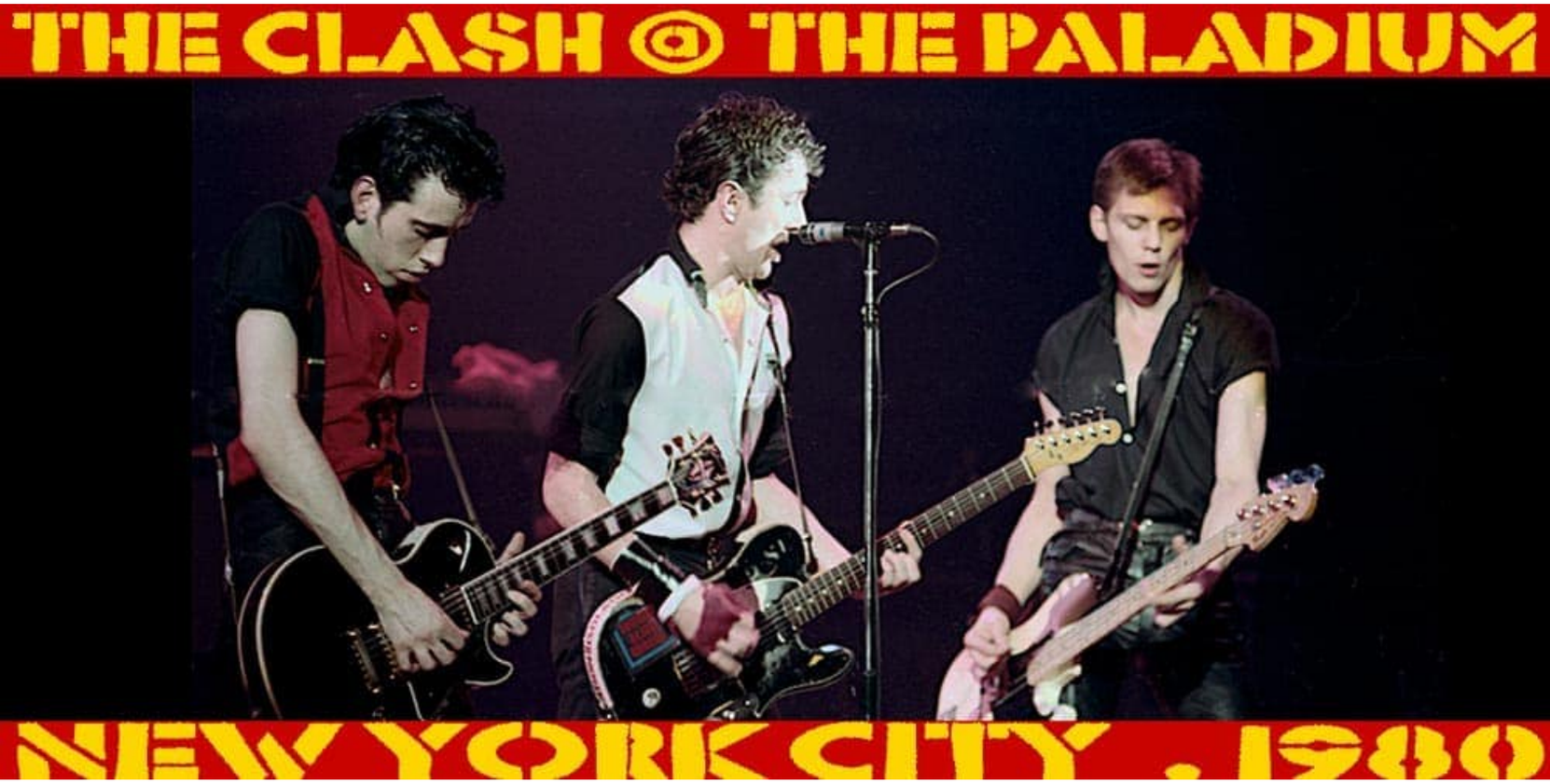


Sunday / September 28, 2008

The Clash @ The Palladium NYC 1980

MUSIC, THE CLASH

20 Comments

In 1980 I was attending school at CW Post Center of Long Island University. I was also sharing an apartment in Oyster Bay Long Island with 3 women: Cande Roth, Ellyn Solis, and Dorothy (Orant) Morrison. The night I moved into this insane asylum I ended three years of being a non-smoker. I purchased that pack of Newports … and torched up the first smoke, and didn't quit again until the early 90's.

