

# What Is Rock And Roll What Was

*Play It Loud celebrates the musical instruments that gave rock and roll its signature sound. Seven engrossing essays by veteran music journalists and scholars discuss the technical developments that fostered rock's seductive riffs and driving rhythms; the evolution of the classic lineup of two guitars, bass, and drums; the thrilling innovations and expanded instrumentation musicians have explored to achieve unique effects; the powerful visual impact instruments have had; and the essential role they have played in the most memorable moments of rock and roll history. Abundant photographs depict rock's most iconic instruments—including Jerry Lee Lewis's baby grand piano, Chuck Berry's Gibson ES-350T*

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*guitar, John Lennon's twelve-string Rickenbacker 325, Keith Moon's drum set, and the white Stratocaster Jimi Hendrix played at Woodstock—both in performance and as works of art in their own right. Produced in collaboration with the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, this astounding book goes behind the music to offer a rare, in-depth look at the instruments that inspired the musicians and made possible the songs we know and love.*

*Ed Ward covers the first half of the history of rock & roll in this sweeping and definitive narrative—from the 1920s, when the music of rambling medicine shows mingled with the songs of vaudeville and minstrel acts to create the very early sounds of country and rhythm and blues, to the rise of the first independent record labels post-World War II, and concluding*

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*in December 1963, just as an immense change in the airwaves took hold and the Beatles prepared for their first American tour. The History of Rock & Roll, Volume 1 shines a light on the far corners of the genre to reveal the stories behind the hugely influential artists who changed the musical landscape forever. In this first volume of a two-part series, Ward shares his endless depth of knowledge and through engrossing storytelling hops seamlessly from Memphis to Chicago, Detroit, England, New York, and everywhere in between. He covers the trajectories of the big name acts like Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Chuck Berry, and Ray Charles, while also filling in gaps of knowledge and celebrating forgotten heroes such as the Burnette brothers, the "5" Royales, and Marion Keisker, Sam Phillips's assistant, who*

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*played an integral part in launching Elvis's career. For all music lovers and rock & roll fans, Ward spins story after story of some of the most unforgettable and groundbreaking moments in rock history, introducing us along the way to the musicians, DJs, record executives, and producers who were at the forefront of the genre and had a hand in creating the music we all know and love today.*

*Rock 'n' roll is a style that was born out of the great American melting pot. An outgrowth of the blues, rock 'n' roll music combines driving rhythms, powerful chords, and lyrics that communicate the human experience to audiences around the world. Although rock singing was once seen as a vulgar use of the human voice and was largely ignored by the academic community, voice teachers and singers around the world have*

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*recently taken a professional interest in learning specialized techniques for singing rock 'n' roll. So You Want to Sing Rock 'n' Roll gives readers a comprehensive guide to rock history, voice science, vocal health, audio technology, technical approaches to singing rock, and stylistic parameters for various rock subgenres. Matthew Edwards, assistant professor of voice at Shenandoah Conservatory, provides easy-to-understand explanations of technical concepts, with tips for practical application, and suggestions for listening and further reading. So You Want to Sing Rock 'n' Roll includes guest-authored chapters by singing voice researchers Dr. Scott McCoy and Dr. Wendy LeBorgne, as well as audio and visual examples available from the website of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. This work is not only the*

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*ideal guide to singing professionals, but the perfect reference work for voice teachers and their students, lead and back-up singers, record producers and studio engineers. The So You Want to Sing series is produced in partnership with the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Like all books in the series, So You Want to Sing Rock 'n' Roll features online supplemental material on the NATS website. Please visit [www.nats.org](http://www.nats.org) to access style-specific exercises, audio and video files, and additional resources.*

*Surveys the history and economics of the music industry, charting its growth and expansion, and reviews its social and political aspects and impact*

*A Social History*

*The Secret History of Rock 'n' Roll*

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*Little Richard*

*All Shook Up*

*Life: Rock & Roll At 50*

*Live and Unseen*

*1964–1977: The Beatles, the Stones, and the Rise of Classic Rock*

From Grandmaster Flash to Jay-Z rap has shaped generations and transformed the charts. Bop along with the greats in this adorable baby book that introduces little ones to the rappers that started it all.

