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"For the Love of the Music: The Club 47 Folk Revival" *New documentary explores the history of the Cambridge folk music scene*

A new documentary celebrating the roots of the Cambridge, Massachusetts folk music scene will premiere at the 2012 Boston International Film Festival on April 17, 2012.

["For the Love of the Music: The Club 47 Folk Revival"](#) centers around Club 47, the iconic Harvard Square coffeehouse, now known as Club Passim, where Joan Baez, Tom Rush, Taj Mahal, Judy Collins and many others got their starts in the early years of the folk revival from 1958 - 1968.

Featured are interviews with Baez, Rush, Mahal, Collins, Maria Muldaur, Geoff Muldaur, Jim Kweskin, Jackie Washington, Jim Rooney, Peter Rowan and many others. The film also features previously unreleased music and rare photographs, featuring Bob Dylan, Baez, Eric Von Schmidt, Baez and others. And there are newly filmed performances, bringing together stars from Club 47's heyday performing with today's best known and emerging folk artists, including Ellis Paul, Antje Duvekot and 14-year-old Hayley Reardon.

Peter Coyote narrates the film, which documents the fateful day in 1958 when a young unknown singer named Joan Baez talked her way into becoming the first folk act to play the tiny Mount Auburn Street jazz club. From there, the film documents how the club blossomed to play a pivotal role in the American folk revival which peaked in popularity in the mid-1960s.

"At the heart of it all was an amateur scene," singer-songwriter Tom Rush says in the film, "people playing for the love of the music."

"For the Love of the Music" also explores the harsh business realities Club 47 faced over the decades, while also providing a platform for the civil rights and anti-war movements. And the film looks forward to the influence Club 47 and, later, Passim, has had and continues to have on folk, blues, bluegrass and rock 'n roll.

"The Club 47 scene was unique," said the film's executive producer and co-director Todd Kwait. "Unlike the Greenwich Village folk scene that was developing at about the same time in New York, Club 47 wasn't a bar run by a club owner but rather a non-profit coffee house. That made for more of free-flowing atmosphere with more collaboration between the club and the artists."

"Those ten years were like a Camelot Moment," added co-producer/co-director Rob Stegman. "This was an unusual group of extraordinarily talented musicians, coming together almost by chance, yet launching a revolution in American music that inspired generations of artists and music lovers."

The two filmmakers first met as freshmen at Boston University in the late 1970s. They spent nearly two years working on this project, traveling to Berkley, CA, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Vermont,

West Virginia, New York City and Cambridge and conducting 30 on-camera interviews. They also organized a special live concert filmed at the Putney School in May of 2011, bringing together veteran and upcoming musicians.

This is their first feature-length collaborations. Kwait is President of Ezzie Films, and previously produced and directed "Chasin' Gus Ghost," a history of jug band music, and "Vagabondo" about singer Vince Martin. Stegman is President of BlueStar Media, and has been producing for corporate communications, broadcast and cable television for over 30 years; most notably "Old Ironsides Returns to Sea" for the History Channel and "Tim Allen: Just for Laughs" for TLC.

"For the Love of the Music" was produced in collaboration with The New England Folk Music Archives and its founder Betsy Siggins. Siggins, who is featured prominently in the film, was a founding member of Club 47 and later Executive Director of its successor, Club Passim.

"For the Love of the Music" will premiere at the [Boston International Film Festival](#) on April 17, 2012 6pm at the Loews Theatre /AMC Boston Common. The film will also screen on [SENE Film Music](#) and Art Festival Brooklyn Coffee and Tea House Providence RI on April 13, 6:00 pm

About the Boston International Film Festival

The [Boston International Film Festival](#) was created to celebrate the art of filmmaking and to honor the filmmakers who make it all possible. This is a festival dedicated to rewarding artists for their individual talents and for their creative expression through the medium of film. The festival strives to bring together in Boston local, national and international filmmakers by promoting the world's most artistic and creative independent and experimental films.

About the New England Folk Music Archives

[NEFMA](#) preserves, promotes and documents the ongoing cultural legacy of folk music and its connections to New England through education, collaboration and entertainment.

"[For The Love of the Music : The Club 47 Folk Revival](#)" explores the history of Club 47 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with emphasis on the years 1959-1968. The film, narrated by Peter Coyote, traces the career of Joan Baez and the evolution of the folk revival from the interpretation of traditional ballads to the singer-songwriter era. Featured are interviews with Baez, Taj Mahal, Judy Collins, Tom Rush, Maria Muldaur, Geoff Muldaur, Jim Kweskin, Jackie Washington, Jim Rooney, Peter Rowan and many more. Previously unreleased audio recordings and photographs are utilized featuring Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, and Eric Von Schmidt. Newly filmed performances are included featuring the stars from Club 47 performing with today's emerging folk performers, as the folk process continues. [View the trailer here.](#)

For more information, photos and video go to: <http://www.loveofthemusic.com/>

For photos and interviews contact Greg Reibman at 617-799-0550 or club47film@gmail.com