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## Mike Mac's White and Blacks

*Michael McCartney*

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**Michael McCartney : Mike Mac's White and Blacks** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mike Mac's White and Blacks:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Unique set of photographs of the Beatles by Paul McCartney's brotherBy D. M. FarmbroughTo call Mike McGear a photographer would not be unreasonable. He modestly brushes off the title in the book's introduction because that has never been his full-time job (he was singer with 1960s beat/comedy group The Scaffold). However he does have technical ability and a certain artistic eye. More importantly, as brother of Paul McCartney, he was in the right place at the right time during the childhood of Sir Paul and the early days of the Beatles. The images he captured during those days are priceless. The leather suited band shots of the group before they were being snapped by every photographer in a fifty-mile radius tell their own story. There are also some more thoughtful shots of individual group members. The technical quality of these suffers a bit through McGear's lack of experience, but it would be churlish to exclude such unique perspectives on those grounds. The pictures also show some general Liverpool scenes, circa 1960, some family shots of the McCartney brothers and their dad, and shots of The Scaffold during their brush with success. This is worth getting if you're a Beatles fan, otherwise, worth a look just for the glimpse of social history this thoughtful photographer's work gives us.

From Publishers Weekly A photographer since childhood, McCartney took pictures of his older brother, Paul, beginning in 1954 and continuing to snap as the Beatles (at the time consisting of John, Paul, George and Pete Best) became the fave rave at Liverpool's Cavern Club. Here he presents 71 of those photographs along with nostalgic and humorous captions. Backstage Beatle shots predominate, and other performers appear including Jerry Lee Lewis, actress Jane Asher, Gene Vincent, Rory Storm and Little Richard. The most affecting images are the shots at the McCartney house in the Allerton section of Liverpool Paul in his wallpapered bedroom grooming for a gig, practicing on a guitar beneath a clothesline heavy with wash, climbing a backyard drainpipe above a trash heap. As Puttnam observes, these snapshots make this book "a very special time machine." Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc.