

# Helen Marketti's Music Corner

## The British Invasion



Music by The Beatles is over fifty years old. When one looks at photos, from film or vintage magazines, these four lads are frozen in the images that first endeared them to American culture. After The

"As I grew older I absorbed all kinds of music such as Alice Cooper, KISS, David Bowie, Queen, Mott the Hoople and Cheap Trick," said Evan. "I started being part of a singing duo in high school. I recall singing, "Yesterday" and a classmate actually cried. It struck me that music can definitely have an impact."

He continues, "Whenever the stage show, Beatlemania would be in Columbus, I would attend. I would notice things such as the guy who was portraying Paul McCartney was right handed and fans know that Paul is left handed. I have to admit I was being critical and picking apart their presentation. They were not really getting the nuances down that was part of The Beatles. As I was watching them, the vision came to me that it would be cool to do a show that included music from all of the British Invasion bands. I thought of this concept around 1984. I started looking around for other musicians who would be interested in this vision. The concept I had in my mind was to be a five-piece band like The Rolling Stones, The Hollies and the Dave Clark Five but we would also play material of four-piece bands such as The Beatles, The Kinks and so forth. I had to shelf the idea for a while because I couldn't find musicians that were interested. I wanted the concept to include vintage clothing, amplifiers, equipment, wigs, suits and Beatle boots."

"After some time had passed I finally got a band together and we would play at a club on Wednesday nights for free," recalls Evan. "One night someone stopped in wanting to hire us for a big event. That was in August of 1992. Now twenty-six years later, I am the only original member. Our current line up is myself on vocals and percussion, Tony Burlingame - bass guitar and vocals, Mike Clark - guitars and vocals, Robb Anagnostis - guitars, keyboards and vocals, Jarrod Maille - drums. The concept has

never changed. We are the ultimate tribute to 60s British rock."

The British Invasion has two summer shows at Mon Ami in Port Clinton. The dates are Sunday, June 17 and Sunday, July 22. Beatle fans have an opportunity to travel with the band to see where it all started. You will literally be with the band! "The folks that run Prime Tours approached me with the idea of doing a fan tour of Liverpool and London. It is an all-inclusive tour of many Beatle hot spots including landmarks from their songs, childhood homes and stops along their career path. It was magic made in Heaven. Our first tour group was in October of 2016. We are putting another tour for October of 2018! It is October 5 though October 13 for anyone who may



be interested. It is a magical place to walk through Beatles history," said Evan.

What is it about The Beatles and their music that fans still react, reminisce and form new legions of followers? "The music is the main reason. The body of work they did has been handed down to each new generation. It has been embraced and shared. They had an impact on style as well as music. Everything they did was powerful. We see audiences at our shows that respond to this music from ages 8 to 80."

www.thebritishinvasion.org  
www.facebook.com/  
TheBritishInvasionPage  
www.goprimetours.com



Beatles stepped over the pond to America, they led the tidal wave of bands from England who continued to tear up the airwaves. These British bands with the likes of The Rolling Stones, The Who, Dave Clark Five, The Moody Blues, The Hollies, The Yardbirds, The Zombies and many more pummeled American bands forcing them to change their approach to music.

The British Invasion is a band from Columbus, Ohio who prides themselves on taking music fans back in time for a bit of nostalgic fun. They perform the hits and hidden gems from the original British

Invasion bands of the 60s.

Evan Baisden is the creator of the band with its history and longevity as proof that people still want to hear this rockin' music. Evan shares some of his story in how such a music tribute unfolded. "When I was growing up there was a public swimming pool behind our house. They had an outdoor jukebox. I would sit on my swing and could hear great tunes that the teenagers were playing. This was during the mid-60s. Eventually, I learned the songs. I would sing them to myself. The Beatles were one of my first musical inspirations," remembers Evan. "All of those bands that came over with the first wave of the invasion were in my consciousness. I memorized their music. I have always had an affinity with The Beatles and all of the British groups."



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