

Guide to the Nicholas Schaffner Papers, 1964-1989

JOB 05-1

Music Division

**The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
New York, New York**

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Nicholas Schaffner Papers
Collection ID:	JOB 05-1
Creator:	Schaffner, Nicholas
Extent:	8.05 linear feet (12 boxes)
Repository:	Music Division. The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
Abstract:	The Nicholas Schaffner Papers document British rock music personalities, and rock memorabilia from the 1960s and 1970s.

Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photocopying will apply. Advance notice required.

Publication Rights

For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Music Division.

Preferred Citation

Nicholas Schaffner Papers, JOB 05-1, Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Custodial History

Val Schaffner donated the Nicholas Schaffner Papers to the Music Division in 1997.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and cataloged in 2005.

Biographical Note

Nicholas Schaffner was born in New York City in 1953. He was more than just a fan of the British Invasion of rock and roll, and his collection of Beatles memorabilia was the foundation for his career as a writer. Of the six books he wrote or co-wrote, *The Beatles Forever* (1977) established him as an authoritative source of knowledge on the band. He followed this book with one for children called *The Boys From Liverpool: John, Paul, George, Ringo* (1980). With his sister Elizabeth, Schaffner compiled *505 Rock and Roll Questions Your Friends Can't Answer* (1981). The next year he published a look at his favorite bands of the 1960s and 1970s in *The British Invasion: From the First Wave to the New Wave*. This book focused on the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, the Kinks, the Who, Pink Floyd, T. Rex, and David Bowie; it also provided abstracts of 100 other influential British bands (written by Schaffner and several contributors, including his sister). In 1983 he helped John Lennon's childhood friend, Pete Shotten, write the book *John Lennon: In My Life*. Schaffner's last book was a definitive biography of Pink Floyd, titled *Saucerful of Secrets: The Pink Floyd Odyssey*, which was published a few months before his death on August 29, 1991. Other writings by Schaffner include record reviews in *Rolling Stone*, essays in periodicals such as *Musician*, and poems.

During the late 1970s and 1980s, Schaffner also composed and performed music. A musical he co-wrote, *The Harlequin*, was part of the Open Space Theatre Experiment, a festival in Soho (New York City) in March 1978. He released a compact disc called *Magical Kingdoms* in 1990; music on this album can be heard in the 1986 movie *Parting Glances*.

Source: The Estate Project for Artists with AIDS, <http://www.artistswithaids.org/artforms/music/catalogue/schaffner.html> (accessed on June 7, 2005)

Scope and Content Note

The Nicholas Schaffner Papers are a collection of rock and roll music memorabilia. The focus is the British Invasion that occurred in the 1960s and 1970s, with the Beatles and the Rolling Stones at the forefront. Other bands and musicians to which Schaffner devoted his collection are David Bowie, The Kinks, Pink Floyd, T. Rex, and The Who. All of these bands are well represented through photographs. The Beatles are the emphasis of the publications and memorabilia series. This collection does not include Schaffner's personal papers or any manuscript material from his writing career.

Organization

The collection is organized into four series. They are:

- Series I: Photographs, 1964-1981, undated
- Series II: Publications, 1964-1989, undated
- Series III: Memorabilia, 1964-1981
- Series IV: Oversized Materials, 1964-1986, undated

Series Descriptions

Series I: Photographs, 1964-1981, undated

0.97 Linear feet (2.3 boxes)

Arrangement: Alphabetical

This series consists of photographs Schaffner used in his books, in particular, *The Beatles Forever* and *The British Invasion*. The types of photographs range from promotional 8x10s distributed by record companies, and stills from movies, to snapshots taken by fans. There are also contact sheets of memorabilia; some of these images can be found as full-size photographs in the specific performer's folder.

Series II: Publications, 1964-1989, undated

1.11 Linear feet (2.67 boxes)

Arrangement: Alphabetical

There are four different categories in the publications series. The label commercial refers to periodicals that have a broad market, such as gossip or entertainment magazines. Other general interest publications can be found in the Oversized Materials series. Fan-produced comprises those publications both created by devoted fans, and those sold as souvenirs to fans. Programs, which are all souvenirs from various concert tours, and sheet music books, complete the series.

