

HYMAProject

From: "HYMAProject" <thirdear@iafrica.com>
To: "Brian Nawrocki" <ballabrian89@yahoo.com>
Sent: 29 April 2003 10:33
Subject: Woodstock 69 Brian Nawrocki

Dear Brian

Thanks for the enquiry. I'd love to help. However I get these sort of queries and questions almost everyday. So you will appreciate that it's not easy to answer one-on-one.

What I will do is copy you with the sort of questions students ask me every week. (Taken from the Hidden Years Story) I may include a recent poll conducted by a German student. Hopefully it'll cover some of your questions. Maybe you can compare notes as well?

Did you come through the website? If so, there are a few anecdotes and feelers related to your questions - most notably from photographer **Elliot Landy**. Check it out. That about sums it up for me as well.

I am also busy trying to complete my book - **The Hidden Years Story - Part 1** - Penguin Books, later this year. A lot of what I experienced personally at Woodstock, Live Peace in Toronto, The Stones 69 tour etc will be in the book or maybe already up there in cyber space on the site.

Regards

David Marks

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----- Original Message -----
From: Brian Nawrocki
To: thirdear@iafrica.com
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2003 7:48 AM
Subject: woodstock69

Hi my name is Brian Nawrocki, I go to Lake Superior State University. I am writing a paper on Woodstock 69, can you tell me what the emotion and the atmosphere was like there. I would like to know all the details. What kind of drugs were there? Was it like a massive orgy? Was everyone friendly and spreading peace? If you can tell me anything this would be great!

----- Original Message -----

From: "Christin Krumbein" <justini85@hotmail.com>
 Sent: Sunday, April 27, 2003 1:59 PM
 Subject: Woodstock festival 1969

> Dear Madam/Sir,

>

> my name is Christin Krumbein, I'm 17 years old and I'm living in Erfurt,
 > Germany. At High School we have to concern ourselves with a special theme.
 > The theme we have selected is "Woodstock '69- A festival of rebellion?" Next
 > year we have to present our results in front of our school. Because of this
 > we also make a public opinion poll with witness of this time who has been on
 > the Woodstock Festival in 1969. After this opinion poll we will work out
 > your answers and we will make statistical charts. Be sure that all details
 > given by you will be anonymous in our presentation! That means we will not
 > publish any names of our sources.
 > In the following you will find some questions, I would be very happy if you
 > would answer this questions. Furthermore I would be very happy if you could
 > send us other materials (photos of the festival or copy of your ticket for
 > this festival,...) via e-mail. So our presentation will be more colored!

>

> Now the opinion poll:

CONDITIONAL - Please do not misquote and place these answers out of context. **3rd Ear Music** would like the results of your poll / survey and you must credit **3rd Ear Music's Hidden Years Music Archive Project** as the source of your information.

Most of these answers - because the questions are usually all the same - were culled / drafted from **The Hidden Years Story**; so I'm not sure if they will answer the questions directly. They may sometimes be a little vague and long-winded. But it's the best I can do I'm afraid.

> Male or female: Male

> Age: 59

> Do you think the Woodstock Festival 1969 was a Festival of rebellion? :> If yes:

I believe that Woodstock was the unintentional wake of Rock 'n Roll; a sort of premonition of its death, which finally happened at Altamont Speedway in December of 1969. Woodstock changed my life. It was a wonderful people and music experience and it was so strange because it took place before the funeral and the final resting place at the Ilse of White. Since then Rock has become a ghost. Sometimes a very pleasant and musical spirit, but it died in 1969. RIP. I'm just a humble disciple.

Woodstock was more a celebration than a rebellion. Rock 'n Roll was rebellion. The festival just happened.

> Do you see the rebellious character in the music (kind of playing, text,...) in using drugs or in the new sexual independents or others??

The drugs and the sex were already there & have been for 5 000 years (or more.) At an event like Woodstock these elements were a little more concentrated and the people, like the music, were a little more honest. But the media - for the most part the mainstream mass media - made a dishonest sensational meal out of it. Which is a pity. As in everyday life the vast majority of us never take drugs that we can avoid, and we certainly didn't have time for sex all the time; as much as we may love too, we just cannot afford it. So Rock 'n Roll - the music of our revolting youth at that time - did it all for us. It obviously worked, because it's still doing it.

