The British Invasion

Counterculture in the UK, 1964–1968



- new subcultures and movements critical of the Establishment
- "do your own thing" in personal behavior and in business
- increasing impact of youth subculture
- technological innovations in communication and entertainment
- increasing tabloid culture; spectacle = publicity



- increased international cultural exchange
- material improvements in quality of life
- increasing pressure for racial, gender, and class equality
- increasing "permissiveness" in sexual behavior
- fashion as self-expression, beauty as a commercial value, first supermodels
- or rock music as universal language



- recognition that all culture is political, that language is oppressive
- increasing openness to new ideas among people in positions of authority
- resistance from some police forces and religious organizations
- active demonstrations for rights for women and gays
- increasing multiculturalism and racial hetergeneity

Youth as Trouble

Mods and Rockers

a Mod



Mods



Rockers taking over Clacton, 1967



The news of the day



Pre-Beatle Rock Idols

Tommy Steele

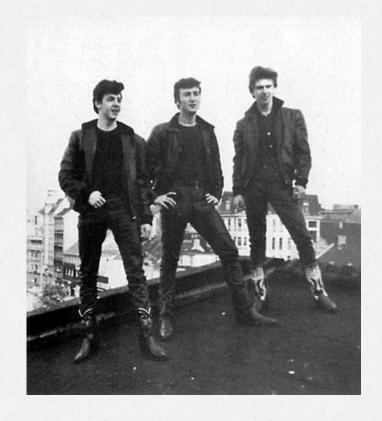


Cliff Richard



From the Quarrymen to the Beatles

The Beatles in Hamburg



Pre-Epstein Beatles



The Cavern Club, Liverpool



Brian Epstein's Beatles



Key figures in shaping the new look

Sign of Things to Come



David Bailey, photographer of the era



Mary Quant fashions



Vidal Sassoon and Mary Quant



Swinging London

