

The African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey  
Traveling Museum

## Catalog Items

### Docent # 2 – Athletes

*Lithograph*

*16"x21" By Afro Arts Inc.*

*1970*

The signatures positioned on the side of the female and male faces are those of Betty Shabazz, wife of Malcolm X, and Jim Brown the famous NFL football player.

(22A)

*Sergeant Joe Louis, United States Army*

*Published as a Supplement to the Chicago Sun*

*October 11, 1942*

Joe Louis, once the Heavyweight Boxing Champion of the World was born May 13, 1914 in Lexington, Alabama. He held the title from, 1937 to 1949, the longest reign in the heavyweight division. Louis was the first Black boxer to have a Black manager throughout his career.

(10A)

*Muhammad Ali*

*Life Magazine*

*October 23, 1970*

"Look out - he's back" Muhammad Ali, now 28 prepares for his fight with Jerry Quarry in Atlanta. His behavior is different. The zany pre-fight antics, the poetry recitations, the extravagant predictions on how long his opponent will last are nowhere in evidence. His public mood is sullen, stern, and almost frozen. "No more popping off, no more boasting," he says. "I don't want no more trouble. Just the fight with Quarry."

(A7)

*Cassius Clay*

*Life Magazine*

*March 6, 1964*

"The Greatest" Heavyweight Boxing Champion. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky, on January 17, 1942. He was stripped of his boxing title and sentenced to jail when he refused the military draft on religious grounds. He returned to the ring after the United States Supreme Court voted unanimously to overturn his conviction in 1971.

(A6)

The African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey  
Traveling Museum

## Catalog Items

### Docent # 2 – Athletes

*Ali vs. Frazier*

*Poseable Figures, "98 Timeless Legends", Starting Lineup*

The fully poseable figures of Ali vs. Frazier depict what was probably Ali's best performance after his boxing exile, Ali won by a decision. The prizefight took place January 28, 1974, at Madison Square Garden, New York City. An original ticket stub is enclosed.

(A8)

*"Battle of the Champs"*

*Life Magazine*

*March 5, 1971*

The cover photograph features "The Greatest", Muhammad Ali and "Smokin' Joe Frazier". When Ali challenged Frazier at Madison Square Garden on March 8, 1971, the ramifications reached far beyond the boxing ring. America had just emerged from the turbulent 1960s and the nation was divided. Ali was still held in contempt by much of the country. He was viewed as a brash, draft-dodging, Muslim who embodied the defiance and spirit of both the anti-war movement and the radical chic. Frazier -- who read the Bible and liked to sing -- was held up as the conscientious, blue-collar champion.

THE SHOWDOWN was the most anticipated heavyweight title fight since Joe Louis defeated Max Schmeling in their 1938 rematch at Yankee Stadium. It remains a night to remember.