

Lucy in the sky with diamonds

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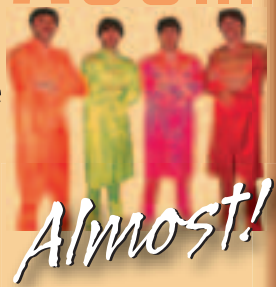
IT WAS 40 YEARS AGO...



And here's YOUR chance to win a CD of arguably the most influential album of all time...AND IT COULDN'T BE EASIER!!! Simply answer the question below, fill in the entry details and the first correct answer chosen at random will be the winner!

IT was 40 years ago today (well almost) that this band began to play... that's of course the Beatles on the fabulous Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band album. And at the time could the Fab Four have realised that they were creating what for many music critics and fans alike is the greatest collection of sounds ever compiled. Widely regarded as one of - if not THE - greatest music albums of modern times, here are some of the stories behind the Fab Four's music...

- Rolling Stone magazine rated it number one in the list of the 500 greatest albums of all time.
- It was the Beatles' eighth album.
- The album took 129 days to record at the famous Abbey Road studios at a cost of £25,000.
- Pink Floyd were recording in the next studio at the same time.
- The concept of making the whole album as if Sgt Pepper was a genuine band was believed to be Paul McCartney's.
- It was a completely self-contained album which was meant to be played from start to finish.
- One music critic described the album as "a decisive moment in the history of Western civilisation."
- Shortly after the album's release, legendary guitarist Jimi Hendrix was performing the title track in concert.
- It was the first rock album to win Grammy Awards for album of the year and best contemporary album.
- Artist Sir Peter Blake designed the amazing front cover. It featured a colourful collage of life-sized cardboard models of famous people, including silent film stars plus Marlon Brando and Karl Marx.
- Actress Mae West at first refused to appear on the front cover, but changed her mind after the band wrote a special plea to her.
- The initial design was altered, deleting Hitler and Jesus from the image, before the album was released.
- It was strongly rumoured that Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds was written about a drug trip on LSD. John Lennon always denied this, insisting it was inspired by a drawing done by his young son, Julian.
- But the song was still banned by the BBC.
- The lyrics to John Lennon's Being for the Benefit of Mr Kite were adapted almost word for word from an old circus poster which he bought from an antique shop in Kent.
- McCartney's vocals were sped up for the song When I'm 64 to give it a unique sound.



Almost!

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Question
What was the name of The Beatles influential Manager?
Send your answer with contact details including a daytime tel. number to:- Sgt. Pepper Competition, St Helens Star Reception Desk, 23a Hardshaw Street, St Helens WA10 1RT, to arrive no later than Friday 15th June. Usual Star rules apply



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