

# MUSICAL MYSTERY BICYCLE TOUR

## WELCOME TO OUR RIDE!

Cambridge's wonderfully rich musical life and history cannot be told on one page. Consider what follows "random notes". Start with us today and continue with your own tour of discovery.

## SOME PLACES

### Harvard Square

#### 1. Cambridge Common

- Site of many free public Sunday afternoon concerts in the late 1960's, notably *The Modern Lovers*.

#### 2. Club 47- 47 Mount Auburn St. (now Passim - 47 Palmer St.)

- One of the first venues in a northern city to feature African American Southern blues musicians, such as *Mississippi John Hurt* and the Reverend *Gary Davis*.
- Bob Dylan*, *Joan Baez*, *Tom Rush*, *Shawn Colvin*, *Suzanne Vega*, and *Joni Mitchell* all played here.



Bob Dylan & Joan Baez at Club 47, Camb., MA 1964 © Dick Waterman, 1964

#### 3. Longy School of Music - 1 Follen St.

- In Cambridge since 1930, the school is a degree-granting conservatory that also offers community programs for children and adults.

#### 4. Cambridge Boat Club - 2 Gerry's Landing

- Site of a 1967 performance, for the Cambridge Dancing School 8th graders, by Peter Wolf's, pre-J. Geils band, the *Hallucinations*.



The Hallucinations

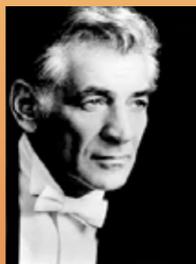
#### 5. Sanders Theater - 45 Quincy St.

- Opened in 1876 to honor those who had died for the Union in the Civil War, the hall is internationally known for its superior acoustics.
- During the 1940's Sanders was the venue for the Cambridge Society for Early Music.

- Schoenberg's String Trio* was written to premiere here at the 1947 critics' conference.
  - From the late 1970's and into the 1980's, the *Beaux Arts Trio* performed in Sanders four times a year, with live broadcasts on WHRB.
  - Home of the Harvard Glee Club and the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra.
  - Former home of *The Bach Society*.
  - Home of the *Boston Symphony Orchestra Cambridge Series* for many years, dating back to 1881.
6. **Paine Hall** - Harvard University
- Home of Harvard's student-run and conducted *Bach Society*, the hall has seen an extraordinary array of classical performances, symposia, and lectures, over the last 60 years.
7. **Adolphus Busch Hall** - 29 Kirkland St.
- Formerly the *Busch-Reisinger Museum*, the hall's *Flentrop authentic tracker-action organ* was bought for Harvard in 1958 by noted concert organist, *E. Power Biggs*.
  - From 1942 to 1958, *Biggs* played a live Sunday morning CBS program of organ music on the *Flentrop's* predecessor, a *G. Donald Harrison organ*.

#### 8. Harvard Square Theater

- In the 1960's, soprano *Elisabeth Schwarzkopf* inaugurated a series of classical vocal recitals.
- In 1973, *Leonard Bernstein* gave his *Norton Lectures* here.
- Hosted concerts through the 1970's:
- Bruce Springsteen*, May 9, 1974
- Bob Dylan* with *Joan Baez* and the *Rolling Thunder Revue*, Nov 20, 1975
- Iggy Pop* and *David Bowie* with *Blondie* opening, March 16 1977
- The Clash*, February 16, 1979



Leonard Bernstein



Iggy Pop/David Bowie - Photo: Brown/News

#### 9. Charlie's Kitchen - 10 Eliot St.

- Live music upstairs every Monday night.

#### 10. Jack's - Mass Ave

- Closed due to fire, revived as the *People's Republik* -876 Mass Ave

#### 11. Harvard Stadium

- Built in 1903 for football games, the site of many concerts, including *Janis Joplin's* last performance.

#### 12. Charles River

- The Standells*, a California garage band, immortalized our local waterway in their 1966 hit song, "*Dirty Water*."

