

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Beth Kretschmar, 216.521.2540 x22 or bkretschmar@beckcenter.org
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Playing the Changes: The Life and Legacy of Milt Hinton Exhibition at Beck Center *Collaboration with Oberlin Conservatory Library's Special Collections*

Lakewood, OH—Beck Center for the Arts and Oberlin College are pleased to present **Playing the Changes: The Life and Legacy of Milt Hinton** exhibition in the Jean Bulicek Galleria, **January 13 – February 18, 2017**. The exhibition is timely, as February is Black History Month, and is free and open to the public.

Two special events will be held in conjunction with the exhibition. A **Documentary Screening and Gallery Reception** will be held **January 13, 6 p.m.** The screening of *Keeping Time: The Life, Music, and Photographs of Milt Hinton* will be followed by a Q&A with NYC Documentarians **David Berger** and **Holly Maxson**. There is no cost to attend, but reservations are required by contacting beckcenter.org or Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. The gallery reception will feature small bites provided by **SALT restaurant**. There is no cost to attend, and a cash bar will be available. A **Curator Showcase** will take place **February 4, 4 p.m.**, with presentation by Oberlin Curator, **Jeremy Smith**, and music performance by Oberlin Professor, **Peter Dominguez** playing Milt Hinton's famous bass. This event is free and no registration is required.

Playing the Changes is a traveling exhibition developed by Oberlin College and the Milton J. Hinton Photographic Collection. It combines original photographs by Hinton with insightful materials drawn from the Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton Collection in the Oberlin Conservatory Library's special collections. This exhibition provides an unrivaled perspective on the life and legacy of one of the most accomplished bass players of the twentieth century. Hinton worked with performers across the spectrum of styles, including Cab Calloway, Louis Armstrong, Bing Crosby, Barbra Streisand, and Paul McCartney.

The selected artwork has been curated by Oberlin Conservatory Special Collections Librarian and Curator Jeremy Smith. "I couldn't be happier to see this exhibit come to such a respected organization as the Beck Center. Milt always sought to pass along his vast insights to all who were interested in learning, and I'm confident he would be thrilled to see his life and legacy made available to the residents of Lakewood and the surrounding communities," said Smith. This also marks a first time collaboration between Beck Center's Music Education Department, led by Associate Director **Matt Charboneau**, and Beck Center's Visual Arts Education Department, led by Associate Director **Darrelle Centuori**. "We are thrilled to enter this collaboration, and excited to have the first traveling exhibition of Hinton's photographs and materials on display at Beck Center," remarked Centuori.

More information is available at beckcenter.org. For gallery hours, call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available.

Photo: Milt Hinton, Jonah Jones, and Cab Calloway, Havana, 1951, Courtesy of the Milton J. Hinton Photographic Collection.

About Milt Hinton: Milton John Hinton (June 23, 1910 – December 19, 2000) was a legendary bass player and photographer. Over the course of his seven-decade career, he became one of the most recorded bassists in history. He also took tens of thousands of photographs that capture his behind-the-scenes life in music. He socially navigated the evolving expectations of what it meant to be an African-American in the U.S. in the 20th century including his Jim-Crow-era travels with the Cab Calloway Orchestra, and working through the color barrier in New York recording studios during 1950's segregation.

Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers professional theater productions on two stages, arts education programming in dance, music, theater, visual arts, early childhood, and creative arts therapies for individuals with special needs, outreach education programming, and gallery exhibits.

Oberlin Conservatory of Music is renowned internationally as a professional music school of the highest caliber. Praised as a "national treasure" by the Washington Post, the conservatory, founded in 1865 and situated amid the intellectual vitality of Oberlin College since 1867, is the oldest continuously operating conservatory in the United States. Oberlin's alumni enjoy illustrious careers in all aspects of the music world. They have achieved prominence as solo performers; chamber, orchestral, and jazz musicians; composers; conductors; and music educators, scholars, and administrators.

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