

News, Apps, Deals, and Gear from New England and Beyond



CELEBRATE “DOWNTON ABBEY” IN VERMONT
Slip on your favorite ball gown or double-breasted blazer and vest and head to The Essex Resort & Spa in Essex, Vt., the weekend of Jan. 5 and 6, to celebrate a new season of the TV hit “Downton Abbey,” which takes place during the Roaring Twenties. This culinary, cultural, and social event features a reception and an advance public screening of the Season 3 premiere. Some packages include accommodations, a period-style six-course dinner, and a customized pair of Simon Pearce’s Royalton optic flutes. Most also include access to a “Downton”-era arcade featuring etiquette and table-setting games, live music, ballroom dancing, and access to a green-screen photo studio. A portion of the proceeds benefits Vermont Public Television. Prices start at \$225 for two people. 802-654-3663, www.vpt.org/daexp

LOGAN EXHIBITION CHRONICLES TRAVEL GEAR AND STYLES

Next time you visit Logan International Airport’s Terminal E don’t miss “Getting There: Design for Travel in the Modern Age,” a new exhibit that explores how design shapes and transforms the experience of traveling by plane, train, and ship. Created by Design Museum Boston in partnership with Logan and Grand Circle Gallery, it showcases vintage travel posters, portrays how train interiors have evolved over the years, and highlights the design evolution of travel accessories, from noise-canceling headphones to airplane seats. Wander through the show in a pre-security area 24/7 until November 2013. Free. 617-600-8204, www.designmuseumboston.org

THERE
BIKE RENTALS AROUND THE WORLD
Rent a bike from a local resident next time you travel. Liquid, a new online marketplace, connects local bike owners with travelers in more than 400 cities in 80 countries worldwide. Conduct a basic search by location, bike size, and type, and you will get a list of available bikes. Select your wheels and e-mail the owner with any questions. Then choose the date and time that suits you, and wait for confirmation. Read reviews on the Liquid website, and leave feedback on your experience to benefit future renters. Rates vary, but average \$20 per day. www.doliquid.com



STRANDED TRAVELERS FIND COMFORT AT LAX
Let’s hope you don’t get stuck at an airport over the holidays. But if you do, let’s hope you are at Los Angeles International Airport. The Four Points by Sheraton at LAX just launched new day rooms for delayed or stranded travelers. The rooms offer free Wi-Fi, room service, and access to a fitness center and a restaurant that features California coastal cuisine. Between May and October, you can also use the outdoor pool, which has a bar serving local brews. The rooms are available Monday through Friday for check-in after 8 a.m. and checkout before 5 p.m. Rate: \$89 per day; ask for rate plan DY when booking by phone. 866-716-8133, www.fourpointslax.com/day-room-rental

HOLIDAY BONUS FOR HILTON MEMBERS
Stay at any Hilton hotel worldwide and members of the Hilton HHonors loyalty program will earn 1,000 bonus points per night through Dec. 31. This 1,000 Reasons promotion, valid for Thursday through Monday stays, applies to participating Waldorf Astoria, Conrad, and Hilton hotels and resorts, DoubleTree by Hilton, Embassy Suites Hotels, Hilton Garden Inn, and Hampton Hotels, among others. Visit the website to sign up for free membership in Hilton HHonors, and to register for the promotion. 800-446-6677, www.hiltonhhonors.com

EVERYWHERE
KEEP TABS ON YOUR POWER CORDS
Cord Identifiers help you keep the power cords to all of your family’s gadgets organized while traveling. These simple, plastic pieces, made by Dotz, can be personalized with little tags, like “mom’s camera” or “Toshiba tablet,” and then attached to a device’s power cord. The company also makes reusable Velcro cord straps, and several types of cord wraps that keep earphone and other cords coiled up and organized. These help prevent a tangled nest of cords in the bottom of your travel bag. Find Cord Identifiers (\$7.45 for a five pack), Cord Wrap (\$8.10), Mini Cord Wrap (\$5.99), Earbud Wrap (\$4.99), and the Hook and Loop Reusable Cord Straps (\$4.99) at Amazon.com. 609-265-9200, www.cordotz.com

ONE FEWER CAR, ONE MORE GADGET
Those who love commuting by bike or pedaling for fun or fitness will appreciate The Bicycle Rearview Camera. This little camera easily attaches to your bike’s seat post and provides 75-degree views, so you can keep an eye on the kids in their bike trailer and watch out for vehicles approaching from behind. The camera transmits footage by cable to a 3½-inch color monitor that mounts on your handlebars. The whole system fends off wet weather and handles vibration well (occasionally, the image flickers if the monitor isn’t properly perched on its handlebar “dock”). Rechargeable batteries will keep the camera rolling for up to 10 hours, and the whole system boosts your weight by only 1 pound. \$199.95. 800-321-1484, www.hammacher.com