Detroit Rock City is an oral history of Detroit and its music told by the people who were on the stage, in the clubs, the practice rooms, studios, and in the audience,

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blasting the music out and soaking it up, in every scene from 1967 to today. From fabled axe men like Ted Nugent, Dick Wagner, and James Williamson jump to Jack White, to pop flashes Suzi Quatro and Andrew W.K., to proto punkers Brother Wayne Kramer and Iggy Pop, Detroit slices the rest of the land with way more than its share of the Rock Pie. Detroit Rock City is the story that has never before been sprung, a frenzied and schooled account of both past and present, calling in the halcyon days of the Grande Ballroom and the Eastown Theater, where national acts who came thru were made to stand and deliver in the face of the always hard hitting local support acts. It moves on to the Michigan Palace,

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Bookies Club 870, City Club, Gold Dollar, and Magic Stick - all magical venues in America's top rock city. Detroit Rock City brings these worlds to life all from the guys and dolls who picked up a Strat and jammed it into our collective craniums. From those behind the scenes cats who promoted, cajoled, lost their shirts, and popped the platters to the punters who drove from everywhere, this is the book that gives life to Detroit's legend of loud. Looks at the history of rock music, its different styles, and its impact on a generation.

Long neglected in the annals of American music, the Nutmeg State's influence on the history of rock'n'roll deserves recognition. Connecticut's musical highlights

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include the beautiful harmonies of New Haven's Five Satins, Gene Pitney's rise to fame, Stamford's the Fifth Estate and notable rockers such as Thurston Moore of Sonic Youth, Rivers Cuomo of Weezer and Saturday Night Live Band's Christine Ohlman. Rock Hall of Famers include Tina Weymouth and Chris Frantz of the Talking Heads and Dennis Dunaway of the Alice Cooper Band. Some events became legend, like Jimi Hendrix's spellbinding performance at Yale's Woolsey Hall, Jim Morrison's onstage arrest at the New Haven Arena and teenage Bob Dylan's appearance at Branford's Indian Neck Folk Festival. With in-depth interviews as well as rare, never-before-seen photos, author Tony Renzoni

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leads a sonic trip that captures the spirit and zenith of the local scene. -- Publisher description

Rock 'n' Roll and the Cleveland Connection

A Book by and for the Fanatics Among Us

The only quiz book you need

Sam Phillips: The Man Who Invented Rock 'n' Roll

Smithsonian Rock and Roll

Rock & Roll A Level

Rolling Stone Encyclopedia of Rock & Roll

The 27s is the first comprehensive account of the lives and legacies of the thirty-four musicians who make up (to date) rock's most notorious myth. It is also a caps

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history of rock n' roll, twisting and turning through decades and genres, unfurling layers of numerology, philosophy, and astrology along the way. The text is complemented by compelling and multifaceted artwork that brings a nonlinear graphic novel edge to this major contribution to the study of rock culture.

Once you're dead, you're made for life. --Jimi Hendrix  
Hendrix. Janis. Morrison. Elvis. Lennon. Cobain.

Garcia. Their reckless brilliance held the key to their self-destruction. Their deaths had much in common--and, surprisingly, so did their lives. From lonely childhoods marred by loss to groundbreaking music and turbulent

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careers that ended tragically and suspiciously, David Comfort explodes the myths as he probes:

- The sinister roles of Hendrix's manager and girlfriend in his death and subsequent cover-up
- The bizarre odyssey of Jim Morrison's corpse
- Why Kurt Cobain was worth more dead than alive to Courtney Love
- The twisted motivation that caused John Lennon to sail through the Devil's Triangle to Bermuda--nearly going down in a storm--shortly before he was fatally shot
- The crippling disease and "miracle" drug that drove Elvis to suicide

Charismatic and gifted, but also isolated and conflicted, these are not the rock icons you thought you knew. H

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are their larger-than-life stories of turmoil and excess that led to their early deaths and ultimate immortality. It's a wild ride to the other side of fame. "Fame is the soul eater." --Jerry Garcia "Everybody loves you when you're six foot in the ground." --John Lennon Includes Rare Photos David Comfort is the author of three bestselling nonfiction books. His short fiction has appeared in numerous magazines, including Eclectic Literary Forum, Pacific Review, Coe Review, and Belletrist Review. He has been the recipient of several literary prizes and a finalist for such prestigious awards as the Nelson Algren Award and America's Best. A

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former rock musician, he has spent over 30 years studying rock music, particularly the revolutionary and fatalistic pioneers of the 1960s. He lives in Santa Rosa, California.