Series III: Memorabilia, 1964-1981

0.209 Linear feet (1 box)

Arrangement: Alphabetical

The term memorabilia is used in this guide to define the rock music souvenirs and related items collected by Schaffner. Most of the memorabilia is Beatles-related, and includes an advertising booklet for *A Hard Day's Night*, and examples of colorful *Yellow Submarine* merchandise. There is one folder of ephemera, which includes personal items such as receipts and three letters. More memorabilia can be found in the Oversized Materials series.

Series IV: Oversized Materials, 1964-1986, undated

5.76 Linear feet (6 boxes)

Arrangement: Alphabetical

This series includes oversized memorabilia, all of which is for the Beatles. Many of these items are three-dimensional, such as the Flip Your Wig board game. The other contents of this series are four photographs, one program, multiple publications, and three posters.

Box/Folder	Description
<u>Series I: Photographs, 1964-1981, undated</u>	
The Beatles	
Box 1	
F. 1	Assorted, c.1960s-1970s (includes snapshots of Lennon in New York City; some images taken from television)
F. 2	Group portraits, 1965-c.1968 (includes stills from the movie <i>Help!</i>)
F. 3	Group portraits and live concert photos, c.1960s (includes souvenir 8x10 cards)
Individual band members	
F. 4	George Harrison, c.1960s-1975 (four photos, includes two from the Bottom Line Club in New York City; fifth item is a reproduction of another photo)
F. 5	John Lennon, c.1960s-1970s (includes promotional photos for solo album <i>Walls and Bridges</i>)
F. 6	Paul McCartney, c.1960s (includes performance photos)
F. 7	Ringo Starr, c.1960s (includes one still each from the movies <i>A Hard Day's Night</i> and <i>Help!</i>)
F. 8	Live concert photos, c.1964 (from same concert)
F. 9	Magazine covers and clippings, undated
F. 10	Memorabilia and examples of Beatlemania, 1964-1969, undated
F. 11	Negatives, undated (sources: <i>16 magazine</i> , and Apple Records; all used in book <i>The Beatles Forever</i>)
Official Beatles Fan Club	
F. 12	1969-1970
F. 13	1970
F. 14	1970-1971
F. 15	Places, undated (includes the Cavern Club, Strawberry Fields)
Record album covers	
F. 16	International imprints, and compilations, c.1960s-1970s
F. 17	Picture sleeves, c.1960s
F. 18	Solo works, c.1970s
F. 19	Snapshots from fan magazine <i>With a Little Help From My Friends</i> , c.1960s-1970s (many photos of the Beatles signing autographs for fans; includes envelope mailed to Schaffner from Patricia Simmons)
F. 20	Unidentifiable places, undated (includes negatives)
Box 2	
British Invasion	
David Bowie	
F. 1	Promotional and performance photos, c.1970s (includes <i>Ziggy Stardust</i> , and <i>Scary Monsters</i>)
F. 2	Record album covers, and one performance, c.1970s (includes Thin White Duke photo)
F. 3	Record album covers, and picture sleeves, 1968-c.1970s
The Kinks	
F. 4	Portraits and posters, c.1960s-1970s (includes promotional portraits of Ray Davies; group portraits c.1970s; concert posters)
F. 5	Record album covers, c.1960s-1970s
Pink Floyd	
F. 6	Early years, c.1960s (snapshots with Syd Barrett, album covers)
F. 7	Portraits, and concert performances, c.1970s-1981 (includes Nick Mason publicity photos)