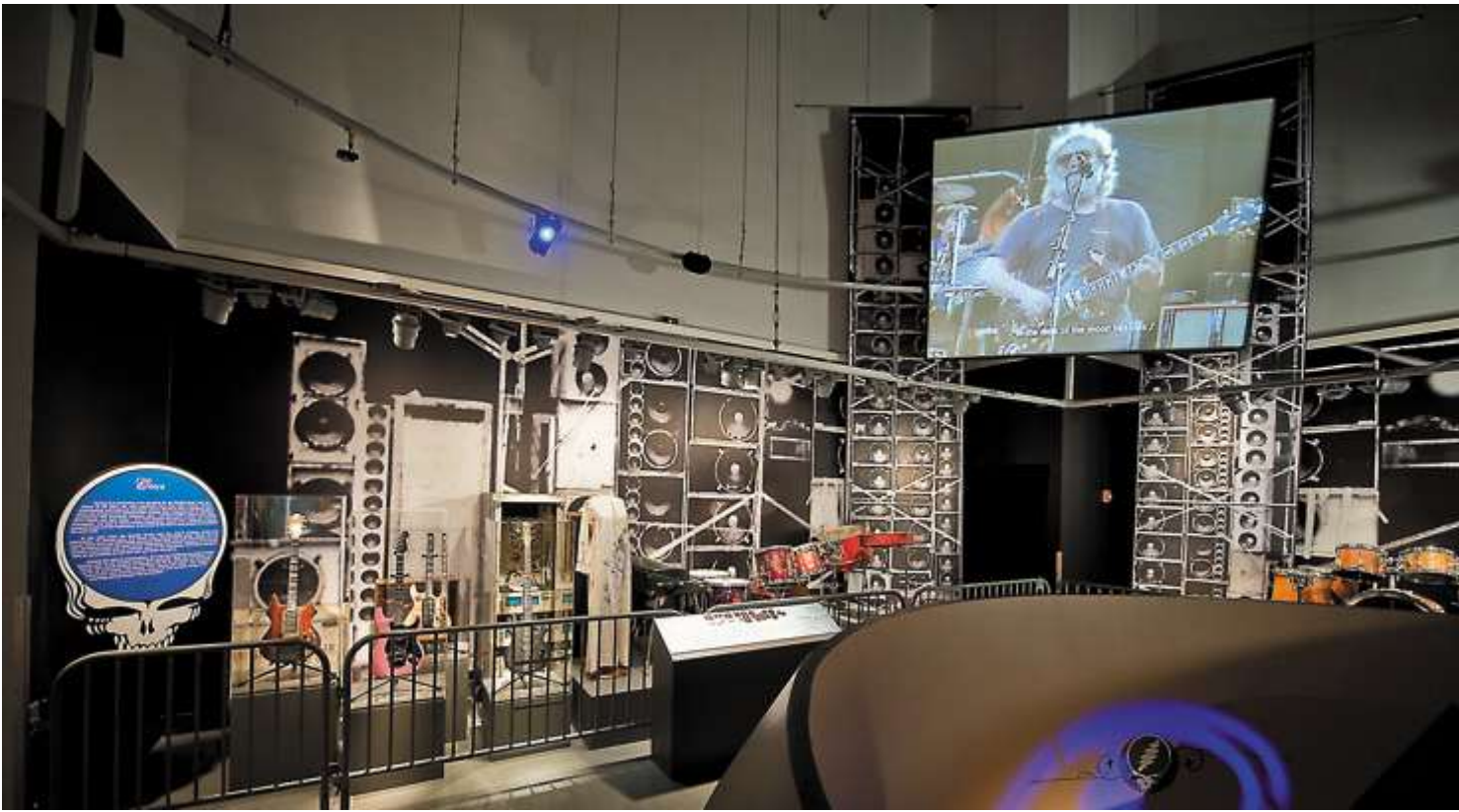
KARI BODNARCHUK



Rock and Roll Hall archives gather from a ‘unique’ heritage

By Sarah Rodman
GLOBE STAFF
CLEVELAND — Normally, when we think of rock ‘n’ roll we think of bright lights and amps cranked up to 11. But inside the corridors, reading rooms, and storage spaces at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum’s spiffy new Library and Archives, the lights have UV shields and the atmosphere is whisper quiet. The facility is a sacred temple for the artifacts of the art form. Fans, journalists, scholars, and educators can come to peruse — for free — a treasure trove of rare books, periodicals, audio and video recordings, and the papers, LP, and CD collections of many of rock ‘n’ roll’s