Music breeds duality. We enjoy the music we love-listening to it, talking about it, reading about it. But it's just as fun to passionately revel in mocking the music we hate. Fortunately, musicians make this two-lane path very easy to follow. Half the time they're creating timeless works of art that speak to the soul; the other half, they're recording ridiculous concept albums about robots. I Love Rock 'n' Roll (Except When I Hate It)

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covers both sides: It celebrates the music world's flashes of genius, the creation of masterpieces, and the little-known stories...as well as the entertainingly bad ideas. Armed with a healthy dose of Brian Boone's humorous asides and lively commentary, you'll learn extremely important stuff like: ? How bands got their stupid names ? All alternative rock bands directly descend from Pixies ? The most metal facts of metal in the history of metal The secret lives of one-hit wonders ? The story behind "Layla," and other assorted love songs about George Harrison's wife ? What is quite possibly the worst song in rock history Boone also reveals terribly useful

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information like chart trivia, the rules of music, lists, and many more origins, meanings, and stories about everyone's most loved and loathed musicians.

Essays on the history of Doo-wop and Doo-wop songography, with over 25,000 songs listed by artist, title, label and album number.

Season of the Witch

Rock and Roll Will Save Your Life

How Arcade Fire, Led Zeppelin, Nirvana, Vampire Weekend, and 532 Other Bands Got Their Names

Billy F Gibbons

Play It Loud

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Psychedelic Unknowns, Mad Geniuses, Punk Pioneers,  
Lo-fi Mavericks & More

1971 The Year That Rock Exploded

Rock and roll music evolved in the United States during the late 1940s and 1950s, as a combination of African American blues, country, pop, and gospel music produced a new musical genre. Even as it captured the ears of the nation, rock and roll was the subject of controversy and contention. The music intertwined with the social, political, and economic changes reshaping America and contributed to the rise of the youth culture

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that remains a potent cultural force today. A comprehensive understanding of post-World War II U.S. history would be incomplete without a basic knowledge of this cultural phenomenon and its widespread impact. In this short book, bolstered by primary source documents, Mitchell K. Hall explores the change in musical style represented by rock and roll, changes in technology and business practices, regional and racial implications of this new music, and the global influences of the music. The Emergence of Rock and Roll explains the huge influence that one cultural moment can have in the history of a nation.

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Completely updated with new entries and extensive revisions of the previous 1,800, The Rolling Stone Encyclopedia Of Rock & Roll is the authoritative volume on the world's music makers—from the one-hit wonders to the megastars. In 1983, Rolling Stone Press introduced its first Rock & Roll Encyclopedia. Almost two decades later, it has become the premier guide to the history of rock & roll, and has been selected by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Museum as its official source of information. Giving full coverage to all aspects of the rock scene, it tells the story of rock & roll in a clear and

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easy reference format, including complete discographies, personnel changes for every band, and backstage information like date and place of birth, from Elvis Presley to Eminem. Since the last edition, the music scene has exploded in every area, from boy-bands to hip-hop, electronica to indie rock. Here, the Encyclopedia explores them all-'NSync, Notorious B.I.G., Ricky Martin, Radiohead, Britney Spears, Blink-182, Sean "Puffy" Combs, Portishead, Fatboy Slim, Fiona Apple, Lil' Kim, Limp Bizkit, Oasis, Outkast, Yo La Tengo, TLC, and many, many more. The Rolling Stone Encyclopedia of Rock & Roll, Third

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Edition includes all the facts, phenomena, and flukes that make up the history of rock. Accompanying the biographical and discographical information on the nearly 2,000 artists included in this edition are incisive essays that reveal the performers' musical influences, first breaks, and critical and commercial hits and misses, as well as evaluations of their place in rock history. Filled with hundreds of historical photos, The Rolling Stone Encyclopedia is more than just a reference book, it is the bible of rock & roll.

On 21st March 1952 rock and roll was forged

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in fire as Alan Freed's Moondog Coronation Ball in Cleveland ended up in a riot because frenzied fans stormed the arena. This volume offers information on 50 years of rock and roll, from Chuck Berry to the Beatles to Beck.

The legendary critic and author of *Mystery Train* "ingeniously retells the tale of rock and roll" (*Publishers Weekly*, starred review). Unlike previous versions of rock 'n' roll history, this book omits almost every iconic performer and ignores the storied events and turning points everyone knows. Instead, in a daring stroke, Greil Marcus

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selects ten songs and dramatizes how each embodies rock 'n' roll as a thing in itself, in the story it tells, inhabits, and acts out—a new language, something new under the sun. “Transmission” by Joy Division. “All I Could Do Was Cry” by Etta James and then Beyoncé. “To Know Him Is to Love Him,” first by the Teddy Bears and almost half a century later by Amy Winehouse. In Marcus’s hands these and other songs tell the story of the music, which is, at bottom, the story of the desire for freedom in all its unruly and liberating glory. Slipping the constraints of chronology, Marcus braids together past and

