

# THE SILENT NATURAL

A true story based on the life of  
William "Dummy" Hoy



Producer/Director David Risotto

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The  
**GRAND**  
OSHKOSH

# THE SILENT NATURAL

## 1961, Cincinnati, Ohio

It's a crisp October day and the Cincinnati Reds are in the World Series for the first time in 21 years; their opponent, the New York Yankees. The crowd cheers as the announcer's voice booms that the ceremonial first pitch will be thrown out by William "Dummy" Hoy. But Hoy, now 99 years old, does not hear them. In fact, Hoy never heard the roar of the crowd during his Major League career. Deaf since childhood, Hoy played in a world of silence.

Hoy's son Carson signs that the crowd is cheering for him. Hoy stands and waves to the crowd, watching in wonderment as the crowd stands and waves their arms in the air—the Deaf cheer. A tear rolls down his cheek.

Carson signs again; it is time to throw out the first pitch. As Hoy throws the ball to the catcher, we follow the arc of the baseball through the air. As the ball hits the catcher's glove, we flash back to the slap of a rubber ball hitting the side of a red brick building. The beginning of one man's journey that would revolutionize baseball.

## Late 1870's

Young William Hoy plays in the schoolyard at the Ohio School for the Deaf, repeatedly throwing a ball at a specific brick with precise accuracy. He moves at every bounce, extending the distance between himself and the wall and hitting the marked brick.

After graduation Hoy returns to his hometown of Houghton, Ohio where he helps his father on their farm, opens a shoe-repair shop, and plays baseball on weekends with kids in the street and amateur teams. A pro scout passing through town notices Hoy playing and is astounded by the accuracy of the young man's arm. After approaching Hoy and realizing that he cannot hear him, the scout takes a pen and paper and writes, "Have you ever thought of playing professionally?" Hoy's eyes light up as he smiles and nods enthusiastically.

At the age of 24, Hoy grabs his spikes and boards a train headed for the Minor League team in Oshkosh. His professional baseball career has begun. Despite his diminutive size (5' 4", 148 pounds) and him being Deaf, he demonstrates explosive speed and a powerful arm. But Hoy faces challenges far and above those of a "normal" new prospect. Unable to hear calls of the umpire, Hoy communicates with his third-base coach who relates the calls by signing. After two years in the Minor Leagues, Hoy signs with the Washington Senators in 1888 and leads the National League with 82 stolen bases in his rookie year.

## The game of baseball has never been the same.

Shy and unassuming, "Dummy" Hoy endeared himself to both teammates and fans, achieving his dream through talent, desire, and hard work. Hoy's story is truly inspirational; how one man overcame the odds and in doing so, left a mark on the great American pastime that survives today.



*"My two wishes in life are to live to be 100 years old and to be in the National Baseball Hall of Fame."*

# Levels of Sponsorship

- **Hall of Fame - \$2500**
- **PREMIER SPONSOR FOR EVENT!**
- **Opportunity to address the audience on stage before movie begins to promote your business. (1-2 minutes)**
- Prominent location for company logo on backdrop for media/press pictures during Red Carpet Event
- Largest company logo on wide screen prior to the movie
- Reserved VIP seating for 4 at Premier October 28, 2019
- 4 VIP tickets for the Meet & Greet following the film
- Autographed script and poster
- 3 copies of The Silent Natural DVD ( when released)
  
- **Grand Slam - \$1000**
- Prominent location for company logo on backdrop for media/press pictures during Red Carpet Event
- Large company logo on wide screen prior to the movie
- Reserved VIP seating for 2 at Premier October 28, 2019
- 2 tickets for VIP Meet & Greet following the film
- Autographed script poster
- 2 copies of The Silent Natural DVD (when released)

## THE SILENT NATURAL

### Dummy Hoy's Career Achievements

- Selected in 2019 as one of THE GREAT OHIOIAN'S
- 8<sup>th</sup> all time in double plays by an outfielder (retired as #2)
- 14<sup>th</sup> all time in assists by an outfielder
- 2<sup>nd</sup> all time in steals by a rookie (82 in 1888)
- 1<sup>st</sup> outfielder to lead league in three categories in one year; putouts, fielding average, and assists
- Hit the first grand-slam homer in American League (1901)
- Named Mordecai Brown Player of The Decade (1890-1899)
- Selected "Most Inspirational Superstar of 1890's"
- Threw out three men at home plate from center field in one game (June 19, 1889)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Chicago White Sox free agent (April 14, 1900)
- 17<sup>th</sup> all time in steals (retired #3)
- Rookie of the Year, 1888, National League (retroactive)
- 1<sup>st</sup> athlete inducted into the AAAD Hall of Fame

### **Home Run - \$750**

- Prominent location for company logo on backdrop for media/press pictures during Red Carpet Event
- Medium company logo on wide screen prior to the movie
- Reserved seating for 2 at Premier October 28th
- Autographed poster
- 1 copy of The Silent Natural DVD (when released)

### **Triple - \$500**

- Company logo on wide screen prior to the movie
- Company logo on backdrop
- Reserved seating for 2 at Premier October 28th
- Autographed poster

### **Double - \$300**

- Company logo on wide screen prior to the movie
- Company logo on backdrop
- Autographed poster

### **Single - \$150**

- Company logo on screen **OR** backdrop
- Autographed poster

***Thank you for your support!***

**Sponsorship**  
**Category/Amount**

Hall of Fame \$2500  
Grand Slam \$1000  
Homerun \$750  
Triple \$500  
Double \$300  
Single \$150

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship Category: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Paid by : Check#: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to WCHAS*

Mail to: WCHAS, 5098 Island View Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

How you want your name/logo to appear on the wide screen/backdrop

**Artwork must be high resolution.**

Send artwork to [honeycreekstudios27@gmail.com](mailto:honeycreekstudios27@gmail.com)

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Deadline for artwork and payment is October 5, 2019.