movers and shakers. “It was always part of the original vision for the Rock Hall to have a library and archives,” says director, Andy Leach. “Initially, it was going to be in the museum in a pretty small area, but that became taken over by offices, which was probably a blessing because we now have this.” “This” is a \$12 million, four-story, state-of-the-art playground for rock aficionados, albeit a painstakingly cataloged playground, that houses everything from the record collection of legendary Atlantic Records founder Ahmet Ertegun to the papers of Elvis Presley guitarist Scotty Moore to a complete run of Rolling Stone magazine in a temperature- and humidity-controlled environment, complete with elaborate water-detection and surveillance systems. The library and archives is located on the Cuyahoga Community College metro campus, just 2 miles and a quick cab ride from the Rock Hall. In the spring Leach led a guided tour and unveiled some of the goodies within. The ground floor includes the main library with books, computer kiosks, and a small exhibit under glass, and then a special reading room to the right. Here we saw a host of fun ephemera including a fan letter from Iggy Pop to Guns N’ Roses, some handwritten Jimi Hendrix lyrics, and correspondence between Clive Davis and Whitney Houston. The funniest sight was a scribbled missive from a sassy young Madonna to



ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

On exhibit at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum until March 24 is “Grateful Dead: The Long Strange Trip,” with displays of varied artifacts such as Jerry Garcia’s Rosebud guitar. The Hall has just opened a Library and Archives facility.



her label head Seymour Stein in which she was asking for help in finding a producer for her next album. “Here I am forced to choose a man once again. Help Me!!!” she implores. While the upper floors — brimming with the bulk of the archives — are likely to hold more sway for educators and journalists, most of what is contained in the archives is available to the public once a free “researcher” card is obtained. “I think the general public is interested,” says Leach. “We wouldn’t bring out these Hendrix lyrics to anyone who asks for them, but the majority of our archival collections are not priceless documents on their own, so they’re all here to be used — so we want to provide access to as many people as we can.” Although several other institutions have dedicated space to rock ‘n’ roll, the library and archives is the first of its kind in terms of the breadth and depth of its holdings, according to Leach, thanks to the many donors in the recording and touring industries and the media.

“It’s important because this is our cultural heritage and it needs to be preserved for future generations,” says Leach. “And in terms of the museum it really extends what we’re able to do on the educational level. I think it’s going to bring us to a new level of recognition as a world-class cultural institution.” For curious Grateful Dead fans, now is the time to visit the museum. A two-floor exhibit, “Grateful Dead: The Long, Strange Trip,” is on display through March 24. From a phalanx of Jerry Garcia’s guitars to the original artwork for the band’s famous album covers to the contracts it signed for its live shows, the exhibit covers a lot of bases. In one corner, you can pick up a phone and hear the actual “hot line” answering machine recordings that informed fans of the seminal band’s upcoming shows. In another, you can see handwritten lyrics for songs like “Fire on the Mountain,” “Brokedown Palace,” and “Box of Rain.” (Someone in the band had lovely penmanship.) The soundtrack as you meander includes songs by all 12 performance lineups of the group. Our favorite item? A “Grateful

If you go . . .

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum
Collection Auto Group Plaza
1100 Rock and Roll Boulevard
Cleveland
216-781-7625
www.rockhall.com
Open daily (except Christmas and Thanksgiving) 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Wed till 9. Tickets available online or in person at the museum box office. Senior, military, and youth tickets can be purchased only at the box office with proper ID. Adults \$22, seniors

\$17, children ages 9-12 \$13, 8 and under free with the purchase of an adult admission.
Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum Library and Archives
2809 Woodland Ave.
Cleveland
216-515-1956
www.rockhall.com
Open Tue-Fri 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat 11-5. Admission is free. A free “researcher” card is needed to access archival materials.

Dead High” letterman jacket. “The goal always for a curator, at least for us, is for the aficionado to come away feeling like we got it and presented things they never could have seen elsewhere and for the novice to gain new knowledge and insight that they previously didn’t think was worth acquiring,” says Rock Hall curatorial director Howard Kramer. “With the Dead the story is so rich, there’s a lot to talk about. It’s like a Russian nesting doll, at the core of it is the band and then these things were around them.” Kramer views the Grateful Dead “as a completely unique

American invention. And that’s American with a capital A in the truest sense. They played American music: rock ‘n’ roll and rhythm and blues and bluegrass and folk and country and a little bit of gospel underneath it and they presented it in a uniquely American context.” In addition to the library and archives and the Grateful Dead exhibit, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum regularly hosts concerts and special events. Visit www.rockhall.com for a full listing of upcoming events.

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