In my years at Post I was a communications major and later film major. I also did radio shows on the college station WCWP 88.1 on the FM dial. I also was a photographer for an NYC club magazine called Non-LP B-Side. Those were some exciting times. Musicly there was the whole UK & US punk explosion that brought so much amazing and exciting music. I use to spend a lot of my extra cash either at Bleaker Bob's in NYC or a few of the independent music stores on Long Island that specialized in British imports. Buying the latest import singles & LPs my radio shows were something to hear. I loved bands like The Clash, The Jam, The Sex Pistols, XTC, Elvis Costello, Ian Dury And The Blockheads, Fashion, Richard Hell And The Voidoids, Tom Verlaine with or without Television, Graham Parker, The Undertones, Ultravox, The Ramones, Talking Heads, Haircut 100, The Stranglers, all the assorted Stiff and Two-Tone bands and so much more. And what money I didn't spend there I was spending on photographing some of these bands and paying to have the film processed at professional color labs, in NYC or on "Lonkisland".

Dorothy was also an avid musicologist and fan girl of so many of those bands. That was one of our many connections. She also turned me onto a lot of stuff that she loved too. We influenced each other. Hell ... when I met this girl she was "sittin' on the hood of a Dodge" in the parking lot at the Spectrum in Philadelphia. A friend of mine, Kevin Therian, and I were waiting to buy Springsteen tickets. We drove in from southern NJ the night before and slept in my car. Early the next morning, before "the line formed", I was wandering around the parking lot and here was this beautiful blond wild child, sitting on the hood of that car (but no soft summer rain) and asking me ... "hey you like Costello too?" I was wearing an Elvis Costello t-shirt at the time. And that was that. We talked and that started the long slow process of friendship ... and years later ... a bit more.

Dorothy and I were in L. O. V. E. with the Clash. There was always something about their music, attitude and politics that resonated with us, and the world. They were so much less nihilistic than the Pistols. Plus they had huge hearts. You could see it in the passion they showed onstage and off.

The photos below are from the 16 Tons tour at The Palladium New York show March 7th of 1980. I had to call Dorothy to confirm that ... and even she wasn't sure. The first few images are of Mikey Dread at the microphone and The Clash dancing onstage with raincoats, bandannas and pork-pie hats.

It's been quite a long time since I've seen these photos. Sadly, I had completely forgotten that the negatives were in such horrible condition. This had nothing to do with age, and all to do with the custom photo lab that developed them back in 1980. The emulsion has pinhole specks that can not be cleaned off, plus there are water streaks that flow down the entire film strip, from when they were originally dried. I am both angry and saddened. Back then, I would get my film developed by professional labs. I would get the film developed and have contact sheets made. Then with trusty loop in hand I'd see which photos were worth enlarging and adding to my portfolio. I guess I had long forgotten how bad these negatives were.

The good news is that with the ability to scan and then digitally retouch the photos, they can be saved. If and when I publish these photos, I will have my work cut out for me. I have done basic retouching on the photos before putting them up here.

My fave photos are #12 of Mick tearing into his guitar ... and with the backdrop and lighting ... just a great moment captured in time. There is also one of Joe ... #8 ... he looks like a little boy, so sweet and innocent, singing his heart out with one squinty eye open and looking to the heavens. Just love that shot! :) Of the photos from backstage on the street, of course there's the one of Mick holding the mini Coke can. That's a classic! And I couldn't resist colorizing just the can. "It's the pause that refreshes in the corridors of power ..."

Now here's where I need some help. In photos 4 & 5 of the street shots ... anyone know who the well quaffed gentleman with the skinny tie is? In photo #15 ... anyone know who the woman next to Mick is? Plus if you know any of the people, or ARE any of the people in the shots .... please let us all know. Leave all comments below. Thanks!

As with all my other photos I will ask you not to steal them. They are copyrighted as is this post. Come back all you like to look and to see. You can even link to this post or any of my posts. But have the decency to credit me in the link and not republish my words or my photos without my written permission.