Box/Folder	Description
	<u>Photographs (cont.)</u>
Box 2 (cont.)	
	Rolling Stones
F. 8	Group portraits, performance photos, concert posters, c.1960s-1970s (includes two with Ron Wood – one at El Macombo Club in Toronto)
F. 9	Individual band member portraits, c.1960s-1970s (Mick Jagger – two; Brian Jones – one; Keith Richards – two; Charlie Watts – three; Bill Wyman – one, includes quote by Wyman on reverse)
F. 10	Picture sleeves, c.1960s
F. 11	Record album covers, and picture sleeves, c.1960s
F. 12	Sex Pistols, 1977-c.1980 (includes promotional photos of Johnny Rotten; posters for movie <i>D.O.A.</i> ; picture sleeves)
F. 13	Sweet, c.1970s-1980s (promotional group portraits)
	T. Rex
F. 14	Portraits of Marc Bolan, c.1969-1977 (includes photo of newspaper announcing Bolan's death)
F. 15	Record album covers, c.1960s-1970s (includes photo of concert ticket from 1974)
	The Who
F. 16	Group portraits, c.1963-1979 (includes promotional photos for movie <i>The Kids Are Alright</i>)
F. 17	Individual band member portraits, c.1970s (Roger Daltry – three; Kenney Jones – one; Keith Moon – two; Pete Townshend – three)
F. 18	Record album covers, c.1960s-1970s (includes Townshend's <i>Let My Love Open the Door</i>)
F. 19	Record album covers, and posters, c.1960s-1970s
	General
F. 20	A-D, c.1960s-1970s (includes The Clash, Dave Clark Five)
F. 21	E-G, c.1960s-1970s (includes The English Beat, Foghat, a young Peter Frampton)
F. 22	H-L, c.1960s-1970s (includes Herman's Hermits, The Human League, Ian Dury and the Blockheads, Billy Idol, The Jam)
Box 3	
F. 1	M-P, c.1960s-1970s (includes Madness, The Police, Procol Harum)
F. 2	R-T, c.1960s-1970s (includes Squeeze, Supertramp, Bernie Taupin)
F. 3	U-Y, c.1960s-1980s (includes Wings, X-Ray Spex, Yardbirds)
F. 4	Negatives, c.1981 (ten strips with selected images of photos found in other folders, e.g. David Bowie; includes film processing envelope that may be related)
	Contact sheets, undated (includes negatives)
	British Invasion (images of memorabilia and record album covers; numbers refer to original order)
F. 5	Nos. 1-9
F. 6	Nos. 10-14
F. 7	Nos. 15-21
F. 8	Record album covers
F. 9	Schaffner, Nicholas, undated (one photo used for book jacket)

Box/Folder	Description
Series II: Publications, 1964-1989, undated	
Box 3 (cont.)	
	Commercial
F. 10	Apple Catalogue, 1975 Jan. (official record company catalogue, with one page of Schaffner's ms. notes)
F. 11	Book catalogs, 1978 (two McGraw-Hill catalogs featuring Schaffner's book <i>The Beatles Forever</i>)
	Clippings
F. 12	<i>Evening News, Evening Standard</i> (London), 1965 July 29 (world premier of movie <i>Help!</i>)
F. 13	<i>Liverpool Echo</i> , undated (special John Lennon supplement; original and preservation photocopy)
F. 14	Teen magazines, c.1960s (includes "Kiss your favorite Beatle" page from <i>16 magazine</i>)
F. 15	<i>Crawdaddy</i> , 1974 Mar. (John Lennon cover story – "Our Year is '74")
F. 16	<i>High Times</i> , 1979 Oct. ("How the Beatles Turned on the World: the True Story of Sgt. Pepper" cover story)
F. 17	<i>Musician: Player & Listener</i> , 1980 Jan. (feature article "Rock in the Seventies," by Lester Bangs; missing cover page)
F. 18	<i>People</i> (New York), 1976 Apr. 5 ("The Beatles: will they sing again for \$50 million?" cover story)
F. 19	<i>Yale Literary Magazine</i> , 1968 Mar. (feature on the Beatles, pages 17-40; <i>Yellow Submarine</i> cover)
	Fan-produced
F. 20	<i>Aware</i> , volume 2, no. 1, 1973 (issue devoted to Apple Records)
	<i>Beatlefan</i>
F. 21	Volume 1, nos. 2-4, 1979
F. 22	Volume 1, no. 5, and volume 2, nos. 5-6, 1979-1980
	Volume 3, 1981
F. 23	Nos. 1-2 (no. 1 – Lennon commemorative issue; no. 2 – includes article by Schaffner on little-known Beatles facts)
F. 24	Nos. 5-6
Box 4	
	Volume 4, 1982
F. 1	Nos. 1-3
F. 2	Nos. 4-6
	Volume 5, 1982-1983
F. 3	Nos. 1-3
F. 4	Nos. 4-6
F. 5	Volume 6, nos. 1-6, 1984
F. 6	Volume 7, nos. 1-6, 1985
F. 7	Volume 8, nos. 2, 4-6, 1986
F. 8	Volume 9, nos. 1, 2, 6, 1987
F. 9	Volume 10, nos. 1-5, 1988
F. 10	Volume 11, nos. 1, 3, 1989
F. 11	<i>The Beatles at Carnegie Hall</i> , 1964 (souvenir; a photo story by UPI and Ralph Cosham)
F. 12	<i>The Beatles Book</i> , no. 81, 1983 Jan. (original official monthly magazine)
F. 13	<i>The Beatles Complete Discography</i> , 1975
F. 14	<i>The Beatles in America</i> , 1964 (souvenir; a Daily Mirror publication)
F. 15	<i>Beatles Playback</i> , no. 1, 1975 Sept. (Dutch publication)

