

# HAIGHT STREET VOICE

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## Remembering The Summer of Love: Bringin' Love - and Music - to Vietnam

*"Never give up seeking and following the paths that create and provide positive purpose in your life and benefit the happiness of others."*

-- 2017 Summer of Love wish from veteran Steve Brown

With all the media attention on the Summer of Love, we wrangled with ways to make this third edition of HSV unique somehow, to keep it *real*. And it doesn't get more real than Steve Brown, who was serving in Vietnam during the Summer of Love. After all, the incredible beauty that blossomed during the summer of '67 never would have occurred without the radical contrast of the darkness that was going on in that horrific war overseas.

Seventy-two-years young, Steve Brown was born and raised in San Francisco with a passion for music, nature, surfing, history, filmmaking -- and sharing it *all*. After years in radio and the record industry, he wound up working closely with Jerry Garcia and Grateful Dead Records in the early '70s. But it's the story of what led up to that time that we want to share with you here. The following is excerpted from an interview with Steve that we covered along with BBC Radio Wales -- where, even in a teeny little town called Penarth, they experienced the

Summer of Love in 1967 all the way across the pond.

We love you and everything you are -- take it away, Steve!

**Steve Brown:** I felt kind of like a music missionary. I was over there spreading the Summer of Love to our soldiers in Vietnam. Literally, I kind of was. [laughs]. I was running a recording studio to send this music out, and it would go to the ships, and the ships would have an entertainment system where there were speakers .... [con't on page 3]



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**Congratulations to the Haight-Ashbury Community for keeping the spirit of the Summer of Love. Brian Rohan and Michael Stepanian founded the Haight-Ashbury Legal Association 50 years ago with support from Bill Graham. We represented the Haight -Ashbury Street Community during the Summer of Love. Nobody went to jail.**



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## Summer of Love: Bringin' Love - and Music - to Vietnam

....(*Vietnam - con't*) My connection with the Summer of Love was that I had to journey all the way over to Vietnam and still kind of keep the juice alive. It was funny because some of the ships would be based out of San Francisco so when they were in home port in SF, they would have stories about going to the Fillmore and going to the Avalon and how cool the scene was in the Haight-Ashbury. So there was a kind of a nice feeling that I wasn't that far from home when I was all the way across the Pacific in this land where people were waging war. It made it almost this kind of, like I said, missionary journey, which really made it nice.

One time I was on this supply ship and I'm walking along with this film crew, and all of a sudden I hear my voice coming out of the speaker system on one of my radio shows. It was a very surreal, out-of-body experience, to hear yourself on another ship all the way over there in Vietnam. That kind of stuff was, you know, memorable. [laughs].

**BBC:** You were a part of the war. So how was that for you to be part of Vietnam, disconnected from a movement that you felt close to?

**SB:** Well, I never disconnected myself from it. That was the secret. I was actually pretty vocal about it, against anything to do with this ridic-

ulous war that was going on over there. And with the counterculture scene back in SF manifesting as far as a new way to help other humans living a peaceful and happy and healthy life was something that I was still promoting while I was in Vietnam.

I got in trouble for it a few times, like, "Get a haircut, Brown!" It really wasn't very much of a secret, believe me. There were a lot of guys over there, and women too, that weren't trying to be promoting war. They were really only trying to help get everybody home safe, one way or another. I was doing the best I could with the situation. And I didn't hesitate. There were peace signs on the lockers in the ships ....

Read the full interview: [https://www.](https://www.facebook.com/HaightStreetVoice/)

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Ohio to San Francisco, 1967. Photo by Herb Greene.

ON THE  
ROAD  
TO THE  
SUMMER  
LOVE



On view at the California Historical Society  
through September 24, 2017

## Annette Rose: Being 25 in 1967

*We met Annette Rose at the California Historical Society, celebrating the exhibit “On the Road to the Summer of Love”. She was radiant and divine, and we knew we needed to hear her story....*

**HSV: You were 25 at the Summer of Love, and you know exactly what you were wearing?**

AR: I was wearing a cream-colored ankle-length dress that laced up the front, a bit like a rancher lady dress. The fabric had tiny pink roses with green stems. I was wearing a straw hat.

**HSV: Did you know that you were in the middle of something big, historically?**

AR: I was old enough -- I mean I'm very old now, but it seemed very old then. I was older than most college students at that time because I'd dropped out and come back, because I'd traveled around and gone to Mexico and blah, blah, blah. I was married, we didn't have kids yet but I was just a little bit more stable, I think. We were part of an enormous thing, and I knew we were part of an enormous thing. It

wasn't just being in a big crowd, it was that I knew that this was really important. That whole thing, “The times they are a changin'.”

