

Pop Culture, Music, and Counterculture

Collections Resource Guide

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LJMU Special Collections and Archives hold several outstanding popular culture, music, and counterculture collections. These collections are diverse, spanning across the 20th century and into the 21st, relating to movements such as Punk and Situationism, and including material in a range of formats such as: music newspapers like *NME* and *Melody Maker*; underground newspapers; fanzines; photographs; posters; flyers; gig tickets; sheet music; original and print artwork; and books and publications about specific fashions, music, and political movements, among many other items.

This guide showcases some of our collections and items related to pop culture, music, and counterculture history to help you start your research, but isn't an exhaustive list and won't cover all the material that we hold.

You can also browse a frequently updated list of collections and subcollections tagged as relating to [Pop Culture, Music, and Counterculture](#) via our catalogue.

Email archives@ljmu.ac.uk for further information, and all enquiries and appointments. To browse all of our collections A-Z, please [visit our catalogue](#).

1966JS – 1966, Jon Savage Papers

This collection consists of the research material and manuscript drafts for Jon Savage's 2015 book *1966: The Year the Decade Exploded*. Alongside the manuscript drafts and archival research material, the collection includes the printed books which Jon Savage used as reference material in writing the publication. The collection also contains a comprehensive selection of pop music and youth press 1955-1988, such as subculture magazines such as *Creem*, *Oz*, and *Circus*, and regular publications such as *Rolling Stone*, *Record Mirror*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, and more. There are also copies of material held at the Pittsburgh Archives Andy Warhol collection related to the year 1966.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

AR – Andy Roberts' Papers

The personal and professional papers of Liverpool-based musician and composer Andy Roberts c.1963-2019 consists of: personal and professional correspondence; personal

and professional documentation; handwritten musical notes, scores, and lyrics; printed sheet music and music notes; draft scripts from theatre, film, and television which Roberts was involved in with annotations; promotional ephemera such as advertising posters, leaflets, programmes, and tickets for gigs and theatre performances; a personal gift from Sir Ian McKellen to mark the first night performance of *Bent* at the Royal Court Theatre in 1979; photographs; original drawings; zines; audio demo recordings; and an oral history interview with Andy Roberts.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

BB – Barney Bubbles Art Collection

This collection consists of original artwork and print matter by the graphic designer Barney Bubbles, the majority of which covers his later period between 1978-1983. Bubbles was known for his design work for musicians as well as the 1979 redesign of the NME magazine logo, in addition to his direction of music videos such as The Specials' 'Ghost Town.'

His papers include: sketchbooks; drawing equipment; reference ephemera; original completed artworks; gouaches; collages; photographs and negatives; slideshows; printed work including promotional material such as posters, flyers, letterheads, badges, stickers, and t shirts; album, record, LP, and singles covers; books and brochures designed by Barney Bubbles; exhibition material including catalogues; gifts from colleagues; six promotional DVD videos; and published works about Barney Bubbles and other related reference material.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

BM – Barry Miles Author's Papers

Barry Miles, born 1943, is an English author known for his writings on the British 1960s underground and counterculture scene. Among many other publications, he was the co-owner of Indica Gallery which helped start the independent newspaper *International Times*. His papers are split into three subcollections:

- **BM/BB** – This subcollection consists of Miles' papers and reference material for a proposed book on the life of Brigitte Bardot in collaboration with Simon Caulkin. The collection includes the working drafts and notes; a letter to Brigitte Bardot's agent; and reference books, magazines, periodicals, and tearsheets related to Bardot.