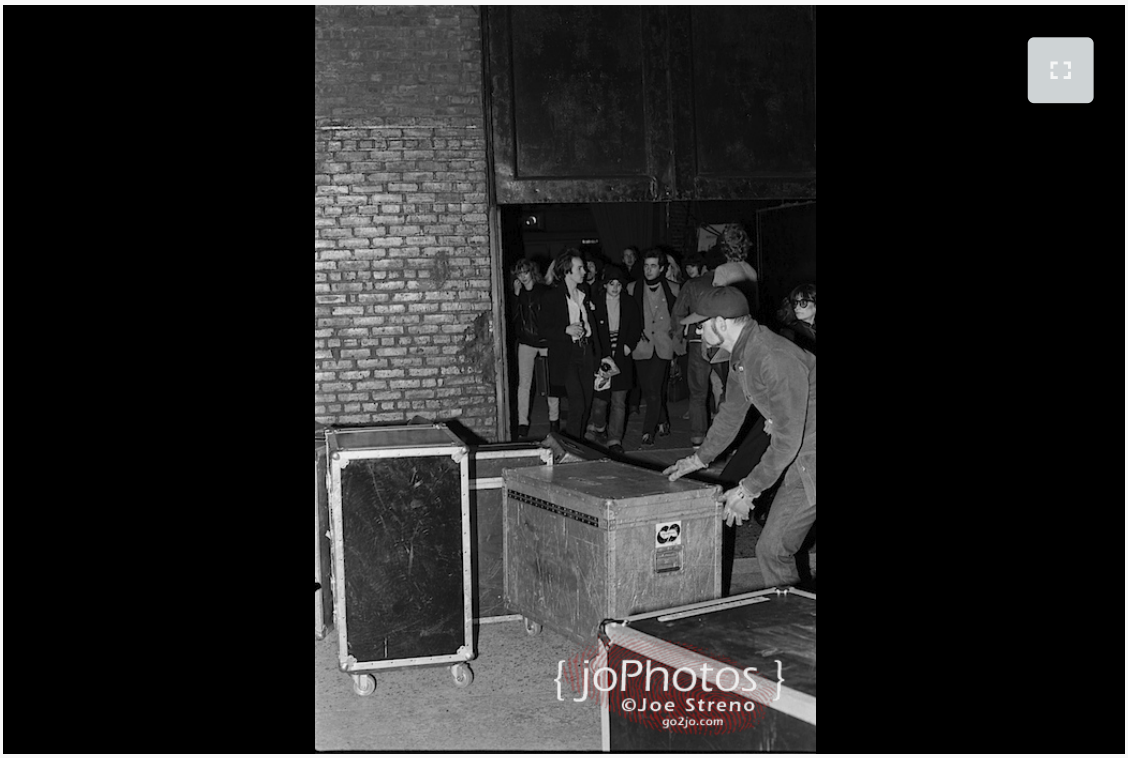
And there you have it. The Clash @ the Palladium March of 1980. Have fun & enjoy!