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present, holding up to the light the ways that these striking songs fall through time and circumstance, gaining momentum and meaning, astonishing us by upending our presumptions and prejudices. This book, by a founder of contemporary rock criticism—and its most gifted and incisive practitioner—is destined to become an enduring classic. “One of the epic figures in rock writing.”—The New York Times Book Review “Marcus is our greatest cultural critic, not only because of what he says but also, as with rock-and-roll itself, how he says it.”—The Washington Post Winner of the Deems Taylor Virgil Thomson

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Award in Music Criticism, given by the  
American Society of Composers, Authors &  
Publishers

What Is Rock and Roll?

The Rise of Rock and Roll

The History of Rock & Roll, Volume 1

So You Want to Sing Rock 'n' Roll

The Rock And Roll Book Of The Dead

Everybody's Heard about the Bird

1920-1963

***The perfect gift for any music lover . . .***

***'Hepworth has more insider knowledge and  
knows more rock anecdotes than any man***

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*alive' The Herald 'Unmissable for music enthusiasts' Woman & Home The Rock and Roll A Level is here to rescue the pop quiz from the grip of bores who know the chart position of everything and the value of nothing. It's for the people who like pop music because it tells them so much about real life, the people who learned about America from the songs of Chuck Berry, about Europe from the albums of David Bowie and about all manner of things from the songs of Steely Dan. It's the first quiz book where the answers are as*

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*interesting as the questions. It's the first quiz book where general knowledge matters as much as an adolescence spent reading the NME or Smash Hits. It's a proper education.*

*"From the hoodoo-inspired sounds of Elvis Presley to the Eastern odysseys of George Harrison, from the dark dalliances of Led Zeppelin to the Masonic imagery of today's hip-hop scene, the occult has long breathed life into rock and hip-hop--and, indeed, esoteric and supernatural traditions are a key ingredient behind the*

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*emergence and development of rock and roll ... [and in this book] writer and critic Peter Bebergal illuminates this web of influences"--Amazon.com.*

*"...tells the story of the Mysteries [e.g. Mystery religions]--their rise, fall and eventual rebirth in the New World, where rhythms and melodies from the West African and the Celtic diasporas collided with the sound of popular music forever."--P. 4 of cover.*

*Profiles rock musicians from the 1950s to the 1990s who never made it big, including*

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*the Collins Kids, Graham Bond, Duffy Powder, the Remains, Nick Drake, Sandy Denny, Martin Newell, and the Free Spirits*

*The Story of Rap*

*The Illustrated Story of Sun Records and the 70 Recordings That Changed the World Never a Dull Moment*

*Connecticut Rock 'n' Roll: A History Music and the Rise of American Youth Culture*

*The Golden Age of Rock 'N' Roll*

*Unknown Legends of Rock 'n' Roll*

The basis for the new hit documentary 1971: The Year That Mu

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Changed Everything, now streaming on Apple TV+. A rollicking look at 1971 - the busiest, most innovative and resonant year of the 70s, defined by the musical arrival of such stars as David Bowie, Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, and Joni Mitchell. On New Year's Eve, 1970, Paul McCartney told his lawyers to issue the writ at the Court in London, effectively ending The Beatles. You might say that was the last day of the pop era. The following day, which was Friday, was 1971. You might say this was the first day of the new era. And within the remaining 364 days of this monumental year, the world would hear Don McLean's "American Pie," The Rolling Stones' "Brown Sugar," The Who's "Baba O'Riley," Zeppelin's "Stairway to Heaven," Rod Stewart's "Maggie May," Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On," and more. David Hepworth, an ardent music fan and well regarded critic, was twenty-one in '71, the same age

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many of the legendary artists who arrived on the scene. Taking on a tour of the major moments, the events and songs of this remarkable year, he shows how musicians came together to form the perfect storm of rock and roll greatness, starting a musical movement that would last longer than anyone predicted. Those who joined bands to escape things that lasted found themselves in a new world, its colossal start being part of the genre's staying power. Never Dull Moment is more than a love song to the music of 1971. It is an homage to the things that inspired art and artists alike. From Soul Train to The Godfather, hot pants to table tennis, Hepworth explores both the music and its landscapes, culminating in an epic story of rock and roll's best year.

