

## A Starr on the Walk of Fame

Monday February 8<sup>th</sup> 2010 saw former Beatles drummer, Ringo Starr, earn his place on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, where he joins 2,400 other famous names.

Born in Dingle, Liverpool on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 1940, as Richard Starkey, Ringo was the last (and oldest) member to join the world-famous pop group, after George Martin ousted original drummer, Pete Best. Prior to his big break, he played with Rory and The Hurricanes; a popular band in the clubs of Liverpool and Hamburg, who unfortunately never managed a successful recording career. After joining The Beatles in 1962, Starr's life was never going to be the same again. The Beatles went on to become the second biggest recording artists, only one step behind Elvis Presley.

Despite the unprecedented success of the band and the ensuing 'Beatlemania', the band were troubled by personality clashes – these clashes and constant disagreements eventually led to the band calling it a day in 1970. Because Ringo had always kept a degree of detachment from the hype and ego of being in the world's biggest band and a distance from the arguments, he managed to maintain strong relationships with the other 3 – he was the first to comfort Yoko after Lennon's murder in 1980.

Surviving alcoholism and becoming sober after a stint in a clinic in Arizona, Ringo continued to work as both an actor and musician, gaining success in both fields. He worked on solo recordings with each of his ex-Beatle friends and even hosted TV shows. His voice became synonymous with children's television, when he narrated the much loved Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends.

At 69 years of age, Ringo is still an active musician, touring and delighting audiences with his group – Ringo Starr & His All-Starr Band will be touring America from June this year.

For a chance to own a limited edition print of Ringo and his Beatle band-mates, from a collection of photographs taken by an acclaimed photographer and BAFTA award winning cinematographer, visit <http://www.the-beatles-hidden-gallery.com> and register your interest now.