#### 13. WHRB - 389 Harvard St.

- In the 1940's, the station invented marathon music programs devoted to a single subject and called them "Orgies."
- Since the 1960's, *Lynn Joiner* has hosted many of the best-known country and bluegrass performers on a program now known as "*Hillbilly at Harvard*."
- Folk programming included early radio appearances by *Joan Baez* and *Tom Rush*. *Rush* hosted his own program, "*Balladeers*," on WHRB when he was a Harvard undergraduate.

## Inman Square

#### 14. Inn Square Men's Bar - 1334 Cambridge Street

- In 1978, the site of an early incarnation of WBCN's "*Rock & Roll Rumble*." When closed in 1984, the space became part of the *S&S Deli*.

#### 15. The Lily Pad - 1353 Cambridge Street

- Called "*Cambridge's most cutting-edge performance space*," the music ranges from jazz to chamber music to purely avant-garde.

#### 16. 1369 Jazz Club - 1369 Cambridge St.

- Hosted a wide range of jazz bands and soloists until 1993, when it was replaced by the coffeehouse.

#### 17. Ryles Jazz Club - 212 Hampshire St.

- Music on the first floor, dancing upstairs.

#### 18. Abbey Lounge - 3 Beacon St.

- Technically over the line in Somerville, a longtime local music stronghold, until its closing in 2009, due to unpaid taxes.

## Central Square

#### 19. The Speakeasy - Norfolk St.

- Leading blues club until 1980.

#### 20. The Cantab Lounge - 738 Mass Ave

- The musical home of *Little Joe Cook* for more than 30 years, the *Cantab* is still going strong, with Blues, Funk, Bluegrass, and Rock.



Otis Rush at The Speakeasy 1978  
Photo by Mary Rosenblatt

#### 21. T.T. the Bear's Place - 10 Brookline St.

- A mainstay of the Central Square live-music scene since opening in 1985, "T.T.'s" has an uncanny knack for booking hot new talent.

#### 22. The Plough and Stars - 912 Mass Ave

- Everything from blues to rock to country to sounds that can't be described, this eclectic mix has made the *Plough* a favorite hangout in Cambridge for over 35 years.



Billy Ruane Photo: mideastclub.com

#### 23. The Middle East - 472 Mass Ave

- In 1987, *Billy Ruane* persuaded the owners of the *Middle East* restaurant to use their stage space for his 30th birthday party - a multi-band extravaganza that promised to overflow available club space in Central Square - giving birth to one of the region's most important venues. *Billy* died in November 2010; his ashes have been laid to rest at the club.

#### 24. The Club - Main St.

- Site of an early *Ramones* show May 12, 1976

#### 25. Nightstage - Main St.

- Showcased a plethora of local and national acts from its opening in the 1980's through the 1990's.



The Ramones

#### 26. Western Front - 343 Western Ave

- Specializes in Jazz, Latin, and Reggae.

#### 27. Harmonix - 625 Mass Ave

- Best known as the developer of the "*Rock Band*" video game and the creator of "*Guitar Hero*."

## Porter Square

#### 28. Lizard Lounge - 1667 Mass Ave

- Underground space featuring well-known local rock and folk musicians.

#### 29. Toad - 1912 Mass Ave

- Live music 7 nights a week, never a cover.

#### 30. 236 - 254 Garden Street row houses

- Marc Bolan* stayed here when *T-Rex* was in town in the 1970's.



Marc Bolan

#### 31. Fort Apache Records - 1 Camp St.

- Now in *Bellows Falls, Vermont*, *Fort Apache* was located above the *Rounder Records* warehouse here from 1988 to 2002. *Paul Kolderie* and *Sean Slade* have continued to run the original *Fort Apache* location under the name *Camp Street Studios*. *Radiohead's "The Bends"* was mixed in part at *Fort Apache*.



Thom Yorke/Radiohead

#### 32. WJIB (formerly WCAS) - 443 Concord Ave

- A listener-supported AM station, broadcasting a mix of 30's-through-60's "adult standards" and softer hits from the 50's through 80's.
- The station started broadcasting in 1948 from its present site at 443 Concord Avenue, as *WTAO*. Five more sets of call letters have been assigned to the 740 frequency since then: *WXHR*, *WCAS*, *WLVG*, *WWEA*, and on August 4, 1992, it became *WJIB*.

