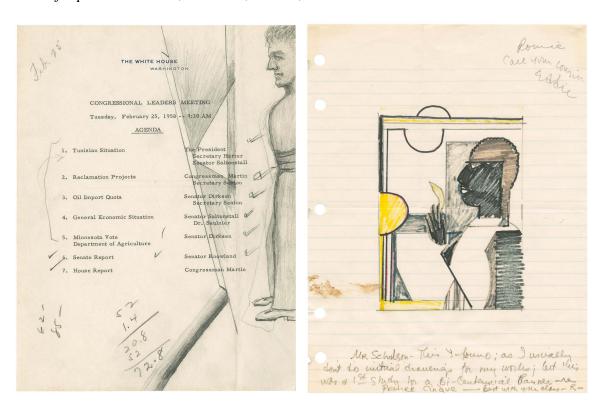


Featuring Handwritten Notes from Queen Victoria, Andy Warhol, Steve Jobs, and more, Scrawl: An A to Z of Famous Doodles Connects Over Two Centuries of Private Correspondence and Illustrations from History's Most Famous Figures

Ephemera collected into new book by Schulson Autographs offers unique, uncanny glimpses into the lives of top world leaders, scientists, writers, actors and artists



Automatic, unconscious and everyday, the act of doodling with pen on paper is something that happens in all manner of situations and contexts, from staterooms amongst world leaders to cafes, private studies, and distant shores with not a person in sight. This innately creative and profoundly intimate pastime is seen in all manner of correspondence, from leading scientists, playwrights, novelists, inventors and politicians who have indelibly changed the world in some form or fashion. Gathered over a nearly 40 year period by the late David Schulson, founder of David Schulson Autographs, now Schulson Autographs, and compiled by his surviving wife Claudia Strauss-Schulson and children Caren and Todd Strauss-Schulson, these unseen



doodles and sketches are the focus of the publication *Scrawl: An A to Z of Famous Doodles*, available to the public as a hardcover illustrated book on May 14, 2019 published by Rizzoli.

Featuring the handwritten ephemera of close to 100 leading figures from the arts, politics, business and science, *Scrawl* highlights notes, letters and drawings by Richard Avedon, Clara Barton, Allen Ginsberg, Ernest Hemingway, Henry Miller, Andy Warhol, H.G. Wells as well as many more.

An 1830s childhood note by Queen Victoria includes sketches of her favored horses, while Steve Jobs feverishly draws out the next steps for his Apple business in the mid-1980s. A 1958 White House meeting agenda by President Dwight D. Eisenhower is covered with drawings of golf clubs he will use in an afternoon round of links, while Claude Monet draws out the specific kind of flat brush he needs to continue painting his *Water Lilies* series in the late 1890s. In Paris 1959, a scribble from William S. Burroughs will become the cover art design for the first edition of *Naked Lunch*, while in Prague, jazz legend Josephine Baker draws varying caricatures of herself and her "rainbow tribe" in a note from 1928.

Beyond personal notes, letters, and items of correspondence, the documents featured in *Scrawl* provide insight into the overall process of thought and creativity, whether it is Swiss chemist Albert Hofmann signing his name alongside the molecular structure of LSD in 2005, or an 1880s sketch by Thomas A. Edison detailing his proposal for electrifying the Royal Gorge in Colorado. Some notes also show how the private lives of certain individuals have contrasted against their public notoriety. This is perhaps no better seen in the comparison between a sensual Marlon Brando drawing of intertwined faces and nudes, compared against a ridiculous self-portrait by Federico Fellini with his oversized anatomy being ridden by a derby-capped gentleman.

In the contemporary world of nonstop emails, text messages and DMs, the handwritten letter has become a dying art form, and communication without a physical component has become more throwaway than ever. It becomes therefore ironic that the unique, disparate ephemera of decades past featured in *Scrawl* continue to connect experiences, emotions and people across distant reaches of space and time.

About Schulson Autographs: Founded out of a collector's passion, Schulson Autographs was established by David Schulson nearly 40 years ago after a childhood spent amassing baseball cards. His passion for collecting autographs and his long-held interest in writing and drawing led him towards the antiquarian world, eventually setting up his own office in the Upper East Side of Manhattan and becoming one of the leading dealers of historical autographs. He passed away in December 2009 at which time his wife, Claudia-Strauss Schulson and his two children, Caren and Todd Strauss-Schulson, continued the business he began. *Scrawl* represents a truncated archive of a much greater private collection, one that touches on places in time, space and moments of pure expression and revealing honesty, www.schulsonautographs.com



Image Information:

Left: Sketch by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, March 3, 1959. Right: Letter by Romare Bearden to David Schulson, Late 1970s.

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