



Liverpool  
Legends

*Mop top music*

# Fab Four at TPAC stirs Beatlemania

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Whether you are actually old enough to remember Beatlemania, or simply appreciate great music, you won't want to miss the Fab Four at TPAC this weekend. Beginning this evening, "The Fab Four at TPAC: The Nashville Connection" will feature three days and nights of live music, memorabilia, vendors, panel discussions and author presentations.

"It's going to be an incredible event with even more exhibits and panel discussions than we had last year," said Richard Courtney, one of the festival's founders and organizers.

After the huge success of last year's inaugural affair at the Belcourt Theater Courtney and co-sponsor Rogan Allen were faced with finding a new home for the event.

"The Belcourt festival could not have been more successful," said Courtney, a Nashville realtor and author of *I Never Saw a Beatle*. "We sold out three shows and had fans attending from 23 different states. We expect this year's event to be even bigger."

While the idea is nothing new —

## GETTING THERE

**What:** "Fab Four at TPAC: The Nashville Connection"

**When:** Through Saturday, 5:30-11:30 p.m. today, noon-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday

**Where:** TPAC, 505 Deaderick St.

**Cost:** \$20-\$75

**Info:** Call Ticketmaster at 615-255-ARTS (2787) or check out [www.fabfourattpac.com](http://www.fabfourattpac.com); [www.tpac.org](http://www.tpac.org) or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

fans can find major Beatles festivals from Chicago to Liverpool — Courtney said that Nashville is uniquely qualified to stage such an event.

"The depth of our music industry is what sets this festival apart," he said. "When I started organizing last year's event, I had no idea how many local musicians had played with or had some kind of professional ties to the Beatles. People started coming out of the woodwork wanting to perform or participate in the panels."

This year, musical talent will include Wings guitarist Laurence Juber, Joey Molland of Badfinger,

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# TPAC festival honors Beatles

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Chris Huston (formerly of the Undertakers and now a top sound engineer and producer), and Mark Hudson (former member of the Hudson Brothers and long-time producer for Ringo Starr).

Courtney said he is especially proud to have the Long Players included in this year's lineup. A highly respected group of Nashville studio musicians, the Long Players are known for their performances of classic concept albums.

"Last year, they blew everyone away by playing the *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* album from start to finish.

This year, they will play *Revolver*. That's the kind of talent we have here in Nashville; that's what makes this festival so special."

Other notable participants will include Tony Bramwell, longtime friend and associate of the band members, and Louise Harrison, George Harrison's sister and manager of a tribute band called the Liverpool Legends.

"They're a nice bunch of fellows and excellent musicians," Harrison said of the group. "It's

the kind of band I think George would have liked to play for. He often said that he wished he had the freedom to play more of a variety of songs. As good as the Beatles' music is, when you play the same dozen songs over and over you're bound to tire of it. With the Liverpool Legends, we've made a real effort to mix it up a bit with lesser known Beatles

songs as well as music from their individual careers — like Wings or the Traveling Wilburys. It's great for the band because they never get bored, and it's great for the audience because you'll never hear the same concert twice."

Beyond the music, however, Harrison sees the festival as an opportunity to celebrate what she lovingly refers to as "Beatledom."

"The Beatles are remembered for more than just music, although their music continues to influence audiences and musicians around the world. But they offered more — a whole philosophy, a way of thinking. Beatledom breaks down boundaries and can unite people of every background. I don't believe we'll ever see anything quite like the Beatles or the impact they had on humanity, again." □



Courtney