Rust Belt Boy, Paul Hertneky  
Wednesday, August 23, 2017  
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.  
Detre Library & Archives Reading Room at the Heinz History Center

Join the History Center for a reading, discussion, and book signing with Paul Hertneky, author of Rust Belt Boy. Weaving through time and the smokestacks of the company town of Ambridge, Pa., Paul Hertneky escorts us into scenes of intimacy and awe—under a dining room table surrounded by the ankles and brogues of immigrant elders, onto the back seat of a Ford watching the Sons of Vulcan’s forges light up the night. With iron flakes in his hair, he encounters gypsy crones pulling magic tricks, fellow steelworkers itching for a fight, and sloe-eyed beauties leading him into dark corners.

Raceball, Rob Ruck  
Wednesday, September 27, 2017  
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.  
Detre Library & Archives Reading Room at the Heinz History Center

Join the African American Program at the History Center for a reading, discussion, and book signing with Rob Ruck, author of Raceball. The colliding histories of black and Latin ballplayers in the major leagues have traditionally been told as a story of their shameful segregation and redemptive integration. Jackie Robinson jumped baseball’s color line to much fanfare, but integration was painful as well as triumphant. It gutted the once vibrant Negro Leagues and often subjected Latin players to Jim Crow racism. Today, MLB tightens its grasp around the Caribbean’s burgeoning baseball academies while at home, it embraces, and exploits, the legacy of the Negro Leagues. Rob Ruck not only attempts to explains the catalyst for this sea change, he also breaks down the consequences that cut across all quarters of society.

All events are free and open to the public but do not include admission to the rest of the museum.

For more information, please contact Caroline Fitzgerald at ccfitzgerald@heinzhistorycenter.org or 412-454-6373.

Look for more reviews at www.heinzhistorycenter.org/blog/category/online-book-reviews