

Rare footage from making of "Magical Mystery Tour" film unearthed in UK for DVD project



Update (11/3/08)

• Another media review from Film Threat.

Update (10/4/08)

• Media review of the DVD from Warren Clements of the Toronto Globe and Mail.

Update (9/29/08)

• Our review: Unlike the majority of unauthorized Beatles projects, <u>"The Beatles: Magical Mystery Tour Memories" (Region 1)</u> or <u>Region 2 (UK)</u>, which hits the street on Tuesday, is surprisingly strong in content and information. Victor Spinetti narrates the program, which includes interviews with a few people that don't usually do these projects, as well as a few familiar faces. Those interviewed include former press officer Tony Barrow, Mike McCartney, Neil Innes, former fan club president Freda Kelly, Spencer Davis, Beatles road manager Tony Bramwell and journalist Miranda Ward, plus several locals involved in various aspects of the filming who have fond memories of the Beatles' sudden invasion into their lives. Among those involved with the film are author Keith Badman. The heavily promoted unseen footage, of which there is a good amount, is interwoven with newsreel footage and is a bonus to the informative aspect of the video. There are also rare vintage interviews with the Beatles as well. The video itself gives an fairly honest view of the film, not one of the Beatles' career high points. It does concede that though the film itself was not well received, the music deserved to be praised and certainly was. The main film runs 60 minutes. Very faithful cover versions of Beatles music are heard throughout. Bonus features include extended interviews with Mike McCartney, Victor Spinetti, Freda Kelly, Spencer Davis, Neil Innes, Tony Bramwell, Tony Barrow and Miranda Ward.

Update (9/7/08)

• The Region 1 (U.S.) edition of "Magical Mystery Tour Memories" will be released Sept. 30. You can pre-order it through the link.

Update (8/23/08)

- The UK Mirror has more unseen pictures in this short article on the DVD.
- A short advance from Newsday by Debbie Tuma on the upcoming Lennon art exhibit in the Hamptons.

Update (7/1/08)

• We've now been advised by producer David Lambert that <u>the link for the trailer</u>, which wasn't working a couple of days ago when we first printed it, is now up and running. (Thanks to David Lambert.)

Update (6/27/08)

• We got in touch with David Lambert, producer of "Magical Mystery Memories," and here's what he sent us:

Hi Steve,

I m David Lambert Director/Producer of our film thanks for getting in touch. Here follows details and a brief synopsis of our project. Arthouse Pictures have produced an upbeat/fun TV documentary featuring the vivid memories of many people who witnessed the making of the cult Beatle movie "The Magical Mystery Tour" 1967.

Included in this production are stories from Mike McCartney, Frieda Kelly (principle Beatle Fan Club Secretary) and Spencer Davis, who for the first time have all agreed to appear in a TV documentary! Tony Bramwell and Victor Spinetti have also agreed to share their memories, with Victor kindly supplying the narration. Added to this we feature previously unseen 8mm cine footage plus eye witness accounts from fans, onlookers and from the cast of the movie.

This is a link to our website www.arthousepictures.info.

This site gives comprehensive background detail to the entire project.

We have just completed the first 'rough edit' of 'Mystery Tour Memories' and have had the film reviewed by our Beatle expert, Keith Badman, who gave us an enthusiastic response, along with a few additional ideas, which we are are looking to incorporate. Added to our light hearted documentary, we also gained some great stories from our celebrity cast - previously untold - which we plan to include as extra's on a DVD release, extending the viewing time by approx 30 minutes. These stories will be of huge interest to Beatle fans, and people who look back fondly on the heady days of the swinging sixties.

There are a view new developments since I wrote this, we will be now including Miranda Ward - Tony Barrow - Neil Innes and Dame Peggy Spencer. The film is due for release August 25th 2008.

Kind regards, David Lambert Producer

(6/26/2008) Some rare home movie footage of the Beatles taken during the making of "Magical Mystery Tour" has been discovered in the UK and will be used in a forthcoming DVD called "Mystery Tour Memories," reports the BBC (video link).

According to <u>the Arthouse Pictures website</u>, the project originated in 2001 by writer Keith Gray for what was planned as a book about the making of the film. After meeting with producer David Lambert in 2007, the project turned into a proposed TV documentary. Production begin in September of that year with the first interviews done with musician Spencer Davis, former UK secretary of the official Beatles Fan Club Freda Kelly and Mike McCartney, Paul's brother. Additional filming was done in Newquay, Cornwall and Trent with stories from eyewitnesses, in Totnes, Devon, interviewing former Beatles tour manager Tony Bramwell and in London interviewing Victor Spinetti.

You can see clips from the project, here.

Also on the Arthouse website is this snippet:

"The famous Beatles song 'I am The Walrus' that features the celebrated lyrics about The Eggman' was completed just weeks before the group came to Newquay.. where by amazing coincidence they met the seaside towns' own Eggman."

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