

**MUSIC  
BOX  
THEATRE**

**WBEZ91.5**

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**For Immediate Release:**

High-res images of all films are available for download by clicking [here](#)

**THE MUSIC BOX SUMMER MUSIC FILM FESTIVAL PARTNERS  
WITH *SOUND OPINIONS* FOR SOME OF THE GREATEST MUSICAL  
STORIES EVER FILMED**

**WBEZ'S Greg Kot and Jim DeRogatis host closing-night screening of  
LCD Soundsystem doc *Shut Up and Play the Hits***

Chicago is home to some of the greatest music festivals. Now, for the second year, the Music Box Theatre and WBEZ's *Sound Opinions* partner to relive some of the greatest musical stories ever caught on film. The 2012 **Summer Music Film Festival** features three new films and two classic concert documentaries at the historic Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Avenue in Chicago, July 30-August 2, 2012. Four days of film devoted to music culminate with a closing-night screening of ***Shut Up and Play the Hits*** hosted by *Sound Opinions* co-hosts **Jim DeRogatis** and **Greg Kot**. Tickets are on sale now at musicboxtheatre.com.

The Summer Music Film Festival opens Monday, July 30, with two rock 'n' roll classics. ***Monterey Pop***, directed by D.A. Pennebaker (*Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars; The War Room*), documents the 1967 Monterey International Pop Festival, which preceded Woodstock by two years. The vérité concert film features the music of The Jimi Hendrix Experience, The Who, Big Brother and the Holding Company with Janis Joplin, Otis Redding, Ravi Shankar and many others in iconic performances. *Monterey Pop* is accompanied by the movie dubbed "rock and roll Zaprunder" by *Film Comment's* Amy Taubin. ***Gimme Shelter***, directed by David and Albert Maysles (*Grey Gardens*) and Charlotte Zwerin (*Thelonious Monk: Straight, No Chaser*) documents The Rolling Stones on the last 10 days of their 1969 US tour, from an ecstatic show at Madison Square Garden to a deadly free-for-all at

San Francisco's Altamont Speedway. These two films tell some of the most important musical stories from the end of the Sixties. They repeat Tuesday, July 31.

It has been 25 years since Paul Simon released his groundbreaking, Grammy-winning album *Graceland*. Joe Berlinger's new documentary ***Under African Skies*** begins with Simon's emotional 2011 journey back to South Africa and the roots of his seminal album, then unfolds into a kaleidoscopic portrait of the turbulent birth and ever-shifting life of a work of art.

Musical maverick Andrew Bird is the subject of the extraordinary (and soon-to-be out of circulation) documentary ***Andrew Bird: Fever Year (2011)***. Kartemquin Films' Xan Aranda directs this award-winning concert film, which takes an illuminating look at the Northwestern University-educated multi-instrumentalist. *Fever Year* features a Chicago subject and a Chicago-, Minneapolis- and Milwaukee-based crew. This will likely be the final screening of ***Andrew Bird: Fever Year*** in Chicago for several years; the film *will not* be available on DVD or elsewhere, by choice of Andrew Bird, who commissioned and owns the film.

When LCD Soundsystem played its final show on April 2, 2011, at Madison Square Garden critics and fans agreed it was among the greatest musical events of the last decade. ***Shut Up and Play the Hits*** (Dylan Southern and Will Lovelace, 2012) is the documentary about that concert and its architect, LCD Soundsystem frontman James Murphy. The first Chicago screening at the Music Box sold more than 700 tickets in two minutes. Subsequent screenings have been added and sold out. This special screening at the Music Box Summer Music Film Festival will be the last opportunity for Chicago to see, on the big screen, this amazing film. The screening will be hosted by *Sound Opinions* hosts Jim DeRogatis and Greg Kot as a special closing night event.

#### **SCHEDULE:**

Monday, July 30, 2012

7:30 *Monterey Pop*  
9:15 *Gimme Shelter*

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

5:30 *Gimme Shelter*  
7:30 *Under African Skies*  
9:45 *Monterey Pop*

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

7:30 *Fever Year*

Thursday, August 2, 2012

7:30 *Shut Up and Play the Hits*

**TICKETS:** All regular screenings are \$11 at [www.musicboxtheatre.com](http://www.musicboxtheatre.com) or at the theater box office; WBEZ Members can get tickets for \$8 by using "WBEZ" as a coupon code during purchase online, over the phone, or in person.

