

Beatlejuice

Exclusive: Unearthed Photos of the Beatles in the Mid-'60s

By Linda Leseman Mon., Jun. 18 2012 at 8:13 AM

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In 1964, U.K. photographer Harry Benson was headed to Africa on assignment for the *Daily Express* when he got a call from his editor, saying the plans had changed. He was now going to Paris to photograph the Beatles. Benson was less than thrilled. "I thought of myself as a serious journalist," he says. "But when I really heard [the music] in person ... I knew I was on the right story."

Now in his early '80s, Benson and his Beatles photographs are the subject of a massive tome, *The Beatles On the Road 1964-1966*, published on June 1 by Taschen and feted in Beverly Hills last week. For the occasion, West Coast Sound got our grubby little hands on some exclusive photos of the group from this era: the one above and the second one on the next page. This post also has other amazing photos from the book, all of them taken by Benson. In addition, we got the opportunity to pick his brain about the two years he spent covering the Fab Four.

The photo (above) with John, Paul and George sitting with their arms crossed and a fourth guy who's not Ringo: Who is that?

Paul McCartney got a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame yesterday. Well deserved! After all, he helped change the course of pop-music history with his ditties and whatnot; West Coast Sound recently declared his group, the Beatles [*sic*], [the third great musical act of all time](#), behind Beethoven and William Hung.

It's a bit weird that [2459 other people](#) got stars before McCartney, but it's even weirder that three other members of the Beatles did. After all, many would agree that McCartney was one of the group's most important members. Here, then, are the top three Beatles who got a star first.