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# Spend the summer reliving the history of the Beatles

**H**ow better to get this party started (great, now the Pink song is stuck in my head) than with the Beatles?



**Michael J. Kleckner**  
 Editor in chief

They're the best band ever, and everything that could be said about them has been said.

So let's get to the news: For those of you with enough disposable income or credit card capacity, book some

tickets now for the "Magical History" tour.

International Tours and Events puts together the package, which includes a session in the Abbey

Road Studios, visits to places like Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields, and a "Beatles Week" in Liverpool.

But wait, there's more! Tour operators are staging an exclusive party in Amsterdam in the very hotel suite where John Lennon and Yoko Ono staged their "Bed-In." I like to stage my own bed-in every few days, but theirs was much more famous.

The tour happens Aug. 17 to 28 and is open to all ages. For more information, visit the Web site, [www.toursandevents.com](http://www.toursandevents.com), or call (866) 548-3776.

On Aug. 8, angry gays can get a dose of therapy (and ogle the cute white boy himself) at Eminem's "Anger Management" tour. Other people are on the bill, but my concern is with the oh-so-angry rapper.

I still stick to my story, written in the Emerald a while back, that Eminem's posturing is a vicious-but-accurately aimed skewering of mainstream's fascination with violent "gangsta" culture. Bravo. The only problem is, from what I've heard of the new album, his schtick is old. But in America, that doesn't mean it won't sell. Tickets are \$37.50 and \$42.50 from Ticketmaster.

Michael Franti and Spearhead are giving Eugene fans a taste of their reggae-funk-world-beat vibe with an "Exspearence" at the McDonald Theatre on Aug. 28.

After stints with the Beatnigs and the Disposable Heroes of HipHoprisy, Michael Franti shifted gears into Spearhead, with full-tilt, forward-thinking, positive-attitude lyricism and phat beats and rhythms.

Tickets are available at Fastixx and are \$17 in advance and \$19 at the door, which opens at 7 p.m. for an 8 p.m. showtime.

Pushy post-punk noise monsters rejoice, because Sonic Youth isn't the only top-notch concert available in the area. ... And You

Will Know Us By The Trail Of Dead is coming to the Crystal Ballroom in Portland on Aug. 10.

Not only does this band have the most kick-ass name ever, but they really like to break stuff on stage. It's pretty cool. And they rock — hard — with some chops straight from The Sex Pistols. For reals.

The only part that sucks is that Trail of Dead is the opener. Some band named Queens of the Stone Age is the headliner, and I've never heard of them. They are, however, featured prominently on the cover of July's New Musical Express, and the bass player's shirtless torso was good enough for this queen.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. show are \$18.50 in advance from Ticketmaster.

Some real quickies:

Portland's "New Rock Alternative," 94.7 FM, is making a "Big Stink 7" Sept. 1 at PGE Park with Cypress Hill, Cake, Fenix TX, MXPX and others. It runs from noon to 10 p.m., and tickets are \$28 from Ticketmaster.

Salem is coming "Down From the Mountain" with a summer tour featuring Ricky Skaggs, Emmylou Harris, Alison Krauss, and many others. The concert is 7 p.m. July 26 at the L.B. Day Amphitheatre and tickets cost \$39.50, \$49.50 and \$75 from the venue or Ticketmaster.

Bluegrass revivalists Nickel Creek are bringing their own style of "acoustic youthgrass" to the Secret House Vineyard on Sept. 9. They're young, they're cool, they're selling lots of albums and they play hot bluegrass. Sounds kind to me, rainbow brothers and sisters. Gates open at 5 p.m., the show is at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$20 in advance from Fastixx by calling (800) 992-8499.

Contact the editor in chief at [editor@dailyemerald.com](mailto:editor@dailyemerald.com). His opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

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