The Clash @ The Palladium NYC – 1980

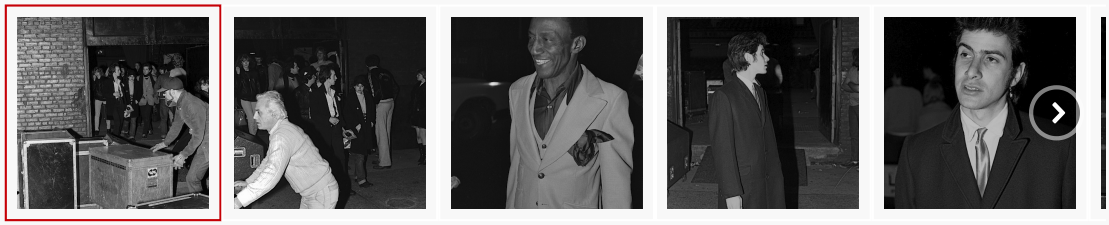
THE CLASH @ THE PALLADIUM

01 of 36 - The Clash @ The Palladium NYC - 1980

THE CLASH ON STREET BEHIND THE PALLADIUM



01 of 18 - The Clash On The Street Behind The Palladium



The Rise And Fall Of The Clash

Armagideon Time: The Rise And Fall Of The Clash

It's Official: The Rise And Fall Of The Clash

The Trailer: The Rise And Fall Of The Clash

The World Premier: The Rise And Fall Of The Clash

The Rise And The Fall Of The Clash On Facebook

The Rise And Fall Of The Clash on IMDB

The Rise And Fall Of The Clash – Kindle Edition

The Rise And Fall Of The Clash DVD Release

The Rise And Fall Of The Clash DVD Release Update

The Rise And Fall Of The Clash Australian Blu-ray

Photos of The Clash by Joe Streno

The Clash @ The Palladium NYC 1980

The Clash @ Bonds NYC 1981

The Clash @ Asbury Park Convention Hall 1982

The Clash @ Asbury Park, NJ 1982 – The Lost Photos

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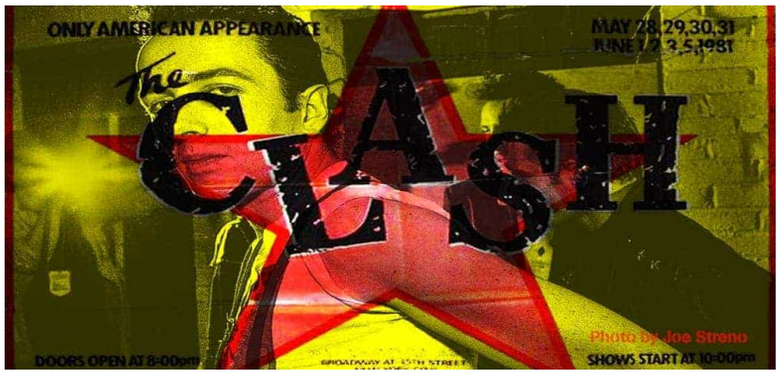

The Clash @ Bonds NYC 1981

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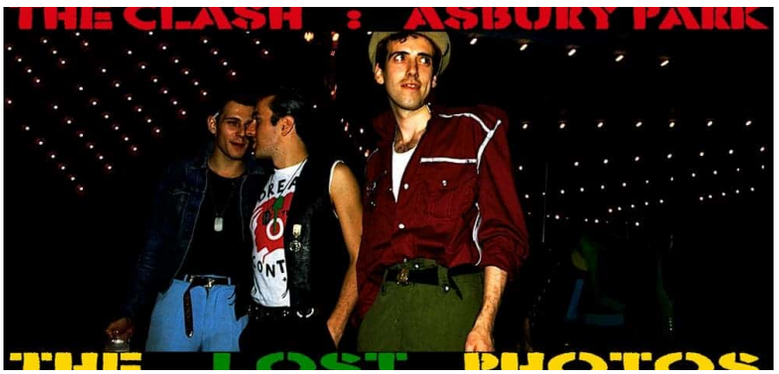

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The Rise And Fall Of The Clash DVD Release

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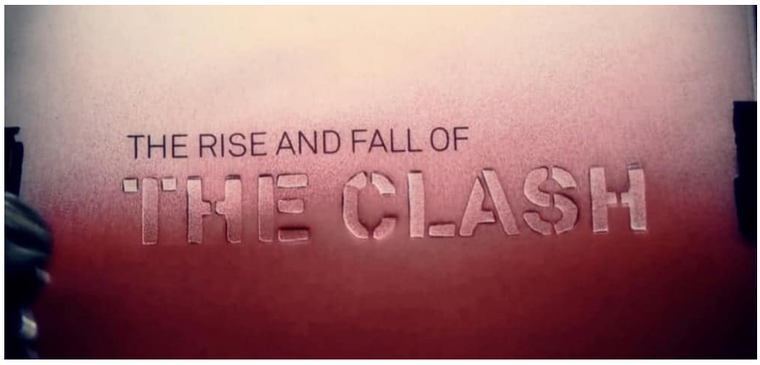

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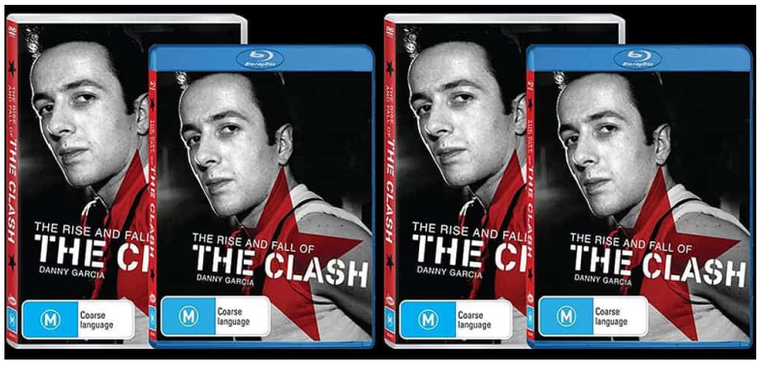

The Rise And Fall Of The Clash DVD Release ...

