

Des Schollum's
HOUSE OF BOOKS

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have been requested to offer an opinion as to the authenticity of a set of Beatles autographs signed on a flyleaf of a copy of John Lennon's book 'In His Own Write'. This book contains a pasted-in owner's name on the endpaper of 'J.R. NEIL, 51 Gloucester Street, Wilton, Wellington 5' with a typed request by Neil pasted to the flyleaf 'Dear B's,
I would dream it an horror (sic) if you would inscrawl (sic) your monocles in my buke (sic)'
On the opposite flyleaf, the book has been signed – 'George Harrison, Ringo Starr, Paul McCartney and John Lennon'

Having regard to the fact that the majority of Beatles' autographs were signed by the Beatles' Road Manager Neil Aspinall and Manager Mel Evans, as well as Fan Club secretaries, it is important to take particular care when purchasing Beatles' autographs.

To that end I have closely examined all four autographs and in my opinion they are all genuine.

A copy of the autographs in question are attached to this letter and contain my signature as authentication.

I have never owned these particular autographs and I have no financial interest in the sale of these autographs.

With regard to the authenticity of these autographs, some of the factors taken into account when examining a signature, or indeed any writing, particularly when trying to spot a forgery, are as follows:

Macro Factors

Beginning and end strokes
Continuous writing
Interrupted writing – stops, pen lifts
Letter connections
Letter dynamics – smooth, sharp
Pen position
Stroke emphasis and shading
Stroke retouching – habitual or unusual
Writing pressure
Writing rhythm – fluent, tremulous
Writing speed

Micro Features

Character formation and slant
Character ornamentation or enhancements or flourishes
Character size – capitals, lower case, ascender and descender height
Signature balance
Comparison with known genuine examples

Obviously, the above factors can be influenced depending on the writing instrument used and its movement combined with the physical factors involved in the completion of the process.

Having taken all these factors into account and having compared many genuine examples of the Beatles' autographs of the period, I am confident these are genuine examples of their signatures.

To illustrate this point, I attach copies of Beatles autographs of the period (circa 1964) which have been authenticated by the acknowledged world expert on Beatles autographs, Frank Caiazzo of New York.

My Credentials

I have had in excess of forty years experience in examining and authenticating autographic material and historic documents for my own collection. I have studied the subject in some detail over the years and have built up a vast amount of resource material.

I have had articles on philology published in the prestigious US 'Autograph Collector' magazine and in conjunction with American Express, have had exhibitions of my historic document collection at Te Papa and the Auckland Museum.

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As to value, Beatles autographs continue to rise in value year on year and a set such as this could sell in the range of approximately \$9,000 to \$20,000.

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~~Paul McCartney~~
George Harrison
Paul McCartney

John Lennon

Beatles set authenticated by Frank
Caiazzo of New York, the world's foremost
Beatles authenticator in Jan 2008.

George
Harrison

Paul McCartney

John
Lennon

Paul McCartney

Authenticated by Frank Carrazo as genuine
(March 1963)