

POSTSCRIPT TO THE CRESCENDOS STORY: July 2022

Transcript of Phone Call from Dave Romanyshyn



Dave Romanyshyn



Vance Masters

M.T. (Project Volunteer)

June 6, 2004 - Dave Romanyshyn called. (Near the end of a two-hour conversation)

Dave Romanyshyn

"... Geez, Vance was hot stuff back in the day. I remember you telling Tony and I about seeing him perform with 5 AM Event, The Fifth, Dianne Heatherington & Merry Go Round plus speaking to him before the mid 1990s Get Back museum thing. Do you have time for a last story?

Masters and I spot each other leaving The Hudson's Bay main floor around noon on a Saturday - it was the late summer or early fall of 1964 and he said he was going across Portage Avenue to try and find some 45 (rpm). Any way, we leave and when we're on the sidewalk he gets maybe five strides before being TOTALLY engulfed with music fans. Whoosh. It was way beyond anything I experienced, and we were BIG.

He's got people - they weren't all kids - around him wanting autographs and to have photos taken with them. Brownie cameras and autograph books or "Crescendos" photos, even shopping bags to sign, everywhere! At first it was eight or ten, but then more. In waves.

And Masters was really accommodating.

Our local guys and women as well were STARS and he was one of the biggies. The questions - many more than I can remember - came so fast, rat-a-tat-tat, all he could do was pose, smile and sign.

'Vance, where do you buy your clothes? Mr. Masters, what's your favourite song to perform? Vance, will you grow your hair longer? Where's Denis? Does he have a girlfriend? Mr. Masters, do you like The Dave Clark Five? Do you collect records? Vance, why do you sit so low behind your kit? Can you sign this To Linda with love? Vance, where do you play tonight? Is Terry downtown with you? Does he live in Fort Garry? Who's your favourite Winnipeg drummer? Have you heard the Squires 45? Will you sign with a label? Vance, who's your favourite DJ? What's your favourite food? Do you give drum lessons? Can you sign this To Carol with love? Does Glenn give saxophone lessons? Will he grow his hair longer? Do you have a girlfriend? Does Glenn? What radio station do you listen to? Mr. Masters, where did you buy your drums?'

On it went without any letup. At some point, 'Vance, who's your favourite Winnipeg band?' He slipped me a wink and said, 'The D-Drifters, and (points at me) HE'S in the band'. The only time he got words in.

Suddenly I get some requests as well. My Beatlemania moments!

Anyway, they weren't letting up on Vance and I slipped away thinking, 'David, you're not such a big deal after all'. (Laughs long and hard)."

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