#### **ABOUT THE FILMS:**



***MONTEREY POP*** (D.A. Pennebaker, 1968, HD Cam). Forty-five years later we look back at one of the most influential music events of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The Monterey International Pop Festival ran for three days in June 1967. The live performances were spectacularly successful. Janis Joplin, who was singing with Big Brother and the Holding Company, pulled out all the stops with a raw, powerful performance that helped establish her as the preeminent female rock singer of her day. The Who climaxed a brilliant set by smashing their equipment at the conclusion of “My Generation.” Jimi Hendrix offered an awesome display of his virtuosity as a guitarist and as a showman, humping his Marshall amplifiers and then setting his Stratocaster ablaze. Otis Redding, the dynamic soul man, turned in what many present believe was the festival’s best performance.

***GIMME SHELTER*** (David Maysles, Albert Maysles and Charlotte Zwerin, 1970, 35mm Film). Considered the greatest rock film ever made, this landmark documentary follows The Rolling Stones on their notorious 1969 U.S. tour. When 300,000 members of the Love Generation collided with a few dozen Hells Angels at San Francisco’s Altamont Speedway, Direct Cinema pioneers David and Albert Maysles and Charlotte Zwerin were there to immortalize on film the bloody slash that transformed a decade’s dreams into disillusionment.

***UNDER AFRICAN SKIES*** (Joe Berlinger, 2012, DCP). Paul Simon’s Grammy-winning album *Graceland* was an immediate hit and lightning rod for controversy when it was released in 1986. South African leaders protested that Simon had broken the cultural boycott of the nation’s oppressively racist apartheid regime. In this documentary, Simon returns to South Africa— 25 years after *Graceland*’s release. Director Joe Berlinger (*Paradise Lost 3: Purgatory*) follows Simon as he reunites with his South African collaborators, and revisits the controversy the album caused, while luminaries like Oprah Winfrey, Quincy Jones, Lorne Michaels, David Byrne and Sir Paul McCartney share their thoughts on what the album meant to them.

***ANDREW BIRD: FEVER YEAR*** (Xan Aranda, 2011, HD Cam). Filmed during the culminating months of the acclaimed singer-songwriter’s most rigorous year of touring, Andrew Bird crosses the December finish line in his hometown of Chicago – feverish and on crutches from an onstage injury. Is he suffering hazards from chasing the ghost of inspiration? Or merely transforming into a different kind of animal “perfectly adapted to the music hall?” *Fever Year* is the first to capture Bird’s precarious multi-instrumental looping technique and features live performances at Milwaukee’s Pabst Theater with collaborators Martin Dosh, Jeremy Ylvisaker, Michael Lewis and Annie Clark of St. Vincent.

***SHUT UP AND PLAY THE HITS*** (Dylan Southern and Will Lovelace, 2012, DCP). On April 2, 2011, LCD Soundsystem played its final show at Madison Square Garden. LCD frontman James Murphy had made the conscious decision to disband

one of the most celebrated and influential bands of its generation at the peak of its popularity, ensuring that the band would go out on top with the biggest and most ambitious concert of its career. The instantly sold out, near four-hour extravaganza did just that, moving the thousands in attendance to tears of joy and grief, with *New York* magazine calling the event “a marvel of pure craft” and *Time* magazine lamenting “we may never dance again.” ***Shut Up and Play the Hits*** is simultaneously a document of a once-in-a-lifetime performance and an intimate portrait of Murphy as he navigates both the personal and professional ramifications of his decision.

**About the Music Box Theatre:** For nearly 30 years the Music Box Theatre has been the premiere venue in Chicago for independent and foreign films, festivals and some of the greatest cinematic events in Chicago. It currently has the largest cinema space operated full time in the city. The Music Box Theatre is independently owned and operated by the Southport Music Box Corporation. SMBC, through its Music Box Films division, also distributes foreign and independent films in the theatrical, DVD and television markets throughout the United States. For additional information please visit [www.musicboxtheatre.com](http://www.musicboxtheatre.com) . Download the entire Music Box Theatre Summer Calendar here:

[http://www.musicboxtheatre.com/assets/calendars/MusicBox\\_Summer2012.pdf](http://www.musicboxtheatre.com/assets/calendars/MusicBox_Summer2012.pdf)

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**FILMMAKER INTERVIEWS:** **D.A. Pennebaker** (*Monterey Pop*) and **Joe Berlinger** (*Under African Skies*) are available for advance phoners. **Xan Aranda** (*Andrew Bird: Fever Year*) is available in person or by phone.

**SCREENERS:** A limited number of screeners are available for ***Andrew Bird: Fever Year*** and ***Under African Skies***. A limited number of seats are available for press for 7/18 and 7/23 screenings of ***Shut Up and Play the Hits***. Press may inquire about either with [dave@musicboxtheatre.com](mailto:dave@musicboxtheatre.com) .

**ARTWORK:** High-res images of all films are available for download by clicking [here](#).

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