venues and settings situated throughout the 8.5-acre Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus. Artis—Naples welcomes thousands of visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities perfect for audiences of all backgrounds and interests. The cultural campus is home to five buildings, including two performance halls (Frances Pew Hayes Hall and Myra J. Daniels Pavilion), The Baker Museum, the Toni Stabile Education Building and the Kohan Administration Building.

In the 2014-15 season, Andrey Boreyko assumed the title of music director and serves in this capacity for Artis—Naples. Boreyko is internationally recognized as one of the most exciting and dynamic conductors working today. This appointment, which concludes in 2022, is his first American post.

The Wall Street Journal says van Bergen and Boreyko have ushered in “an impressive new phase” for classical music in Southwest Florida.

NAPLES PHILHARMONIC

The Naples Philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the cornerstones of Southwest Florida’s arts community. As part of Artis—Naples, the Naples Philharmonic performs more than 140 orchestral and chamber music concerts, as well as opera and ballet, education, community and special event concerts annually between September and June in the 1,477-seat Hayes Hall, the 283-seat Daniels Pavilion and around the Southwest Florida region.

Jack Everly is Principal Pops Conductor and in the 2021-22 season celebrates 12 years in this role, bringing pops performances that celebrate music in its many forms. In 2017, Romanian conductor Radu Paponiu was named assistant conductor of the Naples Philharmonic and director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, and in 2019, he was promoted to associate conductor.

THE BAKER MUSEUM

The Baker Museum is one of the foremost fine art museums in Southwest Florida. The museum hosts several traveling exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collection. Comprising more than 4,000 objects, the museum’s broad holdings of 20th- and 21st-century art reflect the generosity and commitment of area collectors. Of particular strength are The Baker Museum’s collections of American and Mexican modern art and significant gifts from the personal collection of Olga Hirshhorn.

With more than two decades of collecting and exhibiting, the museum is dedicated to stewardship and scholarship from both its growing permanent collection and outside sources.

At the same time, The Baker Museum seeks out the best traveling exhibitions from the leading arts institutions in the world—including recently the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and the Smithsonian Institutions—to enrich the Southwest Florida community.

In fall 2020, Artis—Naples celebrated the opening of an 18,000-square-foot expansion of The Baker Museum, designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architecture/Landscape/Urbanism, that created new spaces for multidisciplinary exploration and social interaction.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY

In addition to creating and presenting visual and performing arts, Artis—Naples provides robust education and community activities for students of all ages. Each season thousands of Collier County Public Schools interact with Artis—Naples education programming both on its cultural campus and in classrooms. The Lifelong Learning program provides engaging lectures and study opportunities for adults seeking to engage more deeply with the arts.

The Friends of Artis—Naples, with more than 4,000 households who give \$75 or more, offers activities, travel experiences and events geared toward creating a deeper relationship between patrons and the arts.

In 2017, Artis—Naples acquired the Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), expanding its film offerings and providing a platform for the festival's continued excellence and growth. In 2019, NIFF was named one of *MovieMaker* magazine's "Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World," and in 2021 it celebrates its 13th year in the community.

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