

*Going Underground: Paul McCartney, The Beatles and the UK Counter-Culture* (DVD, Pride PGDVD161):

This British produced documentary spotlights a period in early '60s art, literature and music that paved the way for the underground cultural movement that was sweeping through London at the time. American beat poets like Allen Ginsberg and William Burroughs were mixing with avant garde visual artists and musicians like John Cage and Karlheinz Stockhausen. As the mid-'60s evolved many of the first wave of British rock musicians like The Who, The

Kinks, The Animals, Pink Floyd, etc. had also been influenced by and integrated a lot of this alternative thinking into their creative milieu. One of the musical leaders of this was Paul McCartney and The Beatles. Commentators like McCartney's official biographer Barry Miles and musicologist Chris Ingham cite various examples of how The Beatles employed many electronic, ethnic and obscure touchstones, culled from non-commercial sources, to break away from their initial pop sound and created something totally new. Vintage and rare performance clips from the Fab Four as well as Pink Floyd, Soft Machine and others are sprinkled throughout.