Now updated with two new chapters and an extraordinary collection of photographs, this second edition of Paul Friedland

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Rock and Roll: A Social History is a smash hit. The social force of rock and roll music leaps off the page as Paul Friedlander provides impressive insights based on hits from Johnny B. Goode to Smokey Robinson and beyond. Like Teen Spirit and beyond. In this musical journey, Friedlander offers the melodious strains and hard-edged riffs of Elvis, the Beatles, The Who, Dylan, Clapton, Hendrix, Motown, the San Francisco Beat, Punk, New Wave, rap, metal, 90's grunge, plus the sharing, and much more. The book is written in a refreshing, captivating style that pulls the reader in, offering no less than a complete social and cultural history of rock and roll for students and general audiences alike. Friedlander writes, 'This book chronicles the first forty years of rock/pop music history. Picturing the various musical styles as locations on a giant unfolding road map. As you open the map, you travel from place to place, stop

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at each chapter to sample the artistry. Don't forget to dress your imagination appropriately for this trip, because each genre is affected by the societal topography and climate that surround it. Enjoy your trip. We promise it will be a good one!

In December 2015, the Smithsonian called on rock and roll lovers around the world to collect photos and stories of their favorite moments in music. Fans dug through attics, basements, closets, shoeboxes, digital cameras, and photo albums to post great rock shots to [rockandroll.si.edu](http://rockandroll.si.edu). From Woodstock to the Whisky a Go Go, from Lollapalooza to the 9:30 Club, and all the rockin' places in between, fans overwhelmingly responded with their favorite rock and roll moments. Iconic artists ranging from the Who to Nirvana to Chuck Berry to the Jimi Hendrix and many more are celebrated here. There are early photographs of everyone from Run-D.M.C.

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the Runaways, and contemporary shots of some of the biggest names in music, including Bruce Springsteen, the Rolling Stones and Metallica. Presented together, these photographs create a kaleidoscopic history of the artists, the musical styles, the venues, the concerts, and the fans. This is rock and roll as it has never been seen before.

If you didn't experience rock and roll in Minnesota in the 1960s, this book will make you wish you had. This behind-the-scenes, up-close-and-personal account relates how a handful of Minnesota rock bands erupted out of a small Midwest market and made it. It was a brief, heady moment for the musicians who found themselves on a national stage, enjoying a level of success most bands only dream of. In *Everybody's Heard about the Bird*, Rick Shefchik writes of that time in vivid detail. Interviews with many

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the key musicians, combined with extensive research and a phenomenal cache of rare photographs, reveal how this monumental era of Minnesota rock music evolved. The chronicle begins with musicians from the 1950s and early 1960s, including Augie Garcia, Bobby Vee, the Fendermen, and Mike Waggoner and the Bops. Shefchik looks at how a local recording studio and record label, along with Minnesota radio stations, helped make their achievements possible and prepared the way for later bands to break out nationally. Shefchik delves deeply into the Trashmen's emblematic rise to fame. A Minneapolis band that recorded a first novelty hit called "Surfin' Bird" at Kay Bank Studios, the Trashmen signed with Soma Records, topped the local charts in 1963, and were poised to top the national charts in early 1964. Hundreds of Minnesota bands took inspiration from the

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Trashmen's success, as teen dances with live bands flourished in clubs, ballrooms, gyms, and halls across the Upper Midwest. Here are the stories of bands like the Gestures, the Castaways, and the Underbeats, and the triumphs—and tragedies—of the most prominent Minnesota-spawned bands of the late 1960s, including Gypsy, the Crow, and the Litter. For the baby boomers who remember it and everyone else who has felt its influence, the 1960s rock-and-roll scene in Minnesota was an extraordinary period both in musical history and popular culture, and now it's captured fully in print for the first time. Everybody's Heard about the Bird celebrates how these bands found their singular sound and played for their elastic audiences from the golden era to today.

The History of Rock & Roll, Volume 2

The Big Book of Rock & Roll Names

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Doo-wop

The Greatest Myth of Rock & Roll

The 27s

The Forgotten Third of Rock 'n' Roll

What was the First Rock 'n' Roll Record?

Using the essentially rhetorical (some might say theological) question: "What was the first rock 'n' roll record?" as its starting point, this unique book nominates 50 records for the honor, beginning with an early live recording, "Blues, Part 2" (1944) and ending with Elvis Presley's "Heartbreak Hotel" (1956). Forewords by Billy Vera and Dave Marsh.