>
> Do you think you also was a rebel? If yes why?

>
No. Everybody else is!

> If no: Why wasn't it a festival of rebellion?

Rock 'n Roll has become a celebration of rebellion. And like most successful & memorable celebrations, it wasn't planned to turn out they way it did. The festival just happened. In 1969 Rock was well into old age. It started getting old when Elvis was forced into the US Army and shoe-horned into a uniform. Rock also got pretty sick early on its lifetime when pale-faced corporates started to rape and pillage the intellectual property of the race-rockers from the 40's and 50's to re-sell it in the 60's and 70's. The irony is that without the corporates - for better or worse - people outside of the USA may never have heard Rock 'n Roll and Woodstock may never have happened.

From then on Rock had to take all sorts of drugs to try and stay young and youthful; although it was the music and the festivals that basically kept it alive. And it worked. Look what happened with the Beatles, Bob Dylan and the Rolling Stones.

But sadly, the media dragged death out into a sensational mainstream marketable product, until we rebellious rockers could take it no longer. So we were called to a meeting. The Woodstock Wake was just one of them - but certainly the greatest. And we've had many magic music meetings since. Even out here in SAfrica. In many instances the suits also began to get turned-on - not by the drugs, but by the music. However it was a little late and the two elements got mixed up in the hearts and minds of the frustrated creative troubadours and minstrels; it caused confusion: To make music or make money? That is / was the question. To march or dance? It's very difficult - if you aren't a lucky and a gifted genius - to make both. Hence the tag of revolting rebel.

It's interesting to note that, despite the reflective wonder words of many rappers and trance hip hoppers, much of today's (so called) electronic music is in March Time.....between 118 & 124 Beats a minute. Scary actually.

>
> Which drugs were the most widespread drugs (Marihuana, LSD, fungus, others)?

>
Relatively speaking, none of the above. Vodka, Brandy, Beer, Coffee, Diet & keep-awake Teamster Pills and the odd joint. There was some LSD we heard. But there were 1/2 million people out there...so there were no more drugs at Woodstock than there were at the Sermon on The Mount, in The Village or at Pearl Harbour. The difference was that the music not only turned us on, but the world outside as well; through a hungry and addicted mass media it managed to reach some very inquisitive corporate suits.

> Do you also have taken drugs?

Yes - Tobacco, Coffee, Beer, Tea and Coca-Cola - but I have not had to give them all up at once, because I am fortunate enough not to take them seriously, or regularly. And just like Bill Clinton I also don't think I inhaled? Unfortunately I am forced to breath the air and eat processed foods. So no, like everybody else who is alive, I'm still on drugs.

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>
> What were the opinions of yours fellow men (family, circle of acquaintances,
>) about the festival?

>
Only what the media fed them. (You and almost every student who harps on the drugs issue and who seem to forget that it is the music that drives us wild with passion, not the drugs). Even though I was at Woodstock, to the people who were not, the camera became God and the printed word Gospel. There's nothing that us veterans can do about that. As long as we didn't take ourselves too seriously then and continue, with humour, to do so today.

> What was your former ones ideal conception of a good life?

>
Peace, Love and Harmony. But to get there or to even say as much, most corporate control freaks think that one has to be on drugs. They cannot understand that Music and word-of-mouth can do that for you. Drugs do not.

> Do you think such a festival with the same feeling could start today?

No. Remembering the past is one thing. Trying to live in it is another one altogether (Jeremy Taylor)

>

> Why?

It happened. Let's move on. As you will note from the website, I have often produced music festivals over the years here in SAfrica. (Since 1968). But we never try to recreate the past, no matter what the media says or expects. However, because we have roots - even if we cannot always be proud of them - we do have a colourful past to remember and from there we can only grow. Without it we fade-away.

Only the media, the lonely, the sick and the dead try to re-invent the past.

The **Hidden Years Music Archive Project** is an interactive collection of old and new musicians and music, and it pays tribute to the pioneers, so that we can get on with life and keep the rebellious revolting rock revolution rolling.....to give the heads on top a turn to get their feet on the ground. (David Marks, Durban, kwaZuluNatal, South Africa)

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> Thank you for your co-operation!> Thank you for your co-operation!

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> Messenger - Wer in Echtzeit kommunizieren will, lädt den MSN Messenger.

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