

# EXHIBITION



## Mr. Dane's Delights:

### An Exhibit of Shopping Bags in Memory of William J. Dane

**On view September 9 – December 31, 2019**

**Mr. William J. Dane (1923-2019)** worked at the Library for 62 years and served as “Keeper of the Prints” and Supervising Librarian of the Special Collections Division. Dane was recognized for his generosity, enthusiasm, and dedication. Dane began collecting contemporary art ahead of the trends and fostered relationships with artists and donors. He was also a benefactor, donating works and funds in order to enhance the collection.

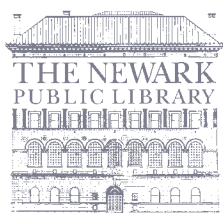
Dane began collecting shopping bags for the Library in the 1970s because they were considered to be a portable form of art. While their primary purpose was to carry objects conveniently, they also had an aesthetic and advertising function. Shopping bags usually contain illustrations and eye-catching designs



and many of these are now sought after by collectors. They are pictorial, nostalgic, and exemplify creativity in commercial art. The Special Collections Division boasts an archive of over 2,000 shopping bags.

Under Dane's supervision, many other collections of works on paper were significantly expanded, particularly the Library's holdings

of artists' books, fine prints, pop-up books, and posters. Dane also established the Puerto Rican Fine Print Collection when he visited San Juan and purchased screen prints from artists and galleries. The Library wishes to recognize and commemorate William J. Dane's vast and valuable contributions to the Special Collections Division.



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**The Newark Public Library  
Fourth Floor Gallery**

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