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A fascinating look at the history of Sun Records, the label that started Rock n ' Roll, told through 70 of its iconic recordings. In Memphis, Tennessee, in the 1950s, there was hard-edged blues playing on Beale Street, and hillbilly boogie on the outskirts of town. But at Sam Phillips ' Sun Records studio on Union Avenue, there was something different going on – a whole lotta shakin ' , rockin ' , and rollin ' . This is where rock ' n ' roll was born. Sun Records: the company that launched Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, and Carl Perkins. The label that brought the world, “ Blue Suede

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Shoes, ” “ Whole Lotta Shakin ’ Goin ’ On, ”  
“ Breathless, ” “ I Walk the Line, ” “ Mystery  
Train, ” “ Good Rockin ’ Tonight. ” The Birth of  
Rock ’ n ’ Roll: 70 Years of Sun Records is the  
official history of this legendary label, and looks at  
its story in a unique way: through the lens of 70 of  
its most iconic recordings. From the early days with  
primal blues artists like Howlin ’ Wolf and B.B.  
King to long nights in the studio with Elvis and Jerry  
Lee Lewis, you will see how the label was shaped  
and how it redefined American music.  
Accompanying the recordings is the label ’ s origin

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story and a look at the mission of the label today, as well as “ Sun Spot ” sidebars—a fascinating dive into subjects such as how the iconic logo was created, the legendary Million Dollar Quartet sessions, and how the song “ Harper Valley, PTA ” funded the purchase of the label. Written by two of the most acclaimed music writers of our time, Peter Guralnick and Colin Escott, and featuring hundreds of rare images from the Sun archives as well as a foreword by music legend Jerry Lee Lewis, this is a one-of-a-kind book for anyone who wants to know where it all started.

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Charlie Gillett, a British journalist, loves the music, and his passion is evident throughout *The Sound of the City*. Yet the greatest strength of the book is the way Gillett tracks the resistance of the music industry to early rock-and-roll, which was followed (needless to say) by a frantic rush to engulf and devour it. When first published *The Sound of the City* was hailed as having 'never been bettered as the definitive history of rock' (*Guardian*). Now the classic history of rock and roll, has been revised and updated with over 75 historic archive photos. The text has been substantially revised to include newly

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discovered information and it is now 'the one essential work about the history of rock n' roll' (Jon Landau in Rolling Stone).

A brilliant new biography of the extraordinary, outrageous performer who helped open the floodgates of Rock 'n' Roll. In June, 2007, Little Richard's 1955 Specialty Records single, "Tutti Frutti," topped Mojo magazine's list of "100 Records That Changed the World." But back in the early 1950s, nobody gave Little Richard a second glance. It was a time in America where the black and white worlds had co-existed separately for nearly two

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centuries. After "Tutti Frutti," Little Richard began garnering fans from both sides of the civil rights divide. He brought black and white youngsters together on the dance floor and even helped to transform race relations. Little Richard: The Birth of Rock 'n' Roll begins by grounding the reader in the fertile soil from which Little Richard's music sprang. In Macon, Georgia, David Kirby interviews relatives and local characters, who knew Little Richard way back when, citing church and family as his true inspiration. His antics began as early as grade school, performing for his classmates every time the

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teacher would leave the room, connecting to an age-old American show biz tradition of charade and flummery. On the road, Little Richard faced competition from his peers, honing his stage show and making it, too, an act that could not be counterfeited. Kirby sees Little Richard as a foxy warrior, fighting with skill and cunning to take his place among the greats. In the words of Keith Richards (on hearing "Tutti Frutti" for the first time), "it was as though the world changed suddenly from monochrome to Technicolor." Those sentiments have consistently been echoed by the music-

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listening world, and the time is ripe for a reassessment of Little Richard's genius and legacy. Extremely Important Stuff About the Songs and Bands You Love, Hate, Love to Hate , and Hate to Love

History of Rock 'n' Roll in Ten Songs

The History and Politics of the Music Industry

The Sound of the City

Instruments of Rock and Roll

The Art of Rock and Roll

Detroit Rock City

*From the author of the critically acclaimed*

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*Elvis Presley biography: Last Train to Memphis brings us the life of Sam Phillips, the visionary genius who singlehandedly steered the revolutionary path of Sun Records. The music that he shaped in his tiny Memphis studio with artists as diverse as Elvis Presley, Ike Turner, Howlin' Wolf, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Johnny Cash, introduced a sound that had never been heard before. He brought forth a singular mix of black and white voices passionately proclaiming the vitality of the American vernacular tradition while at the same time declaring, once and for all, a new, integrated musical day. With*