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Tagged bands, Bruce Springsteen, Cande Roth, Clash Photos Joe Streno, Clash Show, Concert, CW Post, DJ Barry "Scratchy" Myers, Ellyn Solis, fancybox-iframe, Joe Strummer, joPhotos, Mick Jones, Mickey Dread, Music, New York, Paul Siminon, SmartSlider, The Palladium, The Spectrum, Topper Headon, WCWP

JOE STRENO

artist . musician . photographer . apple computer consultant . residing in asbury park nj with his two cats rocky & rose & living to tell tales about it

20 thoughts on “The Clash @ The Palladium NYC 1980”

RANDAL D.: | MONDAY / MAY 12, 2014 AT 6:58 PM

Mr. S.,

Nice work, indeed. In terms of the opening acts:

Sept. 79 — Lee Dorsey & The Undertones;
March 80 — Mikey Dread, Lee Dorsey & The B-Girls

spring 81 — At Bonds, of course, it was a host of folks, Grandmaster Flash included.

do hope you received my other message — your contact page didn't generate a sent message a few minutes ago.

Cheers!

REPLY

JOE STRENO | THURSDAY / MAY 15, 2014 AT 6:54 PM

@Randal

Hi & thanks! BTW … thanks for letting me know my contact page was not working, d'oh!!!! It's fixed now. I also DID NOT receive any other message from you, as a comment or direct eMail from my Contact page. So if you need to send it again, please do.

Cheers!

REPLY

DP | WEDNESDAY / APRIL 4, 2012 AT 8:01 PM

haha, I was at this show and snuck backstage. I used to buy balcony seats at the palladium to save money and then sneak down these scary backstairs that lead to an alley to get to the orchestra section/backstage. That night, I watched most of the clash show from the balcony and then made my way down to my usual way of sneaking to the stage. This time however security was tight and I could'nt get into the orchestra section AND the doors back to the balcony locked behind me. I stood in the alley and a guy from a PM magazine show was getting ready to interview the clash when they finished. He saw me standing alone and asked me some questions about the clash – when he started leaving to setup, he asked me if I wanted to go backstage. I said sure and there I was, backstage watching the clash doing their encore from a few feet away! I was freaking out, but had enough sense to grab a heineken from a tub of ice and try to act cool. Show finishes, guys walk past me and everyone is just hanging out – me a scrawny fly on the wall. I remember this tough looking punk kid walking around like he owned the place – maybe 11 or 12 years old. Later found out he was Harley from Stimulators/Cro Mags fame. 12 years old hanging out with the clash. I was a much older 17. I had to use the bathroom at one point and knocked on the door — no answer — Joe Strummer walks by and says "Mick is taking a sh&*%t – he was holding it in the whole show" and he starts laughing. Everyone then started downstairs to the basement – a who's who of ny cool. I was sitting next to Jerry Harrison of THeads – Lee Dorsey was holding court in the middle of the room. Anyway, a wild memory for a kid from brooklyn. I am still crushed that we lost Joe. Thanks for jogging the memory bank and GREAT pictures! cool

REPLY

JOE STRENO | WEDNESDAY / APRIL 4, 2012 AT 8:13 PM

Hi DP … Thanks … and thanks for sharing your story! Very cool!

We should talk … I might want to use your story in my upcoming Clash photo book "By The People. For The People." eMail me directly at ejo @ go2jo.com and we can talk more about it.

REPLY

SHAH | TUESDAY / DECEMBER 20, 2011 AT 7:10 PM

Your right that photo of Mick with the coloured can is classical, almost iconic, lovely stuff Jo.

