



[Sign In](#) | [Register Now](#)

[Home Delivery](#)

**The Boston Globe**

**Local Search** Site Search

**GO**

[HOME](#) [TODAY'S GLOBE](#) [NEWS](#) [BUSINESS](#) [SPORTS](#) [LIFESTYLE](#) [A&E](#) [THINGS TO DO](#) [TRAVEL](#) [CARS](#) [JOBS](#) [HOMES](#)

[Movies](#) [Restaurants](#) [Music](#) [Theater/Arts](#) [Television](#) [Books](#) [Celebrity news](#) [Events](#) [Games](#) [Comics](#)

HOME / A&E / MUSIC

# Rock of ages

The Boston Globe



By Linda Laban  
Globe Correspondent / May 27, 2008

[Email](#) | [Print](#) | [Single Page](#) | [Text size](#) - +

British journalist Tony Palmer's 1970s documentary series, "**All You Need Is Love**," has now been resurrected as a compelling five-disc DVD set. Apparently, John Lennon first suggested to Palmer that he document the "story of popular music." Lennon chose wisely.

The result - spread over 17 episodes containing almost 15 hours of often-vital footage - is an astute, fine-tooth-combing through popular music in all its hues and ages. From ragtime to rock 'n' roll, Palmer rebuffs myths, such as jazz being invented in New Orleans, pointing out that jazz, like the blues, came from Africa. He adds, deadpan, a footnote comment: "The black man, in order to get recognition, has always had to compromise . . . to the detriment of his music." There's rare footage of two who perhaps didn't: Charlie Parker and Miles Davis (above) playing together in New York in 1952.

Everyone from bluegrass godfather Bill Monroe to concert impresario Bill Graham to randy Rolling Stones bassist Bill Wyman is interviewed. "All You Need Is Love," an ironic title to be sure, was broadcast on television between 1976 and 1981. As the old music business and its icons were deemed irrelevant in the new punk-rock order, this fascinating document gathered dust.

Now there's another 30 years of music to add - punk, new wave, hair metal, grunge, hip-hop, indie rock. Yet, in today's convoluted and fractured music industry that equates revenue with artistic relevance, Palmer's documentary feels relevant and a necessary reset button. ■

© Copyright 2008 Globe Newspaper Company.

<a href="#">Email</a>	<a href="#">Print</a>	<a href="#">Single page</a>	<a href="#">Reprints</a>	<a href="#">Share</a>

**Your Name**

**Your e-mail address**  
(for return address purposes)

**E-mail address of recipients**  
(separate multiple addresses with commas)

**Name and both e-mail fields are required.**

**Message (optional)**

[Send](#)

DISCLAIMER: Boston.com does not share this information or keep it permanently, as it is for the sole purpose of sending this one time e-mail.

Ads by Google

what's this?

**Jazz Radio - Listen Free**

Discover More of the Jazz Music You'll Love - 100% Free!  
JazzRadio Pandora.com

**INSIDE BOSTON.COM**

**THE LA SCENE**



**Matt Damon was among the many celebrities at Game 5**

**2008 TONY AWARDS**



**See stars on the red carpet at the 62d Tony Awards**

**HOME OF THE WEEK**



**This Acton home was on an HGTV show in 2007**

**16 QUIRKY SUMMER READS**



**See some of this summer's overlooked literary gems**

**PLUS...**

**Blogs |Games |Podcasts  
|Puzzles |Personals |Movie  
listings |Classifieds |Globe  
Magazine**

**MOST EMAILED**

1. NBA Finals: Game 5 scene
2. Learning to be Michelle Obama
3. He's Big Bird: Caroll Spinney loves every feather
4. Yale%3A+Student+artwork+purporting+to+show+abortion+a+hoax
5. Some call Georgian a good fit for Obama
6. Is language dead or evolving?
7. Celtics fan photos



[Click Here for Tickets!](#)



[Maine & Nova Scotia on One of the World's Super Ships](#)



[Over 150 EXTREME N.E. weather photos. Buy the book!](#)



[Let your new home find you with email alerts](#)

---

[Home](#) | [Today's Globe](#) | [News](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [A&E](#) | [Things to Do](#) | [Travel](#) | [Cars](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Homes](#) | [Local Search](#)

---

[CONTACT BOSTON.COM](#) | [Help](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Work here](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Mobile](#) | [RSS feeds](#) | [Make Boston.com your homepage](#)

---

[CONTACT THE BOSTON GLOBE](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Manage your subscription](#) | [Advertise](#) | [The Boston Globe Extras](#) | [The Boston Globe Store](#) | © 2008 NY Times Co.

---

Sponsored Links