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*extensive interviews and firsthand personal observations extending over a 25-year period with Phillips, along with wide-ranging interviews with nearly all the legendary Sun Records artists, Guralnick gives us an ardent, unrestrained portrait of an American original as compelling in his own right as Mark Twain, Walt Whitman, or Thomas Edison. Expanded on the occasion of ZZ Top's 50th anniversary year, Billy F Gibbons: Rock + Roll Gearhead (first published in 2005) throws wide Gibbons' garage and studio doors for an exclusive look at the exquisite vintage and way-out custom guitars and the*

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*influential hot rods and custom cars of the Grade-A Texas gearhead. From the near-mythical '59 Les Paul sunburst known as "Pearly Gates" and the "Furry One" of MTV renown to cars like the Eliminator, CadZZilla, and Kopperhed, they're all here—more than four dozen guitars and a dozen astounding vehicles, all expounded upon by BFG himself and shown in commissioned color photography. Cars and guitars that have made their way to light since first publication are included: Cars: Mexican Blackbird 1958 Thunderbird Custom Scions Quintana '50 Ford Custom El Camino custom Whiskey Runner Ford*

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*Coupe '51 Jeep Wagon Guitars: Party Peelers  
John Bolin Customs 1929 National Resonator  
1929 Dixie Ukelele 1939 Rickenbacker Frying  
Pan ...and more! While BFG's cars 'n' guitars  
are the stuff of legend, no less intriguing  
are the tales behind his incredible music  
career. From teenage Houston garage rocker to  
the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the whole  
story is between these covers, told in the  
Good Reverend Willie G's own words and  
illustrated with photos and memorabilia from  
his personal archive. As with many rockers,  
Billy F Gibbons' jones for hot rods and  
customs is the stuff of legend. But beyond*

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*this bona fide bluesman's mastery of the six-string and unrepentant love for internal combustion is a noted collector whose own designs have manifested themselves in hundreds of mind-bending cars and guitars. This is the definitive and official record of that genius.*

*A non-technical exploration of the history and theory of Rock and Roll from its origins to the present. This book discusses the basic historical changes in each decade as related to music. The book analyzes compositions using an easy chart style and offers a representative selection of listening*

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*assignments.*

*The birth of rock 'n roll ignited a firestorm of controversy--one critic called it "musical riots put to a switchblade beat"--but if it generated much sound and fury, what, if anything, did it signify? As Glenn Altschuler reveals in All Shook Up, the rise of rock 'n roll--and the outraged reception to it--in fact can tell us a lot about the values of the United States in the 1950s, a decade that saw a great struggle for the control of popular culture. Altschuler shows, in particular, how rock's "switchblade beat" opened up wide fissures in American society*

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*along the fault-lines of family, sexuality, and race. For instance, the birth of rock coincided with the Civil Rights movement and brought "race music" into many white homes for the first time. Elvis freely credited blacks with originating the music he sang and some of the great early rockers were African American, most notably, Little Richard and Chuck Berry. In addition, rock celebrated romance and sex, rattled the reticent by pushing sexuality into the public arena, and mocked deferred gratification and the obsession with work of men in gray flannel suits. And it delighted in the separate world*

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*of the teenager and deepened the divide between the generations, helping teenagers differentiate themselves from others. Altschuler includes vivid biographical sketches of the great rock 'n rollers, including Elvis Presley, Fats Domino, Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Buddy Holly--plus their white-bread doppelgangers such as Pat Boone. Rock 'n roll seemed to be everywhere during the decade, exhilarating, influential, and an outrage to those Americans intent on wishing away all forms of dissent and conflict. As vibrant as the music itself, All Shook Up reveals how*

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*rock 'n roll challenged and changed American culture and laid the foundation for the social upheaval of the sixties.*

*Rock + Roll Gearhead*

*Rock 'n' Roll Unravelled*

*The Birth of Rock 'n' Roll*

*The Uncensored History of Rock 'n' Roll in America's Loudest City*

*I Love Rock 'n' Roll (Except When I Hate It)*

*Rock 'n' Roll is Here to Pay*

**The Big Book of Rock & Roll Names tells the behind-the-scenes stories of how the world's**

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**most popular and influential rock and pop acts got their names. By turns fascinating, funny, and bizarre, the pages offer insight into the peculiar choices and idiosyncratic psychologies of hundreds of top musicians from the 1960s to the present. Originally published more than two decades ago to great success, it's been out of print for years and has now been completely updated and expanded to feature dozens of exclusive interviews including conversations with groups like The Black Keys, The Killers, Twenty One Pilots, Coldplay, Cage the Elephant,**