Box/Folder	Description
	<u>Publications (cont.)</u>
Box 4 (cont.)	Fan-produced (cont.)
F. 16	<i>The Beatles Story</i> , 1974 (souvenir; part of the Story of Pop series)
F. 17	<i>The Harrison Alliance</i> , no. 19, 1975 July-Aug. (fanzine dedicated to George Harrison)
F. 18	<i>The Inner Light</i> , volume 1, no. 5, c.1975 (includes bootleg recordings analysis)
Box 5	
F. 1	<i>The Inside Story of the Yellow Submarine</i> , undated (souvenir)
F. 2	<i>The Official Beatles Fan Club</i> , 1970-1971 (two issues)
F. 3	<i>The Real True Beatles</i> , no. 1, 1964 (souvenir; missing back cover, otherwise in VG condition)
F. 4	<i>The Rolling Stones Discover America</i> , 1970 (souvenir; special report by Michael Lydon) <i>The Rolling Stones Book</i> , 1965-1966 (official fan club publication, edited by the band)
F. 5	Nos. 18-21, 23, 1965 Nov.-1966 Apr.
F. 6	Nos. 24-28, 1966 May-Sept. <i>Strawberry Fields Forever</i> , 1974-1983
F. 7	Nos. 7, 25, 28, 1974-1977
F. 8	Nos. 33, 34, 38, 1979-1981
F. 9	Nos. 39, 41, 1983
	Programs
F. 10	David Bowie, 1987 (The Glass Spider tour)
F. 11	Leonard Cohen, 1988 (European tour)
F. 12	Lou Reed, 1989 (<i>New York</i> – includes lyrics to songs on album)
F. 13	Rolling Stones, 1975 (Tour of the Americas) Wings, 1972-1976
F. 14	Over America, 1976
F. 15	Over Europe, 1972
	Sheet music
F. 16	<i>The Beatles Dollar Book of Songs</i> , New York: Shattinger International Publications, 1964
F. 17	<i>The Fabulous Beatles Souvenir Song Album</i> , London: Campbell, Connelly & Co., Ltd., 1963
F. 18	<i>New Beatle Guitar Hits, The Beatle Guitar Beat</i> (arr. by Leon Block), c.1965 (nos. 21, 22 published by Pacific Popular)
F. 19	<i>12 Bob Dylan Hits for Harmonica and guitar</i> (arr. by Jerry Sears), New York: M. Witmark & Sons, 1966
F. 20	Dylan, Bob. <i>John Wesley Harding</i> (arr. by Frank Metis), New York: Bob Dylan Words and Music company, 1968
F. 21	<i>Bob Dylan Songbook</i> , New York: M. Witmark & Sons, 1965
F. 22	Reed, Lou. <i>Walk on the Wild Side</i> , New York: Dunbar Music, Inc., 1972