- [BM/PM](#) – This subcollection is one of the largest research libraries on the Beatles, consisting of the rare and unique published and archival material used by Barry Miles in his research for his published works related to the Beatles. The most significant of these works was his authorised autobiography of Paul McCartney, *Paul McCartney: Many Years From Now*, first published in 1998. The collection includes: the working drafts of this book, including early drafts with material which was later edited out, sometimes at McCartney's request; approximately 3,750 pages of clippings and tearsheets; over 500 complete magazines; almost 100 newspapers and specials published at the time of John Lennon's death; over 125 reference books; 42 cassette tape interviews with Paul McCartney conducted by Barry Miles, plus 25 other interviews with George Harrison and John Lennon, and 1,800 pages of interview transcripts; sixty VHS tapes; and over 30 bootleg CDs, including *The Beatles Complete BBC Sessions* totalling nine volumes. The earliest recording and transcript in the collection was Miles' first interview with Paul McCartney for *International Times* in December 1966.
- [BM/RS](#) – This subcollection consists of the papers and reference material for Miles' publications *The Rolling Stones: An Illustrated Discography* (1982), and *The Rolling Stones: A Visual Documentary* (1994). It includes: working drafts and notes for Miles' publications; reference books; periodicals; the Stones fanzine *Beggars Banquet Connection*; clippings and tearsheets; cassette tapes including a cassette interview with Mick Jagger, conducted 30 April 1968 by Barry Miles, the transcript for which was published in *International Times* magazine May 1968; and VHS recordings.

[ED](#) – England's Dreaming, The Jon Savage Archive

England's Dreaming is a large collection of material collated by Jon Savage around the area of the Punk, covering items which he obtained throughout his journalist career and through the writing of his book *England's Dreaming: Sex Pistols and Punk Rock*. The collection includes: interview tapes; research notes; art works; posters; photographs; and a large amount of printed material such as music publications, fanzines and national newspapers. This collection has been catalogued and is browsable [via our CalmView](#).

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

EPF – Pete Fulwell and Eric's Club Papers

This collection consists of the papers of music manager Pete Fulwell, including his management of influential punk and new wave club Eric's on Matthew Street, Liverpool, 1976-1980. The collection predominantly dates 1977-2005, consisting of: administrative records; reports; business notes and correspondence; photography; art designs; posters and other promotional materials for bands and events; tickets; audiovisual recordings of various formats; press cuttings; music magazines and underground press publications; other music ephemera; clothing merchandise; and other records related to Fulwell's business incubation and contribution within the arts to regenerating the local Liverpool economy, such as applications for a Merseyside Music Development Agency to the European Union Objective 1 European Regional Development Funds, records for the Merseyside Black Music Initiative (MBMI), and correspondence and records relating to the establishment of the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA).

It includes documentation of Fulwell's management of not only Eric's Club, but also his establishment of Eternal Records 1983-2005 and management of Liverpool bands such as The Christians, Black, It's Immaterial, and Pete Wylie, in addition to records from Fulwell's work as Head of the Music Industry Development Consultancy for Liverpool City Council between 1989 and 2000.

The collection contains a large amount of digital format material, such as master tapes, cassette tapes, CDs, DVDs, vinyl, floppy discs, and external hard drives.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

FEM/49 – Spare Rib

Spare Rib was a British counterculture feminist magazine published between 1972-1993. The magazine includes discussion of various branches of the women's liberation among other intersectional feminist topics.

This collection has been catalogued and issues we hold are browsable [via our catalogue](#). One additional issue (no.59) of *Spare Rib* is however catalogued within the England's Dreaming collection under reference [ED/2/21/49](#) because of its connection to Jon Savage's punk research. Further issues of *Spare Rib* (no.s 60, 68, 78, 107, and one undated issue) are also available via the currently uncatalogued collection [FSXS](#) Falcon Stuart and X-Ray Spex Papers.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

FSXS – Falcon Stuart and X-Ray Spex Papers

The papers of Falcon Stuart span his career c.1976-2002 as a photographer, film maker, and manager of the punk band X-Ray Spex, in addition to his work with Adam and the Ants amongst other bands such as Classix Nouveaux and Amazulu. The collection includes: original artwork; posters and other promotional materials; other tour ephemera; Stuart's photography and film; vinyl records and a variety of other format audio recordings; punk magazines and periodicals; interviews and accounts with and by Poly Styrene; legal documents; and other records related to Falcon Stuart's career.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

FV – Frankie Vaughan's Papers

Frankie Vaughan was a Liverpool-born pop singer who began his career in variety theatre in the 1940s, before progressing to film and television appearances and making a number of successful recordings in the 1950s and 1960s such as his signature 'Give me the Moonlight,' recorded 1955.