## Kendall Square

#### 33. Kendall Square T station

- Starting point for the hapless rider in the song "*Charlie on the MTA*."
- Between the tracks, you'll find "*The Kendall Band*," a musical sculpture created in 1987 by *Paul Matisse*, the grandson of *Henri Matisse* and stepson of *Marcel Duchamp*.

#### 34. The M.I.T. Chapel

- Designed by *Eero Saarinen*, the chapel has a *Holtkamp organ*, played in recital by some of the world's greatest organists.

#### 35. Kresge Auditorium

- Fine performances from visiting artists, from *Lieder* singer *Ernst Haefliger* to the *Ensemble InterContemporain*.

#### 36. WMBR - 3 Ames St.

- The MIT, student-run, all-volunteer radio station, funded by listener donations, broadcasts on 88.1 FM. It has introduced listeners to new music for decades with two morning shows, "*Breakfast of Champions*" and "*The Late Risers' Club*." Starting at noon "*Lost and Found*" plays forgotten hits from the 1960's and 1970's.
- WBCN Program Director Oedipus* began his career in music in 1975 as a DJ on *WMBR*.

# SOME PEOPLE

- **Tracy Chapman:** began her music career in Harvard Square.
- **Benjamin Zander:** conductor and teacher, resides in Cambridge.
- **Robert Levin,** Harvard Faculty, is a concert pianist with worldwide touring appearances. Robert Levin is also a noted theorist and Mozart scholar.
- **Ken Field,** Cambridge resident, is a multiinstrumentalist, bandleader and WMBR DJ.
- **Russ Gershon,** Cambridge resident leads the EitherOrchestra.
- **Rivers Cuomo/Weezer,** graduated from Harvard.
- **Mark Sandman:** An indie rock icon, Sandman was best known as the lead singer and slide bass player of the band Morphine. Mark Sandman Square is at the corner of Mass Ave & Brookline St.
- **Harvard Radcliffe Orchestra** was founded in March 1808 as the Pierian Sodality, with a chartered intent to "perform music for the enjoyment of others as well as serenade young women in the square." Considered by some to be the oldest symphony orchestra in the United States.
- **Yo Yo Ma:** Cambridge resident, Harvard graduate.
- **Leon Kirschner,** composer, was on the Harvard faculty.
- **Joe Harvard,** guitarist, writer, producer, graduated from Harvard.
- **Boston:** born at MIT.
- **David Wax Museum:** Recently anointed as Boston's Americana Artist of the Year (2010 Boston Music Awards).
- **Bonnie Raitt,** attended Radcliffe .
- **Tom Rush,** was a student at Harvard.
- **Van Morrison** once lived on Green Street near the corner of Hancock St.
- **Peter Wolf** had an apartment at 122 Mount Auburn St.
- **J. Geils Band** had a house in Cambridge.
- **Folk-rocker Gram Parsons** lived in Pennypacker Hall during his brief time as a Harvard student.
- **Joan Baez** had an apartment at Bow and Arrow Streets.
- **Mike Einziger of Incubus** took classes at Harvard.
- **Leonard Bernstein** studied at Harvard and lived in Eliot House.
- **Joshua Redman,** graduated from Harvard.



Tracy Chapman



Yo Yo Ma



Bonnie Raitt



Joshua Redman Photo: Skip Bolen



Nobody knows all of the important sites in Cambridge's musical history but someone is working to find them. The Cambridge Historical Society is cataloging every place that has played a role in the city's musical past. If you'd like to contribute a story to this collection, please write to - [music@cambridgehistory.org](mailto:music@cambridgehistory.org)

## Saturday, May 21st, 2011

**Start:** 10:15am  
Arrive at Cambridge Common, Harvard Square

**Depart:** 10:30am Sharp - Ride starts

**End:** Cambridge Common

**Ride Distance:** Approx. 8 miles

**Ride Time:** Approx. 2 hours

### Credits:

Photos, tour route and information from Cambridge Bicycle Committee  
 Graphic Design by Robin Shore  
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 Ride organized by the Cambridge Bicycle Committee  
 And THANKS to the many musicians of Cambridge who are lending their time and talents to us today!

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