

ROCK CONCERT POSTERS

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ClassicPosters.com

Some of you have asked about the Internet site I created some years ago, ClassicPosters.com. It is still alive and well, but there are some changes. To bring you up to date: Years ago, aside from creating the All-Music Guide (allmusic.com), the All-Movie Guide (allmovie.com), I also created a number of other sites archiving popular culture, and one of my very favorites is ClassicPosters.com.

I did this pretty much all by myself, with just a little help. It took me years. I have always been fascinated with rock music posters, ever since I designed, cut the Rubylith, and silkscreened the posters for my band the Prime Movers Blues Band in the mid 1960s (see earlier post on my Wall for examples of my posters). After I founded, developed, and sold AMG (All-Media Guides), I created ClassicPosters.com, which included my having to photograph hi-res images of some 30,000 vintage and valuable rock posters. I built my own vacuum table, and so forth.

I developed and ran the site for a couple of years and then did two things with it. I sold the name and a donated a copy of my complete database of poster images, dates, sizes, bands who played on each poster, etc. to a worthy company who wanted to carry on my poster work and was doing great work on their own.

I also donated a complete copy, including all the hi-res images to the prestigious Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan, so that scholars and people like you and me would always have access to the data, history, and images.

The Bentley is now preparing both on-site access for scholars and students as well as a web site where anyone can study and see images from this very important part of our popular culture's history – rock concert posters, the actual posters printed for each event, and often torn down and taken home as souvenirs.

I include a link to the current site of ClassicPosters.com for those interested. Check it out.

http://www.classicposters.com/About_Us

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The World's Largest Dealer in Vintage Rock 'n' Roll Posters

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These great works of art were produced for seminal rock 'n' roll shows that took place mainly in San Francisco, California during the 60s and early 70s. Great Hairs, of Family Dog Productions, and Bill Graham (Wolfgang Puck's), of Bill Graham Presents, were the primary producers of these shows, but the scope of the posters we sell extends across the country and includes many different producers and venues.

Many early bands, including Jefferson Airplane, Grateful Dead, Iron Butterfly, Cream, Big Brother & The Holding Company, Cannonball, and Country Joe & The Fish frequented these venues. Other stellar performers such as Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Bobby Goy, R.B. King, and Albert Collins played as well.

As you look at these works of art, you can almost smell the patchouli. The 60s were a heady time on the West Coast—LSD was legal, "make love, not war" was the slogan of the times, and rock 'n' roll with a blues influence was the music of choice.

at Classic Posters, we strive to bring you the best selection available of these beautiful works of art. While we specialize in Bill Graham, Family Dog, Neon Bone, and Art of Rock items, we also offer interesting items from the Grande Balloon and various Texas venues.

We want our site to provide you with lots of great information, and we hope that you will return again and again to tap into our resources. Our dynamic site is updated daily, so you will always receive up-to-date information about items that are available for sale.

Classic Posters traces its roots to its predecessor, Filmore Poster—a company founded in 2005. Because the scope of posters that Filmore Poster was dealing in expanded, a new name that would more accurately reflect that scope was needed. The new name, Classic Posters, belonged to Michael Elowitz, who had started a Web site by the same name. Mr. Elowitz shared our vision of becoming not only a place to purchase this art, but also to become the premier reference source for poster collecting. To that end, we struck a deal with him to continue what he had started and to complement and enlarge Filmore Poster. Without the photographs and database that Mr. Elowitz supplied, this project would have been nearly impossible. In the coming months, we will be adding thousands of poster pictures—along with descriptions—allowing anyone to accurately identify and assess the poster(s) they have.

If you would like to see a particular series or single posters included, or if you have information that you think might be valuable, please let us know.

We hope you enjoy exploring the exciting world of 1960s rock 'n' roll posters at Classic Posters!



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120