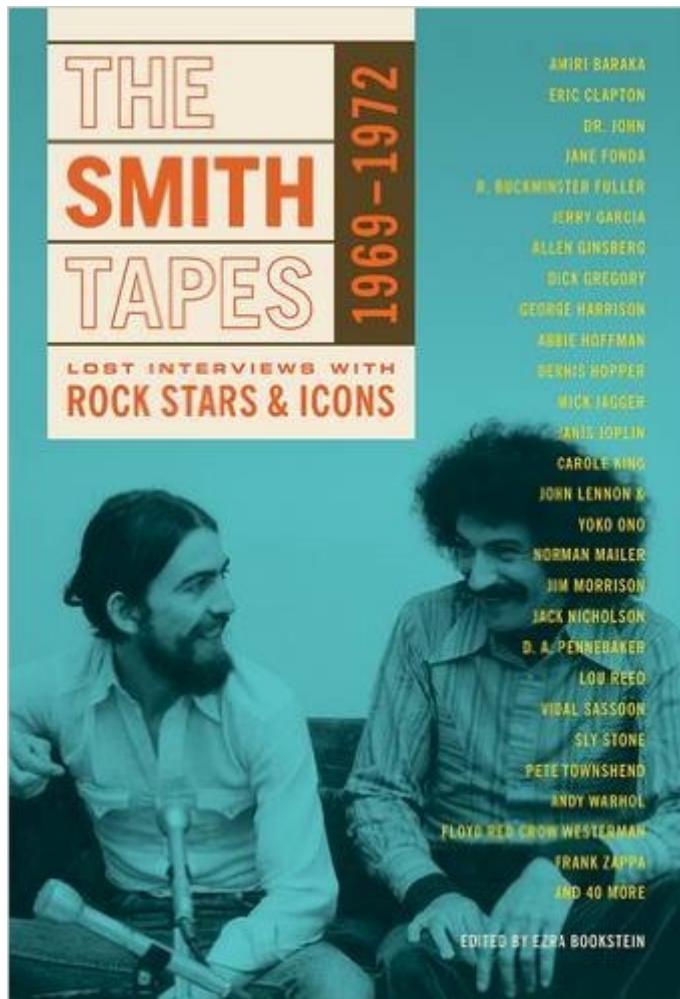


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# The Smith Tapes: Lost Interviews With Rock Stars & Icons 1969-1972



## Synopsis

The 1960s were a period of radical cultural, social, and political upheaval in the United States and around the globe; yet in just three years, between 1969 and 1972, Village Voice "Scenes" columnist, WPLJ FM radio host, and cult figure Howard Smith got to the heart of it all by talking it outâ "both on andâ "off the record. As famous as those who passed through the airwaves, Smith encapsulated the end of an era through personal conversations and hard-hitting interviews with Mick Jagger, Frank Zappa, Andy Warhol, Buckminster Fuller, leaders of the feminist movement and the Gay Liberation Front, a NARC agent, John Lennon and Yoko Ono, and scores of other iconic and influential personalities, including musicians, artists, filmmakers, actors, writers, politicians, and social activists, from countercultural luminaries to everyday revolutionaries and everyone in between. The Smith Tapes transcribes, for the first time ever, sixty-one of those recorded sessions, from an archive of more than one hundred fifty reels unearthed after more than forty years. Edited by documentary film writer and director/producer Ezra Bookstein, this book reveals the time capsule that Smith ingeniously captured, and contains raw and unscripted talks that take you right into the midst of a transformative cultural and musical explosion.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

For anyone who has an interest in "lost" interviews from the years 1969-1972, with people like Eric Clapton, Dr. John, Jane Fonda, Dick Cavett, Lou Reed, Jerry Garcia, Dustin Hoffman, Allen Ginsberg, Mick Jagger, Racquel Welch, Yoko Ono, Dick Gregory, Jim Morrison, D.A. Pennebaker,

Sly Stone, R. Buckminster Fuller, Jack Nicholson, Taj Mahal, Jerry Rubin, Janis Joplin (four days before her death), Frank Zappa, and many others, you should read this book. These pieces come from the original tapes of the late Howard Smith, a journalist for the Village Voice, and radio personality during these exciting years. The tapes were discovered decades later after Smith passed away, and 61 pieces (a number of them unheard since the tapings) have been selected for this book. Edited by Ezra Bookstein, who created the Smith Tapes project, these interviews and candid conversations really shed light on those years from the viewpoints of many of the movers and shakers in music, poetry, politics, and other areas. To read these pieces is to go back in time to that whole era when the U.S. was torn with the anti-war movement, women's liberation, Black Power, the Kent State massacre and other divisive topics. The pieces are laid out chronologically by year, plus there's an in-depth timeline of events that help put these tapes into better perspective. Along with the text are unseen period photographs and other ephemera from those years that were found with the tapes. And for once the graphics help give a deeper understanding of the writings. Unlike other books about this period in America that rehash the same information from the same collection of interviews or one person's ideas, this book is the real deal.

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