

(Download) Best of the Beatles: The Sacking of Pete Best

Best of the Beatles: The Sacking of Pete Best

Spencer Leigh

*audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#1605922 in Books 2015-07-21 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.70 x .60 x 5.001, #File Name: 0857161016220 pages | File size: 28.Mb

Spencer Leigh : Best of the Beatles: The Sacking of Pete Best before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Best of the Beatles: The Sacking of Pete Best:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... all the theories of why the Beatles replaced Pete Best with Ringo By Dan L. Very interesting read for a Beatles completist- goes thru all the theories of why the Beatles replaced Pete Best with Ringo. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Good Read By bobI thoroughly enjoyed this book it's an easy read. The drawback is the subject has been covered many times and I know much of it. A while back

Paul McCartney was interviewed on the Howard Stern show and was asked about The Pete Best sacking. Paul said when he and the other Beatles heard Ringo drumming they were extremely impressed. Paul described Ringo as "a powerhouse." I believe Pete was let go because the Beatles rated Ringo as the superior drummer. Other factors may have come into play, but jealousy over Pete's looks was not one of them, in my opinion. 26 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Best of the Beatles: The Sacking of Pete Best By S Riaz This is an updated and revised edition of a previous book, *Drummed Out!* which was published in 1998. I was interested to see what a new edition could offer, especially after the excellent, *Tune In*, by Mark Lewisohn the first volume in his mammoth history of the Beatles, which dealt, in depth, with the removal of Pete Best. Although Spencer Leigh does not list, *Tune In*, in the list of books he consulted, he does mention it more than once, so I suspect it was omitted by mistake. Firstly, it is wonderful to have this book back in print, in both paperback and kindle. It is nicely designed and a must read for all Beatles fans. Leigh begins with a potted history of the band and makes the important point that John Lennon did not hesitate to replace musicians to improve the group; even in the early days of the Quarry Men, he showed a ruthless side. Undoubtedly, both John and Paul took the band's progression seriously - to them music was never a hobby, or passing phase, but the way they envisioned living their life and making their career. I was surprised that when this book looked at the Bert Kaempfert Polydor sessions, which led to the *My Bonnie*, single, there were no mention of the allegations by Tony Sheridan that Pete Best's drumming was sidelined. In *Tune In*, Sheridan alleged that Kaempfert suggested Pete Best did not play his bass drum, as he played too fast, and also removed his tom-tom drum. According to Sheridan, Pete only played snare, hi-hat and cymbal on the recordings made that day. Interestingly, he also alleged that Pete found no allies amongst the other Beatles when Kaempfert made his suggestions. Of course, the individual Beatles could have been unwilling to upset their first chance of making a record of any sort even one which might only be released in Germany. However, they were usually not shy of confrontation, especially John, so it seems more likely that they did not stand up for Pete as they either thought Kaempfert was correct in his assessment of Pete's shortcomings, or did not feel the need to support him. Spencer Leigh is open about the issues he had with Tony Sheridan, who was known to be difficult and unpredictable, so possibly he took his statements with a pinch of salt. However, I would still rather he had addressed them, as I felt they offered a relevant glimpse of how the other Beatles viewed Pete and, also, other views of his ability as a drummer. Despite claims over the years that Paul and George were prime movers in removing Pete from the band, former Quarry Man Rod David recalled being asked by John Lennon in 1961, before the band returned to Hamburg, whether he would be willing to drum with the group. Brian Epstein also asked whether the Dakotas drummer (the band later to back Billy J. Kramer) would be available to replace Best. Certainly, when the Beatles first went to EMI, George Martin did tell Brian Epstein that he would use a session drummer when the band made records and that may have been the main reason why Pete Best was finally ousted. However, it is also clear that replacing Best had been on the cards for a while. So, what reasons were there for replacing him? Spencer Leigh takes us through all the various reasons given over the years for replacing Pete Best as the group's drummer: that he wasn't good enough, that he wasn't technical enough, George Martin's unwillingness to use him in the recording studio, whether Ringo was simply better, that the others were jealous of Pete's looks or popularity, his mother, Mona, interference in the band (which did annoy Brian Epstein), that he refused to get a Beatles haircut, that he was unreliable or just didn't fit in. The list is endless, but the author painstakingly takes us through all the possibilities. Personally, I feel that even if, as suggested, Paul was jealous of Pete's looks (and I think he was almost overconfident when he was young, so that was unlikely), he would not have aired this to the others. Imagine how John would have enjoyed that as ammunition?! However, Paul's incredible musical ability, and the fact that the drums and bass are so closely linked, may have meant that Paul was keen to get a new drummer as his shortcomings would have been all too clear to him. There is also George's close friendship with Ringo to consider and a host of other reasons. The reality was that Pete's ability to take the bookings, and provide the band with a van, meant he probably stayed longer than either John, Paul or George really wanted. Drummers were hard to find and so they left the status quo alone until the situation meant they could attract a new drummer with the offer of a recording contract and possible chart success. This is a really enjoyable, in depth, look at one of the great mysteries of musical history. Of course, in hindsight, losing out on being part of the biggest band ever was a tragedy for Pete Best. Although he attempted suicide in 1965, he has come to terms with his part in musical history, and is pragmatic about his part in their early days. I enjoyed this revised edition very much and suggest that you read it yourself and draw your own conclusions about why you think Pete Best was sacked. I also appreciated the discography, which will allow you to compare Pete Best's and Ringo Starr's drumming (assuming you have the tracks to hand, of course). This is a riveting read for Beatles fans and, always, a much discussed episode in Beatles history indeed, the excellent Beatles podcast, *Something About the Beatles* had a recent show about this very topic. I have given 4, rather than 5, stars, as I just do not feel that the author addressed the events as given in Mark Lewisohn's meticulously researched, *Tune In*, (which did add a lot of new information) and also because his conclusions are virtually the same as his previous book. Still, it is good to see Spencer Leigh's books being re-released and republished, especially on kindle. They are always well written, good fun to read and will appeal to all music fans, especially those with an interest in the Beatles and the Merseybeat era.

This intriguing book examines the greatest Beatles mystery, which has caused endless speculation over the years why was Pete Best sacked just as the Beatles stood on the threshold of stardom? This book is the ultimate response to this question written by a leading expert on the history of the Beatles.

'Remarkable. It has been a great pleasure reading your book.' David Charters, Liverpool Echo. 'A wonderful book!' -- Harold Kramer, The Beatles Museum, Siegen, Germany. 'An accomplished writer of musical biographies, this is a typically authoritative book.' Choice magazine, Book of the Month About the Author Spencer Leigh was born and still lives in Liverpool, England, and is an acknowledged authority on the Beatles. He has been broadcasting his weekly show, On The Beat, on BBC Radio Merseyside for more than 25 years and, over that time, has conducted more interviews about the band - all captured on tape - than anyone in the world. He has also written over 25 books including biographies of Lonnie Donegan, Billy Fury, Buddy Holly, the Merseybeats and the Merseysippi Jazz Band.