His papers contain the sheet music; scores; and orchestral and band parts used by Frankie Vaughan throughout his career.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

IOC – Index on Censorship

Index on Censorship was formed in 1972 as a quarterly magazine by Writers & Scholars International with author and translator Michael Scammel as editor. Index on Censorship promotes free expression, publishing works by censored and notable authors from around the world, exposing suppressed stories, encouraging debate, and monitoring threats to free speech. The magazine covers a range of topics, including media ethics, the social impact of journalism, the history of journalism censorship, and journalism and politics. This collection consists of the physical copies of the original Index on Censorship magazines from its launch in 1972 until 2022.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

IT – International Times (IT) Papers

International Times (IT) magazine was the first and longest lasting European underground newspaper. The newspaper ran from the mid-1960s to the mid-1980s. The

collection includes a full run of the International Times (IT) magazines, in addition to administrative papers related to its running from associated people Barry Miles, Bill Levy, and Mick Farren.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

JMS – John McCready's Situationist International Collection

The Situationist International were a notorious avant garde group of European cultural and political dissidents who emerged in July 1957. John McCready's Situationist International collection consists of reference material, leaflets, posters, and other ephemera and records related to the Situationist International organisation and movement, focusing particularly on its influence in the UK as part of John McCready's research. The collection includes both rare and unique published material, in addition to original records. This collection also contains copies of the *Internationale Situationiste*, the French-language journal of the Situationist International, which ran from 1958-1969.

Of particular note are: a number of books by Guy Debord and Asger Jom; a French board game called Mai '68 Le jeu which is a cat and mouse style game set in Paris involving one team of students and one team of police; a small selection of clothes by Vivienne Westwood and Malcolm McLaren, such as the famous Two Cowboys pillowcase t-shirt; and a Sex Pistols school lunchbox.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

JN – Jeff Nuttall: My Own Mag

Jeff Nuttall's *My Own Mag* was first published in 1963 as one of the most significant of the British 'mimeo revolution' magazines of the early and mid-sixties. The magazine was a precursor of the underground press and embodied many of the ideas which grew prominence in the latter part of the decade. This collection consists of a complete run of *My Own Mag* and *George: Son of My Own Mag*, in addition to some correspondence with Jeff Nuttall.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

JR – Jamie Reid Agit-Prop Artworks

The Agit-Prop artwork collection consists of nineteen original artworks by Jamie Reid, representing a selection of Reid's political work over a forty-four year period as a timeline of radical engagement between 1973 and 2017.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

NME – New Musical Express (NME)

New Musical Express (NME) is a British indie and pop music magazine, published every week from March 1952. It was the first British magazine to introduce a singles chart. The New Musical Express collection consists of original copies of the *New Musical Express (NME)* Magazine.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

OZ – Oz Obscenity Trial Papers

Oz was an underground magazine which originated in Sydney, Australia, in 1963, but was also published in London from 1967-1973. Oz formed an important part of the emerging counterculture of the time and is most well-known for the court case resulting from the 1970 School Kids Issue in which twenty young people aged 14-18 were given editorial freedom, resulting in a mixture of articles and cartoon strips which communicated their views on music, sexual freedom, hypocrisy, drug use, corporal punishment, and education. In 1971, Oz was raided by the Obscene Publications Squad and the editors were charged with obscenity and conspiring to 'debauch and corrupt the morals of young children.' The Oz editors were found guilty under the Obscene Publications Act and received fines and prison sentences. After an outcry by supporters and anti-censorship campaigners, the verdict was overturned at appeal.