**HSV: So you're there at the Summer of Love and you knew something big was going on.**

**What do you want to say to the kids today, and the people that don't even know what it was? Speak of what that was, and what the message is.**



AR: What I would say if I could to them would be know that what you're doing right now is as important as anything you'll ever do. Be conscious, make your choices, be the best you can be because it's going to show up later. Right now, you're young, you might feel that you don't have any power, but you have enormous power and an

enormous influence on the future, and you want to have a really positive influence on your future.

And the one thing that I can say that I'm proud of is that I think my generation had an enormously positive influence on our future. ....

Read the full article: <https://www.facebook.com/HaightStreetVoice/>



love

## Now Share Love: The Summer of Unconditional Love

*At NowShareLove, a new non-profit media project, founders Kip and Evan campaign on the platform of LOVE, and recognize the Summer of Love 50th anniversary as an opportunity to examine the values that started the Love Movement in the '60s: empathy, altruism, kindness, acceptance and collaboration, to name a few. Here's a few words from these two pioneering spirits. Bravo guys!.*

We seek to inspire participation in co-creating a peaceful world that nurtures the thriving of all life.

Many today find ourselves feeling precarious about our future and remorseful for how our culture had coaxed us into neglecting the impact that our lifestyles have on each other and the planet. At NowShareLove, we see an opportunity to reinvigorate the LOVE Movement, share a collective deep breath, definitely a massive group hug, and re-think our position in the world; individually and collectively. Let's explore what it would take to finally realize the dream of us all and evolve into the elusive "Love Paradigm", something about which you can read more on our website.



What was the predominant desire for change in the original Summer of Love in 1967? That we all achieve a peaceful co-existence on Earth by uniting through our innate LOVE, and exercise compassion and understanding towards each other. That those in positions of authority make decisions that serve the interests of the people and the planet. That we are all treated equally, fairly, and humanely, no matter our cultural heritage, familial background, skin color, appearance, physical condition, beliefs, gender association, sexual orientation, what we earn, or how much money we have in the bank. That we pay attention to the impact that our actions and words (and even thoughts) have on ourselves, each other, and the world around us.

That we protect our precious Earth, the only known place for us to live. Do these desires for change still resonate and have relevance today? We think so. Therefore, we look at the Summer of Unconditional LOVE this year as an opportunity to bring back to the forefront of our conversations the utopian world envisioned half a century ago in which we can all thrive. Isn't it high time? PEACE!  
[www.nowsharelove.org](http://www.nowsharelove.org)

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## Up & Coming Locals: Uncle Riffkin, West Coast Roots



*“Uncle Riffkin is an Americana rock band from SF. Their original music blends raw energy with a vibe of four-chords-and-the truth.”*

*Yes that, and they happen to be our neighbors. We’ve been watching the talented and intriguing Uncle Riffkin now for two years and are happy to share that they’re realizing a new album this summer. We recently sat down with Mike (guitar) and Seth (mandolin) and Tom (guitar) over a beer or two, and here’s what ensued ...*

**HSV: There’s a huge family vibe with you guys ...**

**Mike:** We want to provide an experience for people. It’s about coming together. We just happen to be there playing music. It’s creating that community.

**Tom:** We joke around that we’re a non-confrontational band, and I think it’s pretty accurate.

**HSV: You guys are like mountain music,**

**playing on your back porch ...**

**Seth:** Exactly. Back porch rock and roll. [laughter]

**HSV: Where are you today, musically?**

**SS:** The idea never was that we were going to be a bluegrass band or a rock band. It was whatever music we started to make was going to be what we focused on.

**MV:** What is the sound of Uncle Riffkin?

**TR:** Without limits.

**MV:** Without limits, that’s a super important part. Any influence, anything. It will keep evolving.

**SS:** I think that’s a really key part of what we’re doing. When we’re writing songs, it’s: What can we make right now? What are we going to do to make that even better?

**MV:** Which connects with the Summer of Love. Personally, the music of that time, the bands that influenced me the most were always evolving.

