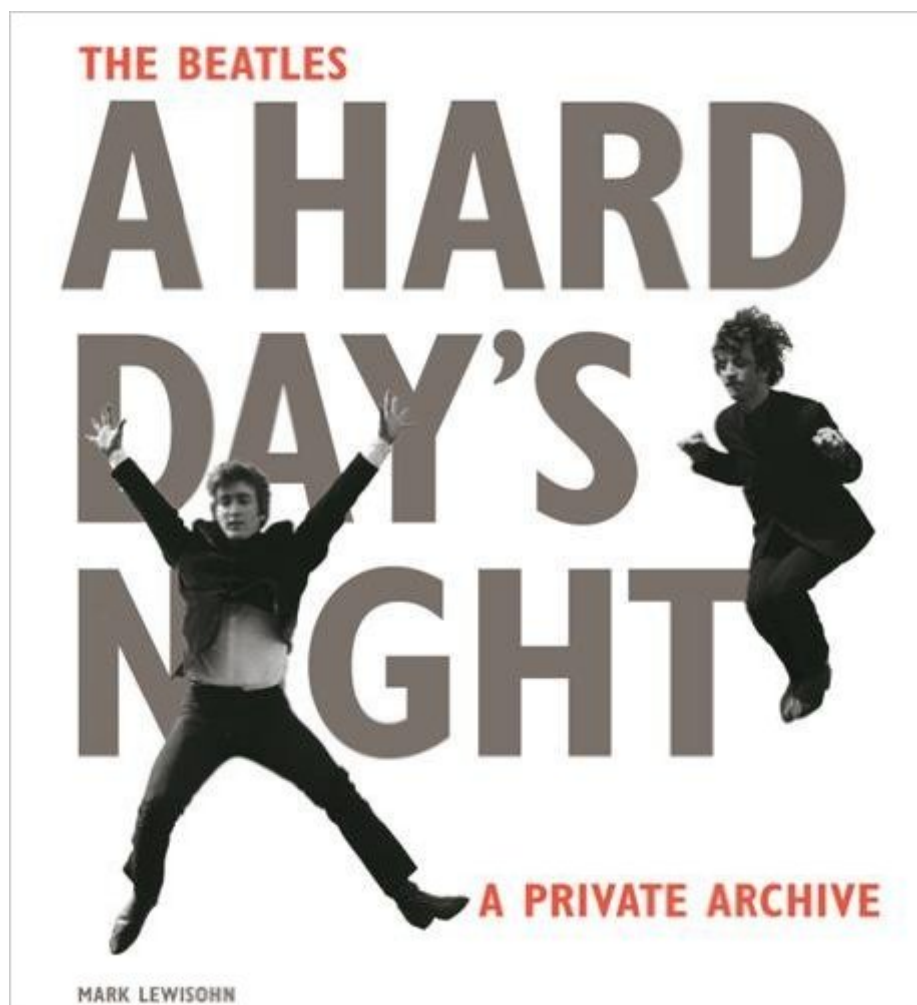


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The Beatles A Hard Day's Night: A Private Archive



Synopsis

In March of 1964 director Richard Lester began shooting *A Hard Day's Night*, a black-and-white feature film starring the Beatles. With slapstick humor and a fantastic soundtrack, the movie imagines the excitement and chaos of thirty-six hours in the life of the Fab Four, and stars John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, with Wilfrid Brambell portraying McCartney's grandfather. *The Making of A Hard Day's Night* is a collection of photographs and rare ephemera that documents the band on set and behind the scenes. This private archive captures the infectious energy and anarchic spirit of this groundbreaking film. An authoritative essay and lively captions by Beatles™ historian Mark Lewisohn provide context and explores its impact and enduring legacy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The first Beatles movie, *A Hard Day's Night*, could easily have been another "pop" film like those churned out by Elvis Presley or Cliff Richard. A thin plot, a little romance, a couple of "real" actors to help carry it and a few songs. However, the Beatles, and Brian Epstein, were looking "as always" for something different, something better, than the usual pop star fodder. In this beautifully designed, and produced, book, there is an essay by Mark Lewisohn, explaining just how, *A Hard Day's Night* came about and why it is a good film "not just a good pop film. There is also a foreword by Director, Richard Lester. However, the real bones of this book come from the private archives of the Producer, Walter Shenson. The bulk of the book contains photographs, along with original press clippings, pages from the script, fan letters and

more. This is an interesting visual record of the film and, although I had seen many of the photographs before, there are some unreleased ones. I especially enjoyed all the little extras – the letters, news stories and clippings, which gave you a real sense of the period. One of the things I really enjoyed about the DVD of *A Hard Day's Night*, when it was re-released, were the interviews with all the people who worked on it – from fellow actors to those who did hair and sound. It would have been lovely to have had some interviews with those associated with the film in this book, but sadly these were not included. This is much more a visual record and it is beautifully designed, with good quality paper and many of the extra pieces, such as letters, on thick, weaved cloth like paper, which are inserted at intervals into the book.

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