

Presentations about

THE BEATLES

The Beatles: Band of the Sixties

An overview of the Beatles and their music spanning the full 1960s: beginning with the band's seminal visits to Hamburg, continuing through Beatlemania, and concluding with *Abbey Road*.

Before They Were Fab: The Beatles Prior to Beatlemania

An early history of the Beatles from John Lennon's founding of The Quarrymen in 1957, through their five seminal Hamburg residencies, and right up to the precipice of worldwide fame and fortune.

The Influence of American Rock 'n' Roll on the Beatles

This program illustrates the influence of American recording artists from the 1950's (including Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, Little Richard, and others) on the Beatles through side-by-side comparisons and musical analysis of Beatles covers and original recordings.

From the Shadow of JFK: The Rise of Beatlemania in America

A look at the Beatles' first U.S., with emphasis on the assassination of John F. Kennedy and how his death helped Beatlemania flourish.

A Hard Day's Night: The Music & The Movie

The only Beatles album to feature exclusively Lennon/McCartney songs, *A Hard Day's Night* is both the product of Beatlemania and the beginning of its end. This program observes and analyzes both the album and film.

The Influence of Bob Dylan on The Beatles

With his folksy guitar playing and philosophical lyrics, no other contemporary influenced the songwriting of John Lennon and Paul McCartney more than Bob Dylan. This program traces the compositional maturation of the Beatles by illustrating in detail Dylan's influence.

"Yesterday", The World's Most Recorded Song

With over 1,600 covers, The Beatles' "Yesterday" is one of the most iconic pieces of music ever written, but its origin and development were anything but ordinary. This program discusses the classic song's history, illuminating how "Yesterday" came to be the World's Most Recorded Song.

Reinventing Rock 'n' Roll: The Beatles' *Revolver*

More than any other Beatles album, the experimental recording techniques and innovative songwriting on *Revolver* exemplify the originality and progressive thinking for which the band is so famous. This program discusses and analyzes the album track by track.

Let Me Take You Down: The History of "Strawberry Fields Forever"

This program traces the history and development of "Strawberry Fields" from Lennon's conception in 1966 through its release in February 1967.

The Beatles' Alter Ego, *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*

Since its release in 1967, the Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* has often been regarded as the single greatest rock album ever made, and one of the first rock concept albums. This program will observe and discuss the landmark album track by track.

Carte Blanche: The Beatles' *White Album*

The Beatles' only double-album, *The Beatles* (a.k.a. *The White Album*) is the band's most individualized and stylistically diverse work, and the complete antithesis of *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. Topics and people discussed in this program include Eric Clapton, the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi and his camp in Rishikesh, India, the influence of Yoko Ono, and the beginning of the end for the Beatles.

Let it Be: The Beatles, January 1969

January 1969, in which the Beatles recorded what would ultimately constitute the album *Let it Be*, is paradoxically both the least understood and most well-documented month of the band's entire existence. This program explains what happened during that fractious month through quotes from the band members and "fly on the wall" excerpts from the recording sessions.

Everest: The Beatles' *Abbey Road*

The Beatles' last-recorded album, *Abbey Road*, was originally titled *Everest* – not after the mountain, but rather the brand of cigarettes. Even so, on some level the band was thinking of the album as their pinnacle, their greatest musical and artistic achievement. This program discusses and analyzes *Abbey Road* song by song.

The Beatles & The Rolling Stones

Ask anybody to name two English rock bands from the 1960s and the response will likely be The Beatles and The Rolling Stones. This program compares and contrasts the two through musical examples and interviews.

"They're Gonna Put Me In The Movies": The Beatles on Film

The Beatles' history and artistic evolution can be understood through their films. This program discusses and analyses *A Hard Day's Night* (1964), *Help!* (1965), *Magical Mystery Tour* (1967), *Yellow Submarine* (1968), and *Let it Be* (1970) to illustrate that development.

"Beneath the Waves": The Development of Paul McCartney's Bass Playing, 1962-1969

Paul McCartney helped elevate the social status of the lowly bass to match the guitar's rock star persona. This program examines how McCartney's skills as a bassist evolved from simple formulaic patterns into sophisticated and innovative melodies by citing and comparing examples from Chuck Berry, the Beach Boys, and Otis Redding, among others.

The Quiet Beatle: George Harrison's Compositional Development

Several years younger than his three bandmates, George Harrison's songwriting took a little bit longer to mature than did that of John Lennon and Paul McCartney. This program traces Harrison's development as a songwriter by illustrating first how his early attempts rely heavily on techniques learned from Lennon/McCartney, and second the sophistication of his later, mature output.

Starr Time: A Celebration of Ringo Starr's Contributions to the Beatles

Contrary to popular belief, Ringo Starr was an integral component of the Beatles. This program explains how and why Ringo replaced the band's previous percussionist, Pete Best, and analyzes Ringo's contributions to the Beatles (including his singing, drumming, and personality).

Songs the Beatles Gave Away

In addition to writing their own music, both John Lennon and Paul McCartney also regularly penned songs for other recording artists, including Cilla Black, Billy J. Kramer and the Dakotas, Peter and Gordon, The Rolling Stones, and Badfinger, among others. This program discusses all 26 such giveaways, comparing and contrasting them to recordings actually done by the Beatles.

"With a Little Help From Our Friend": How George Martin Enriched the Beatles' Music

One of the major (and under-appreciated) characters in the Beatles' story was their producer, George Martin, who took the raw, intuitive songs of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, and George Harrison and polished them into commercially viable products. This program considers how George Martin contributed to the band's recordings and legacy.

Aaron Krerowicz

16 Girard Ave, Apt. 101, Hartford, CT 06105
(260)467-9550
AaronKrerowicz@gmail.com
www.AaronKrerowicz.com

Bio

One of two professional Beatles scholars in the world, Aaron Krerowicz won a research grant through the University of Hartford in November 2011 to study the band and since has presented his findings through more than one hundred presentations at libraries, universities, continuing education programs, and community centers throughout the United States.

Books

*Playing at the Piano:
A Beginners Guide to the Musical Keyboard* (2012)

The Beatles & The Avant-Garde (2014)

And coming in 2015:

The Beatles: Band of the Sixties (May)

*From The Shadow of JFK:
The Rise of Beatlemania in America* (June)

Let it Be: The Beatles, January 1969 (December)

Rate: \$250 per program (flexible according to budget, especially if booking multiple programs)

Non-Beatles Programs:

- The History of Rock 'n' Roll
- The Music of Star Wars: A Detailed Look at John Williams' Orchestral Scores
- Origami for Beginners*
- Baseball History
- Baseball Before the Civil War
- Shadow Ball: A History of Negro League Baseball
- Naked Eye Astronomy
- The History of Pornography
- Beginning Piano*

* = these programs include a materials fee payable from each participant to the instructor at the start of the program.

For full details, descriptions, and histories of each program, consult the document "Educational Presentation Repertoire", which can be found at the bottom of Aaron's website (www.AaronKrerowicz.com) or use this QR code:



Aaron Krerowicz

Beatles Scholar & Author
Musician & Educator

