

SOME FUN TONIGHT!

by Chuck Gunderson

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Ringo said in a recent Rolling Stone interview: "You want to know my high point? Walking down those stairs. It changed everything." He was talking about landing at JFK airport on 7th February 1964, when The Beatles first arrived in the USA, because after that, everything changed, not just for The Beatles, but for popular music. Nothing would ever be the same.

I have been fortunate to make several visits to the US to attend Beatles conventions, and the fanaticism is much greater over there than here in the UK. One of those fans is Chuck Gunderson, who spent years amassing a collection of Beatles memorabilia connected to their US concerts. From this collection, Gunderson decided to write "Some Fun Tonight" entirely dedicated to The Beatles 1964, 1965 and 1966 US tours. What he has produced is a superb high-quality lavishly illustrated two-volume masterwork which will be the definitive book on The Beatles three US tours. The amount of information is meticulous, including background details about contract negotiations, promoters, airport and hotel arrivals, press conferences, venues, the groups that supported them and of course the fans. All this is presented alongside hundreds of stunning photographs and items of related memorabilia.

Larry Kane, the US journalist who accompanied The Beatles on each of their US tours wrote the introduction and raved about the book:

"Chuck Gunderson has gone where no one else has. With his writing, artifacts, pieces of the story, superb graphics, and totally fun reading experience, Chuck has taken you there. "There" is where I was, lucky enough to see it. Now he relives my experience and the experiences of young fans who are now on Medicare. This is no ordinary book. It's big and wide and it takes you to where a handful of people got to go - traveling alongside the boys, and sharing in the joy...This book is a work of art. It's as close as you can get to being there. Have some fun tonight with your own backstage pass. As someone who was there, I can confirm that Chuck has done what no one else has done. He tells the stories of three summer tours with an artistic spotlight that brings you up front and close."

Published as a limited edition two book set, housed in an attractive slipcase, no expense has been spared in the production and printing of these two volumes. The two hardback books have been produced in a slick, glossy, full-colour format using the highest quality materials and processes. This is a book that I can't recommend highly enough and which you will go back to again and again as the definitive guide to The Beatles US tours. "Some Fun Tonight" is without question, among the truly essential books for any Beatles library.

David Bedford

