



The Museum at Bethel Woods: Sixties Timeline

1960

- February 1, 1960** Sit-in at Woolworth's in Greensboro, North Carolina
- March 2, 1960** Elvis leaves US Army and returns to music
- April 14, 1960** *Bye Bye Birdie* opens in New York
- May 5, 1960** U-2 spy plane incident
- July 11, 1960** Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* published
- September 5, 1960** Muhammad Ali (then known as Cassius Clay) wins light heavyweight boxing gold medal at 1960 Olympics
- November 8, 1960** John F. Kennedy elected president
- December 31, 1960** The Kingston Trio's folk record *Here We Go Again* is fifth best selling album of 1960

1961

- February 12, 1961** "Shop Around" by the Miracles becomes Motown's first million selling single
- March 1961** Peace Corps founded
- April 17, 1961** Bay of Pigs invasion
- May 25, 1961** President Kennedy announces America will reach the moon by end of the decade
- August 12, 1961** Berlin Wall built in middle of the night
- October 18, 1961** *West Side Story* soundtrack released

1962

- January 13, 1962** "The Twist" by Chubby Checker becomes the top selling single in America
- February 20, 1962** John Glenn is first American to orbit the earth
- February 22, 1962** Kennedy speaks at Berlin Wall
- June 1, 1962** Ray Charles releases *Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music*
- July 10, 1962** Telstar, the world's first communications satellite, launches in orbit, inspiring the instrumental hit *Telstar*
- September 1962** Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* published
- September 1962** James Meredith enrolls in the University of Mississippi
- October, 1962** The United States and Soviet Union reach the brink of war over nuclear missiles in Cuba

1963

- April 6, 1963** First broadcast of *Hootenanny*, ABC's folk music variety show
- May 11, 1963** Peter, Paul and Mary's "Puff The Magic Dragon" reaches #2 on the charts. They also released "Blowin' in the Wind" later in the year
- August 28, 1963** 200,000 March on Washington in support of Civil Rights
- September 15, 1963** The 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama is bombed, killing four young African American girls
- October 10, 1963** Limited Test Ban Treaty restricts above ground nuclear testing
- November 22, 1963** John F. Kennedy assassinated in Texas

1964

- February 10, 1964** Dylan releases *The Times They Are A-Changin'*

February 9, 16, 23, 1964

The Beatles appear on *The Ed Sullivan Show* three times in a row, launching the British Invasion

April 4, 1964

The top five singles in America are all songs by The Beatles; the group has seven others in the top 100

June 11, 1964

The Civil Rights Act passed by Congress

June 22, 1964

Three young civil rights workers are reported missing in Mississippi; their bodies are found six weeks later

July 25, 1964

Congress passes landmark anti-poverty bill as part of President Johnson's Great Society program

August 7, 1964

Gulf of Tonkin Resolution passed in Congress

October 14, 1964

Martin Luther King wins Nobel Peace Prize

1965

April 12, 1965

The Byrds release "Mr. Tambourine Man"

June 1965

James Brown releases "Papa's Got a Brand New Bag"

July 26, 1965

President Johnson announces a troop buildup in Vietnam and doubles draft quotas. Number of US troops in South Vietnam is 125,000

July 30, 1965

President Johnson signs the bill establishing Medicare and Medicaid

August 6, 1965

President Johnson signs Voting Rights Act

August 11, 1965

Race riots break out in Watts

August 1965

Bob Dylan releases "Like a Rolling Stone"

November 1965

The Mamas and the Papas release "California Dreamin'"

1966

March 5, 1966

"Ballad of the Green Berets" by Sgt. Barry Sadler becomes the best selling single in America

- April 1966** The Beach Boys release *Pet Sounds*
- June 1966** National Organization of Women (NOW) founded to lobby for women's rights
- June 1966** President Johnson announces bombing campaign against North Vietnam; number of US troops in South Vietnam reaches 285,000
- August 8, 1966** The Beatles release *Revolver*
- September 12, 1966** The Monkees TV show goes on the air

1967

- January 14, 1967** The Human Be-In takes place in Golden Gate Park
- May 8, 1967** Muhammad Ali indicted for refusing to report to his draft board as a protest against Vietnam
- June 1, 1967** The Beatles release *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*
- June 18, 1967** Jimi Hendrix burns his guitar at the Monterey International Pop Festival
- Summer 1967** Summer of Love festivals held in San Francisco and spread throughout the country
- August 30, 1967** Thurgood Marshall confirmed as first African American on the Supreme Court
- November 9, 1967** First issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine released
- December 21, 1967** *The Graduate* opens in movie theatres

1968

- January 30, 1968** Tet Offensive begins in Vietnam
- April 4, 1968** Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated in Tennessee
- April 23, 1968** Student protesters take over buildings at Columbia University
- April 29, 1968** *HAIR* opens on Broadway

- June 5, 1968** Robert F. Kennedy assassinated in California
- July 1968** The Band releases *Music from Big Pink*
- August 21, 1968** Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia ends the Prague Spring
- August 26, 1968** Democratic National Convention in Chicago marred by clashes between protestors and police
- November 9, 1968** Nixon elected president
- 1969**
- May 23, 1969** The Who release the rock opera album *Tommy*
- June 8, 1969** Nixon announces the withdrawal of 25,000 troops from Vietnam
- July 14, 1969** *Easy Rider* opens in US movie theaters
- July 21, 1969** Neil Armstrong walks on the moon
- August 9-10, 1969** Charles Manson's "family" murders seven people in Los Angeles
- August 15-18, 1969** Woodstock Music and Art Fair
- October 16, 1969** New York Mets win the World Series
- November 10, 1969** First broadcast of *Sesame Street*
- December 6, 1969** Four fans are killed during the Altamont Music Festival