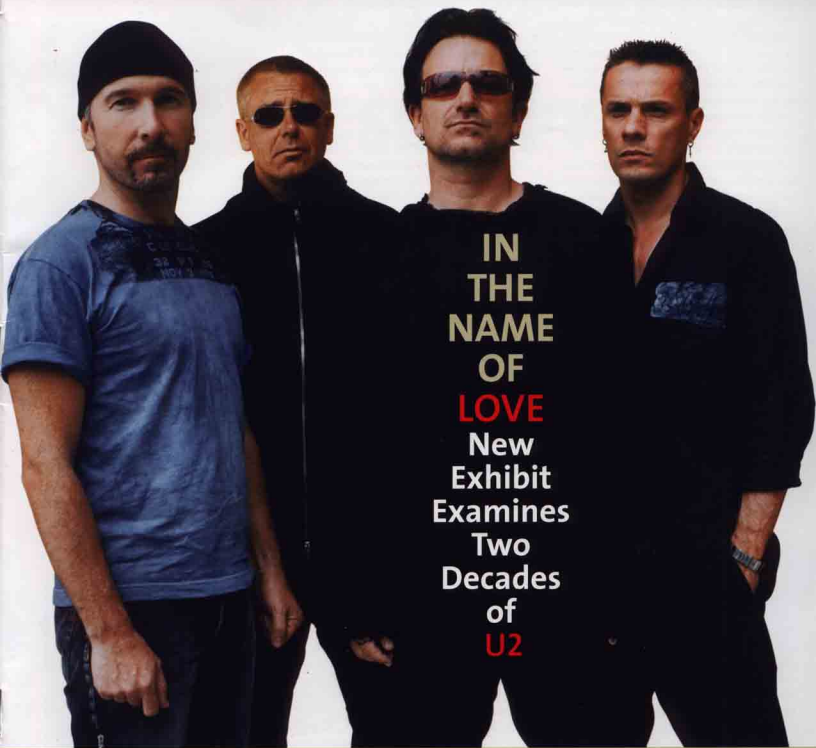


SPRING/  
SUMMER  
2003

# LINEAR NOTES

ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



IN  
THE  
NAME  
OF  
LOVE  
New  
Exhibit  
Examines  
Two  
Decades  
of  
U2

**THE 2003 INDUCTEES** Clash, Elvis Costello, AC/DC, Righteous Brothers, Police and more

**HANG ON SLOOPY** Ohio's Rich Musical Heritage

**PLUS** ALAN FREED LES PAUL BUDDY HOLLY



## LES PAUL EXHIBIT DUE THIS FALL

Later this year, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum will unveil a new permanent exhibit chronicling the life and career of the legendary Les Paul. The exhibit will be located on the Museum's second floor and will include numerous artifacts that had a profound influence on the development of rock and roll and pop music.

Born Lester William Polsfuss in Waukesha, Wisconsin, on June 9, 1915, Les Paul has had an extraordinary career, both as a musician and an inventor. His many inventions – from the solid-body electric guitar to multi-track recording – literally changed the sound of popular music. His other studio innovations – such as the use of variable recording speeds, delay, echo, phase shifting and close-miking – have become common techniques that are now taken for granted in recording. As an artist, both on his own and with his longtime partner Mary Ford, Les Paul scored dozens of hits and influenced generations of guitarists.

The exhibit, which has been more than two years in the making, will include such historic pieces as the Sears acoustic guitar Paul played as a youth, his original wood-plank guitar, his prototype for the first Les Paul guitar, and the "Clunker," a guitar he played onstage and in the studio during his years with Mary Ford. Other artifacts will include an early mixing console, vintage microphones and the Gibson L-5 guitar that he played when he called himself "Rhubarb Red."

— JAMES HENKE

## EXHIBIT, RADIO STUDIO HONOR ALAN FREED

ON MARCH 1, THE ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME and Museum celebrated the contributions of 1986 inductee Alan Freed with a new exhibit and a newly refurbished radio studio named in his honor. Radio-industry professionals, Museum members and VIPs joined Freed's daughter-in-law, Judith Fisher Freed, for the celebration.

Alan Freed first came to national attention in the early Fifties, when his rhythm & blues radio show on Cleveland station WJW became a local sensation. In 1952, Freed put on the Moondog Coronation Ball in Cleveland, a show that is now widely regarded as the first-ever rock and roll concert. While in Cleveland, Freed dubbed the music he was playing on his show – a mixture of rhythm & blues, country and folk – "rock and roll." Later, when he moved to the New York station WINS, Freed became one of rock and roll's first and most vocal promoters.

The Museum's exhibit, Alan Freed: King of the Moondogs, was put together with the support of the Freed family and consisted primarily of artifacts gathered and donated by

Judith Freed. Included in the exhibit were two of Freed's high-school yearbooks from Salem, Ohio, and promotional materials for "The Moondog House" radio show on WJW. Also featured were records and sheet music on which Freed shares songwriting credit with the likes of Chuck Berry and Harvey Fuqua, lobby cards from Freed's five movies, and a rare record tote bag from Freed's stint as New York City's top deejay at WINS. The exhibit also included many never-before-seen materials related to the "payola" investigation that eventually brought an unfortunate end to Freed's career.

The renovated Alan Freed Radio Studio is available for radio stations that wish to do remote broadcasts from the Museum. It was reconstructed through the support of *Radio World* newspaper, Broadcasters General Store and more than 30 manufacturers, including Studio Technology, Logitek, ENCO Systems, Comrex, Gepco, Shure, AKG and Auralex Acoustics.

Representing the family, Judith Freed cut the ribbon commissioning the studio and asked that the family of Scott Beeler be the first to enter. Beeler, an ERI sales executive who died tragically last fall on his birthday, was instrumental in the completion of the studio. "Scott made this project possible," said Museum Donor Relations Manager John

Grayson. "I said, 'We're talking about building a new radio studio at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame,' and he said, 'What can I do to make that happen?' While we dedicate this radio studio to Alan Freed's life and legacy, those of us who knew Scott and loved him and constructed the radio studio, dedicate our efforts to his memory."

— MEREDITH RUTLEDGE