Shah

REPLY

ANDY BROWN | TUESDAY / MARCH 8, 2011 AT 3:29 PM

All I can say is thanks so much for posting this. I was there (my first Clash show), and I'll never forget it.
Here's the setlist:

Clash City Rockers
Brand New Cadillac
Safe European Home
Jimmy Jazz
London Calling
The Guns Of Brixton
Train In Vain
White Man In Ham Palais
Koka Kola
I Fought the Law
Spanish Bombs
Rudie Can't Fail
Hit the Road Jack
Police and Thieves
Wrong 'Em Boyo
Stay Free
Complete Control
Clampdown
Janie Jones
Armagideon Time
English Civil War
Garageland
Bankrobber
Tommy Gun
White Riot

The following night they played the Capital Theater in New Jersey and it was filmed on crappy video, which can be found here:

http://youtu.be/7quTGcz78Xc?w=456

REPLY

PAMELA | MONDAY / NOVEMBER 17, 2008 AT 2:25 PM

It was definitely not Shea
I graduated from NYU in 1983.
You know, it had to be the Palladium, March 7, 1980

It was the day after my 18th birthday (Ouch)
and I know the boyfriend at the time was from the 1980-era
It was a Friday night… and if I remember this correctly.. the day before (my real birthday) was a gorgeous, March day.. I could not believe I was 18.. and then we went to see The Clash. I don't know why I remember seeing someone else on the stage with them but.. there were a lot of shows we went to see back then… Good times… Ah… Remember the Ritz?

I saw Bruce at the Palladium, Sept 15, 1978
Another highlight of my life (I'm a lifelong Bruce fan)

Thanks for all the help and the info. The Clash was like nothing I had heard before or since.

-Pamela

Pamela´s last blog post..The Clash @ Bonds NYC 1981

REPLY

JOE STRENO | MONDAY / NOVEMBER 17, 2008 AT 9:10 AM

Pamela …

The only show that I know of was the Clash opening for the Who @ Shea Stadium NY in 1982. If you were still in NYU in 82 … that could be the place. But I don't think you could mix up being in a baseball stadium with a club, or small music venue like the Palladium.

You could always go to BlackMarketClash.com. They list almost every show the Clash ever played, and they list them by year, date and place. So if you saw a Clash show … it would be there.

REPLY

PAMELA | MONDAY / NOVEMBER 17, 2008 AT 3:52 AM

A response from you. So quickly. I am impressed!

I watched the Clash video on PBS (Ch 21 on Long Island) last night. Amazing. AMAZING.

Maybe I am confusing shows.. or venues… Did The Clash ever share the bill with a big-named act? I know it was early ’80s when I was at NYU. My boyfriend at the time wore black nail polish to the show and I hated it. (The polish. Not the show.) ;>

It’s killing me that I can’t remember something that was so great. Damn.

But I do remember thinking how great it was, even then.

Thanks for any help you can share,
Pamela

Pamela´s last blog post..The Clash @ Bonds NYC 1981

REPLY

PAMELA | MONDAY / NOVEMBER 17, 2008 AT 12:57 AM

I was at the Clash NYC Palladium show, 190.
The memory is a little fuzzy, alas.
Was going to NYU and was celebrating a birthday and… I know I had a great night but so much of it is lost to… whatever I was doing.
Was there an opening act? Why do I remember someone else on the bill?
Please. All help cheerfully accepted. And thanks.

Pamela´s last blog post..The Clash @ Bonds NYC 1981

REPLY

PAMELA | MONDAY / NOVEMBER 17, 2008 AT 1:04 AM

Looks like I am still on something. I’m not. I meant to type Palladium 1980. Sorry about that.

Pamela´s last blog post..The Clash @ Bonds NYC 1981

REPLY

JOE STRENO | MONDAY / NOVEMBER 17, 2008 AT 1:16 AM

Pamela …

I understand the concept. As far as opening act … it could have been Mickey

Dread, it could have been the B-girls, it could have been Lee Dorsey. It could have been multiple bands. In Mikey Dreads favor, there is the pict of him singing and the Clash dancing around him … but that could have been just one song. I just don't remeber. I guess I could do some research on BlackMarketClash.com … they would probably know.

It was a great show. I do remeber that much! ;)

REPLY

GEOFF HOOVER | TUESDAY / OCTOBER 7, 2008 AT 5:32 PM

I always loved that shot of mick…No. 12…. You had a great print of it years ago… It looked almost Jack Kirby-esque.

