



PBS 45 & 49

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PBS 45 & 49 takes trip back to turbulent sixties in prime time broadcast event Sept. 26-29

(Kent, OH) — Although the rumblings could already be heard beneath the veneer of prosperity and conformity of the 1950s, America erupted in the 1960s with electrifying change in nearly every aspect of life. It was a decade rocked by social, sexual and political changes, and the influence of a new kind of music that emerged as the soundtrack of the era remains as a lasting legacy of this explosive time.

During **Talking 'bout My Generation** week, Sept. 26-29, PBS 45 & 49 will showcase several documentaries and biographies on this turning point in America's cultural history, including the premiere of **If You're Not Dead, Play!!**, the station's new local documentary on the second wave of the 1970s Akron garage band scene.

No Direction Home: Bob Dylan, A Martin Scorsese Picture

Monday, Sept. 26 & Tuesday, Sept. 27, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. each night

This exclusive biography of the man who helped define a generation is directed by the great American storyteller, Martin Scorsese. The film focuses on the singer-songwriter's life and music from 1961-66 and features previously unreleased footage from Dylan's groundbreaking live concerts, studio recording sessions, outtakes and interviews with Allen Ginsberg, Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, Maria Muldaur, Dave Van Ronk and many others. For the first time on camera, Dylan talks openly and extensively about this critical period in his career, detailing the journey from his birthplace in Hibbing, Minnesota, to Greenwich Village, New York, where he became a critical part of a musical and cultural upheaval whose effects are still felt today.

It's Everything and Then It's Gone

A PBS 45 & 49 Production

Tuesday, Sept. 27, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

In the early 1970s, rubber was still king in Akron. But just a few short years later, Akron's most important product was, ever so briefly, music. In the mid-1970s, a group of local bands took over an old rubber workers' hang-out in downtown Akron called The Crypt and created a mix of punk and art rock that came to be known as "the Akron Sound." This PBS 45 & 49 production, written and directed by Akron native Phil Hoffman, tells the story of those people who rode to the crest of the new wave and what happened to them after the attention turned away from Akron and from them. The one-hour documentary includes Devo, The Numbers Band, The Bizarros, The Rubber City Rebels, Tin Huey and The Waitresses and their flirtations with rock stardom. The sequel to this documentary, **If You're Not Dead, Play!!**, will premiere on PBS 45 & 49 on Sept. 28 at 8 p.m..

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If You're Not Dead, Play!!

A PBS 45 & 49 Production

Wednesday, Sept. 28, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For a few years in the 1970s, rock critics fell in love with the “Akron Sound,” created by local bands such as Devo, The Waitresses and Tin Huey. Record companies signed them to big contracts ... and then the bands all left town. In the wake of the first wave of rock bands from Akron, a second group of bands formed and took over an old dilapidated bank in downtown Akron they called The Bank. Soon bands such as Hammer Damage, Unit 5 and Chi Pig were drawing larger crowds than the first bands ever did, and it looked like the road to rock stardom would run down Akron's Main Street. **If You're Not Dead, Play!!** is a second production by Akron's Phil Hoffman about the bands from that era, following his popular **It's Everything and Then It's Gone**.

Get Up, Stand Up: The Story of Pop and Protest

Wednesday, Sept. 28, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m.

With its roots in the folk tradition and the union movement in the early 20th century, the idea of harnessing the power of music to convey social dissatisfaction exploded with the civil rights movement and Vietnam War protests of the 1960s and propelled protest music to the heights of mainstream culture. This film traces the birth of protest songs to the American union movement and explores the impact of pop culture in politicizing the baby boomer generation during the Vietnam era.

Hosted and narrated by rapper Chuck D, **Get Up, Stand Up** features James Brown, Bob Dylan, Marvin Gaye, Jimi Hendrix, John Lennon, Bob Marley, Bruce Springsteen, Sting and U2, with Joan Baez, the Beastie Boys, Harry Belafonte, Jackson Browne, Johnny Cash, The Clash, Crosby Stills Nash & Young, Steve Earle, Fleetwood Mac, Peter Gabriel, Bob Geldof, Arlo Guthrie, Woody Guthrie, Mick Jagger, Curtis Mayfield, the MC5, Country Joe McDonald, Roger McGuinn, Willie Nelson, Nirvana, Odetta, Tom Paxton, Peter Paul and Mary, Rage Against the Machine, the Ramones, REM, Pete Seeger, Martin Sheen, Nina Simone, Sly Stone, Patti Smith, Stevie Wonder and more.

Best of The Beatles

Wednesday, Sept. 28-29, 11 p.m.-12 midnight

The untold story of the world's most famous band's formative years is revealed by original Beatles drummer Pete Best, as he tells of his pivotal role in forming the Beatles and his survival of a very public nightmare. Viewers learn the truth about events in Liverpool and Hamburg at the time when the band was in the vanguard of popular music, and how it all went horribly wrong for Best, just as the Fab Four grasped the golden apple. For the first time, viewers will hear Pete's story, illustrated with a variety of music, archival material and interviews, some of which have never been seen before.

The Sixties: The Years That Shaped a Generation

Thursday, Sept. 29, 9:00-11:00 p.m.

Since the early 20th century, musicians have come together in the name of human rights to fight war, hunger, corruption, oppression, AIDS, apartheid and third-world debt. From single songs passed word-of-mouth to star-studded, multi-million dollar benefits, activists from Joe Hill to Bob Geldof have spoken up by singing out, drawing together disparate groups of people on the strength of unforgettable verse and universal harmony. From the Vietnam War to the struggle for racial equality to the birth of a counter-culture, the 1960s was a decade of change, experimentation and hope that transformed a nation. This two-hour documentary traces the events of one of the most turbulent and influential periods of political and cultural change in the 20th century. The decade comes to life once again with a musical soundtrack featuring favorites from the 1960s, including the music of Arlo Guthrie, Bob Dylan, Crosby, Stills and Nash, Elvis Costello, Jefferson Airplane, Jimi Hendrix, the Beatles, the Chambers Brothers, the Doors and the Rolling Stones.