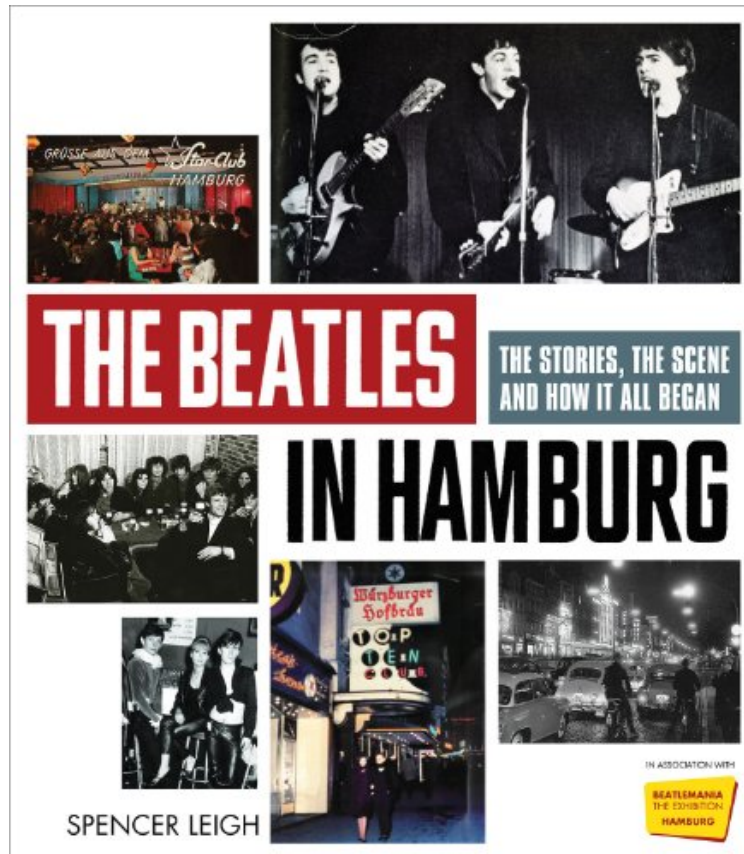


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The Beatles in Hamburg: The Stories, the Scene and How It All Began

Spencer Leigh

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Spencer Leigh : The Beatles in Hamburg: The Stories, the Scene and How It All Began before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Beatles in Hamburg: The Stories, the Scene and How It All Began:

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Don't Fear The Reeperbahn By Dr. Mikey Having visited the Reeperbahn in Hamburg on my "Beatles pilgrimage" in 2007 (my retirement present to myself), I thought that I knew most of the story of the early Beatles adventures. But I was wrong: I was most impressed with the wealth of information in Leigh's excellent book. Sure, many fans know the big stories, but the interviews with Tony Sheridan, Gerry Marsden, Kingsize Taylor, and several of the German students and club folks add zest to the whole adventure. The photos are also well presented and include many that are not found in most "Hamburg reports." Having previously read Leigh's book on the Cavern Club, which is essentially a diary, I was not expecting such a solid, informative, and well written treatment of this critical period. This book not only covers the Beatles, but also tells the story of some of the other Merseyside and other Brit groups bringing their unique sound to Germany. I also love the "coffee table" quality of the paperback issue. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. and in an easy, entertaining format By

shanaVery informative, and in an easy, entertaining format.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Beatles for ChristmasBy G.I. JoeYes, it arrived in timely fashion, I am looking forward to giving the book as a Christmas gift to family members who are Beatle fans.

When the fledgling Beatles went to Hamburg in 1960, they had no idea that their world--and music--was going to change forever. Associating with gangsters and prostitutes and sleeping in appalling conditions behind a cinema screen, the Beatles pounded out beat music in strip clubs and dens of vice like the Indra, the Kaiserkeller, the Top Ten, and the Star-Club. In the process, they changed their way of playing, got arrested and deported, wore black leather, lost their bass player, sacked their drummer, developed a vast repertoire of raucous rock n roll songs, and fashioned a new hairstyle. The Beatles in Hamburg features interviews with the Beatles friends and contemporaries, including photographers Astrid Kirchherr and Jrgen Vollmer, bass player Klaus Voormann, Liverpool artists Gerry Marsden and Kingsize Taylor, singers Tony Sheridan and Roy Young, club managers Horst and Uwe Fascher, and many more. It is packed with close to 150 photographs of the Beatles and the Hamburg scene, some in full color and several never before seen. There have been hundreds of books about the Beatles, but here for the first time is the remarkable, fully illustrated account of the bands formative years in Hamburg.

Spencer Leigh has succeeded in conveying the spirit of the period with great accuracy. He writes in an authentic, sensitive, and honest manner, as though he had been there himself and all with a good touch of British humor. This is not only the story of the Beatles in Hamburg it is also a historical document of an era that left a lifelong impression on people like me and the Beatles. Klaus Voormann