

what the meaning was behind Strawberry Fields Forever" I asked. "Well Roy, I will tell you. It was like this. We had 11 songs for the album and we needed one more song, so we wrote Strawberry Fields." "You mean, there were no deep psychedelic message about love, peace, eternity and all that?" I asked. "No nothing like that, it was just a song, Roy, just one of many songs. Other people gave them special meaning, depth and intent, we just wrote songs. The record company just kept telling us to put out more records and write more songs. We were just a bloody machine."

There was one illusion completely destroyed! I believed every single word of every song that was on every album, came from Valhalla directly to the Beatles, with no intermediary steps. Boy was I wrong!

So between songs, Roger would interview John, and during songs I would pepper John with questions. All the time snapping pictures with my beautiful Leicaflex 35mm camera. At one point, early in evening I ran out of film. I went over to 'Chuckie' Chandler, as he was affectionately known in the radio world and borrowed a few dollars to buy some film. I dashed down to the lobby and picked up a new roll, then rushed off to the lobby to by a roll of B/W film. I rushed back up and stayed until 11 o'clock.

As I was leaving, Derek Taylor, John's secretary, assistant and friend, approached me and said that John was interested in looking at the pictures I had taken. Would I possibly come over with some black and white proofs the next day. No problem at all I said! Although I had no darkroom and no way of developing the images, somehow I knew that I would be there the next day with the prints! Eventually I managed to get the use of a darkroom and enlarger, for a rental fee. I rushed out and bought some photographic paper, got back to the darkroom and printed two 8 x 10 contact sheets.

The next day I returned to the QE Hotel and Derek brought me back into the room, where John looked at the images. "These are fuckin awesome Roy I want one of each of them." He said, I'll have an 8 x 10 prints", of each of the pictures I had taken. As I was leaving Richard Glenville Brown took me aside and asked me if I would do a set of prints for Capital Records. No problem, I replied, so now I had orders for 76 pictures at \$10 each. That is \$760 in one day, in one sitting, on the first professional job of my life in photography. An ounce of pot cost \$25 back then, I rushed out and bought ½ ounce of black hash from Gary "The G Man".

Thus began an eight day adventure with John, Yoko and friends, which included the writing and recording sessions of the song "Give Peace a Chance".

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