Box/Folder	Description
<u>Series III: Memorabilia, 1964-1981</u>	
Box 6	The Beatles
F. 1	“Bring Back the Beatles for the Bicentennial” sticker, 1976
F. 2	Brochures, c.1960s-1970s (two advertisements – one for a bracelet, and one for Mobile Fidelity Sound Lab’s collection of albums)
	Collector cards, c.1960s
F. 3	Beatles Diary (eleven cards with a diary entry on reverse of each card)
F. 4	Twelve selected cards (from three series numbering 1-165)
F. 5	Diary, 1965 (made in Scotland; 4x3 inches; day planner with pictures and facts about the Beatles)
F. 6	<i>A Hard Day’s Night</i> advertising booklet, c.1964
F. 7	Stamp booklet, 1964 (100 stamps)
	<i>Yellow Submarine</i> , 1968
F. 8	Cut-outs (two Blue Meanies)
F. 9	Light switch plate cover
F. 10	Mobile (some loose pieces)
F. 11	Stick-ons (two sheets)
F. 12	Ephemera, c.1966-1981 (includes three letters – one about Pink Floyd photographs; envelope with notes; postscript draft for <i>The Beatles Forever</i>)
F. 13	Promotional items, 1968-c.1970s (Pink Floyd sticker from <i>Dark Side of the Moon</i> album; The Who concert postcard; Wings cards)
<u>Series IV: Oversized Materials, 1964-1986, undated</u>	
Box 7	Memorabilia
	Beatles
F. 1	Paperweight, 1964 (6x3 inches; white with Beatles’s heads; pen holder; cracked – handle with care)
F. 2	Plastic television set, c.1964 (hologram image of John Lennon and “I’m John/Beatles”)
F. 3	“Save Lennon” pin, c.1970s (image of John Lennon’s face)
F. 4	<i>Yellow Submarine</i> pins, c.1968 (seven pins of characters from movie; 1 inch long)
Box 8	
F. 1	Bamboo plate, c.1966 (made in Taiwan; image on front of Beatles sitting in director chairs while filming <i>A Hard Day’s Night</i>)
F. 2	Map of Liverpool, England, c.1968 (cartoon depicting Beatles-related sites in city)
F. 3	Pennant, 1964 (yellow with images of Beatles’ heads)
F. 4	<i>Yesterday and Today</i> record album cover, c.1966 (“butcher” cover, possibly peeled off of original album)
Box 9	
F. 1	Flip Your Wig board game, 1964 (incomplete – missing Ringo game piece, and two cards; game board in fair condition – handle with care)
Box 10	
F. 1	Souvenir scrapbook, c.1964 (11x13.5 inches; only two clippings remain inside)
	Photographs
F. 2	David Bowie, c.1974 (two photos – one used in book <i>The British Invasion</i>)
F. 3	Mick Jagger, c.1970s (one photo)
F. 4	Keith Richards, c.1970s (one photo)
F. 5	Unidentified, undated (one photo)

Box/Folder	Description
<u>Oversized Materials (cont.)</u>	
Box 10 (cont.)	
F. 6	Program for Bob Dylan and Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, 1986 (True Confessions Tour)
Publications	
F. 7	<i>Avant Garde</i> , no. 11, 1970 Mar. (John Lennon's Erotic Lithographs cover)
F. 8	<i>Life</i> (Atlantic edition), 1968 Oct. 14 ("Confessions of the Beatles" cover; note to Schaffner inside)
F. 9	<i>Life</i> , 1969 Nov. 24 (incomplete – includes "Paul is still with us" cover and article)
F. 10	<i>Life</i> , 1969 Dec. 22 (special double issue on "The 60s" – incomplete, only the Beatles-related pages)
F. 11	<i>Look</i> , 1969 Mar. 18 ("Lennon & Ono, Inc." cover – poor condition)
F. 12	<i>Show: the magazine of films and the arts</i> , 1970 Jan. ("Inside the Beatles Business" article)
Box 11	
<i>Beatles (U.S.A.) Ltd.</i> souvenir picture books	
F. 1	1964 (twenty-six pages)
F. 2	1965 (thirty pages)
F. 3	1966 (thirty-four pages)
F. 4	<i>The British Invasion</i> sample, c.1980s (two page layout – majority of text is generic)
F. 5	<i>Cream</i> souvenir picture book, c.1960s (sixteen pages)
F. 6	Paperback book sample covers, c.1978-1983 (for two books by Schaffner: <i>The Beatles Forever</i> , and <i>The British Invasion</i>)
F. 7	<i>Yoko Ono: one woman show at Museum of Modern Art</i> , 1971 Dec. (exhibition catalog)
Box 12	
Posters	
The Beatles	
F. 1	Psychedelic image by Arti Grafiche Ricordi, 1973 Nov. (made in Milan)
F. 2	Richard Avedon photograph for <i>Look</i> magazine, 1967 (black & white)
F. 3	Paul McCartney, c.1976 (Rock Superstars Poster Magazine, no. 7; color)