This collection pertains to the obscenity charges and trial of 1971, including: the Oz School Kids Issue related to the trial; press cuttings; photographs; flyers; posters; and other manuscript records related to the trial. Copies of Oz magazine can also be found within the [ED](#) England's Dreaming collection.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

PF – The Peter Farrer Collection

The papers of Peter Farrer, notable crossdresser and crossdressing historian, include a wide variety of 1970s-2000s underground short-run and single-issue magazines and zines, in addition to catalogues of underground erotic publications available for

purchase. The majority of these relate to crossdressing or transgender life, and many are erotica or fetish publications. The collection may be useful in analysis related to countercultural resistances to anti-permissiveness during this period. For a comprehensive list of papers related to LGBTQ+ History, visit the requisite [resource guide](#).

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

SR – Sheila Rock Photographic Collection

Sheila Rock is an American photographer who gained notoriety following her move to London in 1970 and subsequent work with *The Face* magazine. She is particularly known for her *PUNK +* (2013) publication which documented her time in the London punk scene and sparked following exhibitions in London, Paris, Berlin, Tokyo, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

Most of this collection consists of photographs, negatives, contact sheets, digital photographs, and photographic slides taken by Sheila Rock documenting the 1970s and 1980s London punk music scene, including photographs of many notable bands and artists. The collection also includes one punk album MP3 pin badge, and a selection of other punk badges.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

TJS – Teenage, Jon Savage Papers

This collection consists of the research material and manuscript drafts for the book *Teenage: The Creation of Youth 1875-1945* by Jon Savage, published in 2007.

Alongside the manuscript drafts and archival research material, the collection includes the over 700 books which Jon Savage used as reference material in writing *Teenage*.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

TP – Ted Polhemus' Papers

Ted Polhemus is a photographer and anthropologist of fashion and the body, known for his sociological and anthropological examinations of style, the communicative importance of personal expressions within fashion, and representations of bodies within material culture.

His papers are split into three subcollections:

- [TP/ABAD](#) Anthropology of the Body, Adornment, and Dress. Themes from this subcollection include: body modifications such as tattoos, piercings, and cosmetic or plastic surgery; body image and eating disorders; body adornment; different cultural bodily norms; and representation of bodies. It contains mostly reference material such as books, magazines, and clippings, in addition to Ted Polhemus' own research notes, writing, and correspondence concerning copyright permissions.
- [TP/FF](#) Fashion and Fetishism consists of material collected and created by Ted Polhemus related to how fashion manifested within the (predominantly London-based) fetish and sex club scene, including: fetish fashion and erotic magazines; reference books; ephemera such as club flyers, business cards, and clippings; photographs; and audiovisual material.
- [TP/SS](#) Streetstyle consists of the material collected and created by Ted Polhemus related to his V&A *StreetStyle* exhibition and subsequent 1994 publication *Streetstyle: From Sidewalk to Catwalk*. It includes: photographs mostly taken by Polhemus; magazines including a full run of *i-D* and *The Face*; reference books; correspondence; London club flyers and ephemera, including fetish club promotional material; album covers; and other records related to *Streetstyle*.

[Read more about this collection here.](#)

Visual and Performance Arts

We also hold papers related to Liverpool-based visual arts festivals, cultural organisations, and creative projects, many of which would be useful to some pop culture, music, or countercultural research. These collections include:

- [VF](#) for the papers VisionFest, an annual arts festival held between 1992-1996, the precursor to Liverpool Biennial.
- [LB](#) for the papers of Liverpool Biennial festival, founded in 1998. This collection is active and receives regular new deposits.
- [AIL](#) for the papers of the cross-organisation Art in Liverpool project. This collection includes material from galleries and arts and culture organisations based in Liverpool such as FACT Gallery, the Bluecoat, Liverpool Capital of Culture 2008, and more.
- [KH](#) for the papers of Keith Hackett which documents his career in cultural and creative industries between 1992-2005.

For a comprehensive list of papers related to Liverpool Theatre and Writing, visit the requisite [resource guide](#).

Future Collections

LJMU Special Collections & Archives welcomes proposals for donations to our collections related to this theme. See our [Donations page](#) for more information.

To keep up-to-date on any future acquisitions, keep an eye on our social media for updates, and email any enquiries to archives@ljmu.ac.uk.