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**and Vampire Weekend. From Arcade Fire to ZZ Top, this diverting and handsome collection reveals the often overlooked but defining histories of hundreds of the biggest names in rock and pop.**

**It's no wonder that Cleveland is home to the internationally famous Rock and Roll Hall of Fame - Cleveland disc jockey Alan Freed coined the phrase for this new musical phenomenon nearly 50 years ago. This work takes an in-depth look at the people, venues, and artists that made Cleveland the Rock 'n' Roll Capital of the World.**

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**It shows how Cleveland witnessed the rise of such widely recognized groups as the James Gang, the Outsiders, Damnation of Adam Blessing, and the Raspberries. Casey Kasem fine-tuned his long-running broadcasting career in Cleveland. Nearby Canton gave us the O'Jays, and Akron spawned Devo and Chrissie Hynde of the Pretenders. And the rock concert was practically invented in Cleveland in 1952, when Alan Freed convened the first Moondog Coronation Ball. By the 1970s Cleveland had become a proving ground for superstars in the**

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making.

**Drooling fanatic, n. 1. One who drools in the presence of beloved rock stars. 2. Any of a genus of rock-and-roll wannabes/geeks who walk around with songs constantly ringing in their ears, own more than 3,000 albums, and fall in love with at least one record per week. With a life that's spanned the phonographic era and the digital age, Steve Almond lives to Rawk. Like you, he's secretly longed to live the life of a rock star, complete with insane talent, famous friends, and hotel rooms to be trashed. Also like you,**

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he's content (sort of) to live the life of a rabid fan, one who has converted his unrequited desires into a (sort of) noble obsession. **Rock and Roll Will Save Your Life** traces Almond's passion from his earliest (and most wretched) rock criticism to his eventual discovery of a music-crazed soul mate and their subsequent production of two little superfans. Along the way, Almond reflects on the delusional power of songs, the awkward mating habits of drooling fanatics, and why **Depression Songs** actually make us feel so much better. The book also

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**includes:** • sometimes drunken interviews with America's finest songwriters • a recap of the author's terrifying visit to Graceland while stoned • a vigorous and credibility-shattering endorsement of Styx's Paradise Theater • recommendations you will often choose to ignore • a reluctant exegesis of the Toto song "Africa" • obnoxious lists sure to piss off rock critics But wait, there's more. Readers will also be able to listen to a special free mix designed by the author, available online at [www.stevenalmond.com](http://www.stevenalmond.com), for the express

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**purpose of eliciting your drool. For those about to rock—we salute you!**

**Chronicles the history of blues music from its emergence in the early 1900s through the twentieth century, and describes the musical accomplishments of Leadbelly, Bessie Smith, Howlin' Wolf, Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, Jimmy Reed, B.B. King, and others. Includes an audio CD.**

**From Its Roots to Mid-1970s Punk  
How Rock 'n' Roll Changed America  
Just Around Midnight**

## **A Guide for Professionals**

### **Rock And Roll**

#### **The Emergence of Rock and Roll**

#### **The True Story of 1960s Rock 'n' Roll in Minnesota**

*When Jimi Hendrix died, the idea of a black man playing lead guitar in a rock band seemed exotic. Yet ten years earlier, Chuck Berry had stood among the most influential rock and roll performers. Why did rock and roll become white? Jack Hamilton challenges the racial categories that distort standard histories of rock music and the 60s revolution.*

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*From rock and roll historian Ed Ward comes a comprehensive, authoritative, and enthralling cultural history of one of rock's most exciting eras. It's February 1964 and The Beatles just landed in New York City, where the NYPD, swarms of fans, and a crowd of two hundred journalists await their first American press conference. It begins with the question on everyone's mind: "Are you going to get a haircut in America?" and ends with a reporter tugging Paul McCartney's hair in an attempt to remove his nonexistent wig. This is where *The History of Rock & Roll, Volume 2* kicks off. Chronicling the years 1964 through the mid-1970s, this*

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*latest volume covers one of the most exciting eras of rock history, which saw a massive outpouring of popular and cutting-edge music. Ward weaves together an unputdownable narrative told through colorful anecdotes and shares the behind-the-scenes stories of the megastars, the trailblazers, DJs, record executives, concert promoters, and producers who were at the forefront of this incredible period in music history. From Bob Dylan to Bill Graham, Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, The Byrds, Aretha Franklin, The Rolling Stones, and more, everyone's favorite musicians of the era make an appearance in this sweeping history that reveals how the*

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*different players, sounds, and trends came together to create the music we all know and love today.*

*How the Occult Saved Rock and Roll*