



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Public Library

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Exhibition of Prints by Neil Shigley to be Featured at Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library

“Neil Shigley: Plexiglas and Woodcut Prints, 1992-2006,” an exhibition of two dozen Plexiglas and woodcut prints by San Diego artist and SDSU art faculty member Neil Shigley, will run from April 9 to May 28 at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch of the San Diego Public Library. A reception for the artist will be held on Sunday, April 9, from 1 to 4 p.m. In addition, Shigley will speak about his work on Saturday, April 29, at 1 p.m., in the library gallery.

Shigley’s primary interest is the human figure and, in San Diego, he is best known as a painter. However, much of his career has been spent as a designer and illustrator working in the woodcut medium. The Taylor Library will focus on two bodies of work. One is an untitled series of woodcuts depicting the human figure and influenced by German Expressionism. This series has been shown in Europe, but never in the United States. Also on display is “Invisible People,” a recent and ongoing series of portraits of homeless men and women living in and around the downtown San Diego area. In these works, sheets of Plexiglas are used as printing plates instead of the more traditional metal, wood, or stone. The images are printed on paper, mounted to canvas, and sealed with a thick layer of Rhoplex, a water-based acrylic emulsion.

Shigley’s prints are remarkable for their large size, the graphic power of the images, and the technical skill he demonstrates.

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library, which houses the primary art exhibition space for the San Diego Public Library system, is located at 4275 Cass St. Library hours are: Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 to 8 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Fridays, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, call the branch library at 858-581-9934.

The San Diego Public Library’s Visual Arts Program is a nationally recognized series of exhibitions, lectures, a television program, and other art-related activities. The mission of the program is to demonstrate the library’s role as a cultural institution embracing a broad range of disciplines, while assisting San Diego’s mid-career and older professional artists in achieving wider local, regional, and national attention. Visual Arts Program exhibitions are made possible, in part, by contributions from individuals, volunteer efforts, and the Friends of Central Library. For more information, please contact Library Curator Mark-Elliott Lugo at (619) 238-6627.

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