That is definetly Ray Jordan…. Me and Dorothy ligged into Bonds one night and he was the one manning the door and letting us in….

I loved that record store too… it was in Glen Cove. I remember buying a PiL album there. And I remember you buying several albums by the SKIDS there…. And I think I got the 2nd gang of four album there… as an import. He had great imports.

Bleecker Bobs sucked.

It still sucks.

REPLY

JOE STRENO | TUESDAY / OCTOBER 7, 2008 AT 9:18 PM

@ Geoff

Hoov … tell us how you really feel! ;)

I figure if enough people, like you, me & Dorothy … and other Post toasties plug at it … we'll figure out the name of the place. I know the guys name was Phil … and yup he had all the best imports. Glenn Cove sounds right. It was a tiny little shack … from what I remember.

Damn … I almost forgot about the Skids! I loved them! "Working For The Yankee Dollar" … and all the rest of their Scottish art/punk music. Just Googled them and found a bunch of their stuff on last.fm. Wow! I'm gettin' all flash backed memories and crap!

Sometimes I wish I never sold all my vinyl … especially all my singles. But when you've moved so many times … it's gets to be a little much to tote around thousands of albums and 45s. Dorothy still has her vinyl … I'm in awe! How about you?

By the by … I'm getting ready to post my Bonds stuff. The live shots aren't great … it's all the back stage, and street photos of the Clash and the Slits that's cool.

What's very strange Mr Hoover is that on the same B&W roll of the Clash at Bonds are pictures of you in my Mom's in Lanoka, and you backstage at Emerald City. It was the night John Eddie & The Front Street Runners opened for Gary US Bonds. Sometimes when I look at negatives, I'm blown away by some of the stuff I don't even remeber having photographed. Or that one event coincided with another. But hey … it was 28(?) years ago. Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!!!!!!!!! Fuck I'm gettin' old!

REPLY

GRACE | WEDNESDAY / OCTOBER 1, 2008 AT 10:58 AM

I think one of the other dancers with Mikey Dread is Baker, one of the Clash's roadies. And the guy with the knit hat and dreads looking right at you in the street pic where Mick is signing autographs is their security guy Ray Jordan.

Great pics as always!!!

Wish you'd taken one of the outside of the bus – I remember during the '84 Clash II tour it was a regular trailways bus, but I'd love to see how this one looked from outside as it looks like a real 80's era tour bus.

And if you spent a lot of time in Bleeker Bobs, you might remember DJ Scratchy Meyers because he also worked there too.

REPLY

JOE STRENO | WEDNESDAY / OCTOBER 1, 2008 AT 12:21 PM

Thanks to all who have visited & left comments. :)

@Grace:

Grace I think the other guy on the far right of the stage dancing with Mickey Dread is Mickey Gallagher, keyboard player for Ian Dury & The Blockheads. He was playing keys for the Clash on that tour. I could be mistaken.

Yes the guy next to Mick is Ray Jordan … Dorothy confirmed that one too.

I didn't spend a lot of time at Bleaker Bob's only when we ventured into the city from Long Island where I was attending college … the place I spent a lot of time at was this great import shop on Long Island. The guy who owned it was named Phil. It was close to CW Post, but for the life of me I can't remeber the name of the place. I talked to Dorothy and even she couldn't remeber it. That's what happens when you hit the > 50 mark … things get fuzzier. I think that's part of the reason I'm posting all this stuff now. In 5 more years my memory may be closer to the "fantasy" marker than the "memories" one. ;)

REPLY

DOROTHYO | TUESDAY / SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 AT 1:15 PM

Hey Streno……
we had fun didn't we……..
where's my guitar pick?????
Love
Dorothy

REPLY

SARAH B | MONDAY / SEPTEMBER 29, 2008 AT 7:04 PM

Some fantastic photo's. I love the ones of Joe and Paul when they changed guitars guess this must have been for GOB.
Favorite one is Mick with the coke can

REPLY

BAZARBOY | MONDAY / SEPTEMBER 29, 2008 AT 10:03 AM

Awesome stuff buddy

The Mikey Dread pictures are just great !!!

REPLY

BR16ADE_R055E | SUNDAY / SEPTEMBER 28, 2008 AT 7:32 PM

The man in photos 4 & 5 is the DJ Barry “Scratchy” Myers.

REPLY

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