**HSV:** “Evolve” has come up many times in this interview ...

**TR:** That’s cuz there’s “love” in “evolve ...”

Read the full article: <https://www.facebook.com/HaightStreetVoice/>





## The Women Behind the Ivy Room by Loose Lane

*By the time I got here, the Summer of Love had long faded away, but I have no regrets moving to a place that embodies the Bay Area bottom line of that summer of 1967. There are certain places that immediately give one that same bottom line, like the Ivy Room in Albany, CA. Owners Lani Torres and Summer Gerbing have the spirit that is Bay Area roots. I spoke with Lani and got a little insight into the “new” Ivy Room, along with the history of this Bay Area treasure.*

**Loose Lane: Are you planning any “Summer of Love” celebrations at the Ivy Room?**

**Lani Torres:** There’s so much going on in other places that I didn’t feel that it was necessary. I feel like The Summer of Love was the starting point for all this diversity that we are so lucky to have in our city. [It] highlights the kaleidoscope of people, culture and music that we still see being lived out today.

**LL: What are some of your favorite genres?**

They were kicked off by my parents giving me their Summer of Love albums. So it started with Jimi Hendrix, Jefferson Airplane, Janis Joplin, Joni Mitchell and on and on from there. I’d have to say all genres are my favorites.

**LL: The IVY ROOM has been left in good**

**hands. We wish you years of future success and we are looking forward to the shows, the good times and the legends that you are in your own right.**

**LT:** Thank you Loose Lane and thank you Haight Street Voice. See you at the Ivy!

*The Ivy Room is at 860 San Pablo Ave, Albany, CA (510) 526-5888 - <http://ivy-room.com>*

*facebook:<https://www.facebook.com/ivy-roomalbany/>*

*Read the full article: <https://www.facebook.com/HaightStreetVoice/>*



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## “Satchmo” by Reet



*“When I was young, I liked helicopters. The Army told me if i could show them I had the stuff for it, they’d let me fly ‘em. Empty choppers were being pushed off flight decks into the Pacific when I started, and a 28-year career of nothing much worth mentioning ensued.”*

--Reet

Gray-haired and weathered, Reet is often seen in the ‘hood laying in his sleeping bag, writing profusely, blue eyes radiant with wisdom and stories. We inquired with this lovely old soul one day, and he kindly agreed to share his writing with us.

*What is up there if there be no Satchmo?*

*Kid out of Jane’s Alley put down a gun and picked up a horn.*

*Up the river with the King and Teagarden, Chicago, Hot Fives, Hot Sevens.*

*A blacksmith at a forge; stone, brick, five bellows, hot iron hammered, lexicographer of the vocabulary, spellbinder of its alphabet.*

*Jazz man, jazz.*

*Mostly silent instruments -- a ton to start out, then after the war, the never before other world vocals.*

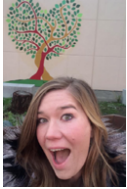
*You must gage his licks from The Five Spot or you will not duplicate the spatial conception.*

*In 1969, global headlines read, “Armstrong Walks Upon the Moon” but this is already fresh news local for decades.*





## Music's Message: Then & Now by Timbre Mays



*Timbre is a 28--year-old mother of two incredibly free-spirited little girls, and it's clear where they get it from. We're delighted to have this local beauty share her feelings about the importance of music in today's world -- more than ever.*

Music is a universal language, a way to reach across barriers to promote unity, happiness and love. These days, it seems many are more concerned about record sales as opposed to the message they could be spreading.

What happened to John Lennon's "Imagine" and Bob Marley's "One Love"? Many young people don't even know these songs -- let alone apply their meaning. What happened to yesterday's lyrical geniuses who wrote about how actual events were affecting society as a whole? What happened to reaching out to change our perception?

Bob Dylan wrote "A Hard Rain's a-Gonna Fall" in the summer of 1962 during the Vietnam War. The song depicts a young person telling his father what he encountered during his worldly travels: "Stepped in the middle of seven sad forests". Maybe Dylan was predicting what war could do to our Mother Earth. He continues with,

*"I saw guns and swords in the hands of young children" -- not unlike the war-torn countries of today. But perhaps the most meaningful lyric is, "The executioner's face is always well hidden." This rings true with today as the executioner is always placing blame elsewhere.*

For decades, the Dead did their best to promote awareness and consciousness. They had a worldwide following generating peace, love, kindness, acceptance and unity. In 1987's "Throwing Stones" it seems they're warning us of what may come: *"Money green, proletarian grey, selling guns instead of food today."*

I hope younger generations are becoming more aware and thinking for themselves. I would hate to be a sheep and stay in the pasture. I want to be an eagle and fly, spreading liberty and justice.



