

SHINDIG!

Going Underground

Paul McCartney, The Beatles And The UK Counter Culture

Journey with us back to the brief window in time prior to the flowering of the Summer Of Love when it felt like a full blown cultural revolution was being played out amid a modest network of London galleries, bookstores and clubs and on the pages of the UK's emerging radical press.

With the Indica bookstore, the International Times and the UFO club the most visible expressions of the UK's London-centred counter culture, this in depth documentary explores the roots and influence of the emerging UK underground on both The Beatles and on Paul McCartney in particular thanks to his friendship and connections with a number of major players within the movement. This approach proves highly effective as a way of illustrating how ideas and concepts borrowed from the avant garde came to be absorbed by the rapidly advancing 60s pop revolution. Besides the late lamented underground activist and scenester Mick Farren, other turned-on heads talking us through the most significant happenings of the era include IT co-founder Barry Miles, IT co-founder and UFO co-founder John 'Hoppy' Hopkins, Indica bookstore and gallery owner John Dunbar, Elektra's UK office manager, UFO co-founder and Pink Floyd producer Joe Boyd, Robert Wyatt and Eddie Prevost drummer with arch experimentalists AMM.

As much a film about social and cultural history as it is about music this is a rewarding trip back to an era when for the briefest of moments it seemed like London was the centre of the universe and just about anything was possible.

- Grahame Bent