

The Beatles' Marathon 'Please Please Me' Session, Hour by Hour: Michael's Rock and Roll Posse

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As all my longtime Posse members know, any backstories about The Beatles are like catnip to me. In addition, it has been a while since I shared anything with you (Twitter notwithstanding), so I pass on this small piece about the 1962 studio production of their first No. 1 song, “Please, Please Me.” I love the music, but also the unending & fascinating backstories for the greatest group ever. Looking back, it is clear their recording devices were primitive and inadequate, but god, they had the raw talent and hard work. And they only got better. It is hard to conjure what they could have done with today’s studio gear. While this song was for what became their first album, it is important to remember they had been together, tightening their act and refining their sound, for several years, in Hamburg and the UK. And, of course, they were assembling the final piece of the puzzle by securing Ringo Starr as their drummer.

I have no concerts planned until Paul Simon’s Final Tour in June, so it is a bit of a dry spell until then. We do have tickets for “Hamilton” in NYC, but it is not the spectacular original cast. Even so, I will report back after the April show. I tried without success to score some Springsteen tickets, but with no luck.

I am having cataract surgery, and honest to god, just had a serious case of shingles, which feels like a blowtorch on my skin. Of course, I am taking the pain like a man—badly, with whining and crying. Run, do not walk, to your primary care physician and get the vaccine. I cannot believe I did not do so, and I am paying the price now.

Cariños a todos,

Michael