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*Hailing from Manhattan, Amanda Brock is a lifelong lover of peace and happiness. A connection to music brought Amanda joy and creativity beyond her wildest dreams and she continues to keep the flame in the spirit of Jerry, and the entire counterculture movement of the '60s with reverence and gratitude for the hippies, revolutionaries and activist soldiers that came before her. She serves her community as a nutritional and independent consultant for health and wellness products, but also loves growing food, SCUBA diving, crochet and, of course, dancing in the street.*

Belief is a beautiful creator. A team of wildly inspirational yogis in New Jersey who drank kombucha while drawing up a business plan (to help friends and family live cleaner, healthier lifestyles) encouraged me to launch and run my own. Thanks to their support, my dreams of changing the world were given the opportunity to thrive, and transformation escalated.

Years later, I'm preparing my business for Dead & Company tour and the 50th anniversary of the most important celebration of love and peace that has graced American history. With the extraordinary demand for health and wellness products flourishing, and a business model that works through word of mouth, my vision is to share Arbonne with anyone and everyone ready for a more extraordinary life.

As a vegetarian lover of divine nature, living at the transition of one era into another, I see the need for positive pursuits and empowerment, and believe in the magic of unity. What better time to build a team of motivated, supportive visionaries with unstoppable belief?

I encourage my friends and family of the Haight and beyond to open their minds and hearts to Arbonne - a vegan, Swiss-based company of dreamweavers with belief in a vision to make people with hearts millionaires. We're expanding globally with clean, kind (non-GMO and gluten free!) community values a hippie can really appreciate.



# Making Out With Molly

questionable sex & dating advice



*Molly Barata is a San Francisco artist from Wisconsin. She loves cake, root beer and dogs. She is in no way qualified to answer your questions. Email your questions to [makingoutwithmolly1@gmail.com](mailto:makingoutwithmolly1@gmail.com) or Instagram [@mollybarata](https://www.instagram.com/mollybarata).*

**Dear Molly: My partner wants an open relationship. I'm open minded, but I'm not sure I could handle the jealousy. Should I try it out?**

Listen, this is the dawning of the age of Aquarius, and polyamory is all the rage. Tell him you're cool with it, but when he starts sleeping with someone else, start crying and accuse him of cheating. That way, he'll never tell you when he sleeps with someone again, and you can pretend he isn't and just live blissfully in denial like a normal person.

**Dear Molly: I've been with my partner for 5 years now. Everything is great, except our sex life is boring and unsatisfying. I can't stop thinking about having sex with other people. What should I do?**

If your sex life sucks, something is probably wrong with your relationship. Sex is important. You should try an open relationship! I happen to know someone who's looking for one...

This girl I just started seeing wants to take me to an Ayahuasca ceremony. I've heard it's common to expel your bowels and vomit. We just started dating and I don't want her to see me in that vulnerable state. I do want to try it though, and it would mean a lot to her. Should I go for it?

Any excuse to shit your pants as an adult and not be judged is a good enough reason for me.

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## Street Person Spotlight: Epiphany & Journals



*We recently spotted two troubadours busking on Haight. Nothing new to see, but we'd never experienced them before, and their good vibe caught our attention. They've since hit the road, as travelers do, but here's a bit of who they are. Enjoy!*

**Journals:** I hail from Upstate New York. I started busking about 6 months ago, making my way around the East Coast and now up the West for the first time in my life. I make by with the kindness of humanity. What lured me personally to SF was the stories of other travelers. Haight Street's vortex pulled me in for Bicycle Day and spit me out a month later -- happily so. This place is overwhelming.

Not having a job becomes your job: the rain, the cold, the police and tweeky people suck. However, I get to go wherever I want and meet incredible beings, see beautiful sights and live.

The Summer of Love is something I know little about, however, it's here, man, it never left. Love is everywhere, we just have to open our hearts. Honesty is all I wish to convey in my music and to reach an audience without deaf ear we take pictures from our transient lifestyle almost daily. I hope you all do everything you can to do the things you want to do. *instagram = happymelted*

**Epiphany:** I'm 20. I come from Maine. I've been traveling with Journals for six months. I was in SF for a month. I loved it, and busking was good there. But it's absolutely a vortex. I think the Summer of Love is too commercialized, but Journals and I are not too informed on that ordeal. If you find the right people, I assume it'll be cool, though. I'll come back to Frisco next Bicycle Day for sure [heart].

**HSV: Word of advice about Haight Street?**

E: Don't eat Manford's mystery sandwiches, but do try his tea. (Manford gives dirty kids food for free every night at 5pm-ish on the steps by Buena Vista Park).

