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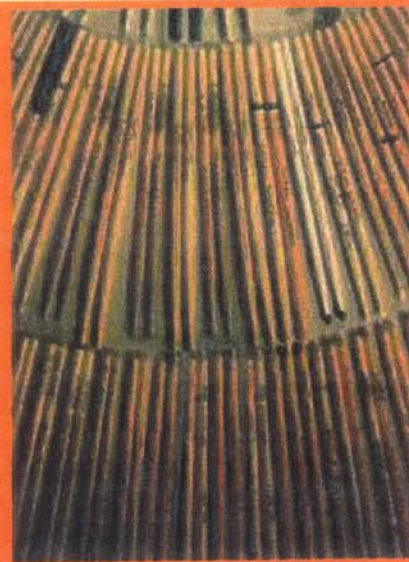
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Welcome to GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS®

DRUMMING UP A COLLECTION

The Record

The Beatles' *The White Album* kicked off a life-long love affair with rock and roll for Peter Lavinger. It led to a passion for music, and inadvertently, to an amazing autographed drumstick collection. Having beaten off any other contenders with his sticks, he counts an incredible 1,300 in his collection! Famous drummers have made their marks on most, but other band members' scribbled signatures are obviously accepted! All but 30 sticks have been signed.



The Lowdown

Peter was faced with a peculiar problem after he had caught his 100th starry stick. He had no proof of their amazing origin. "People would say 'Yeah, sure it was'," he remembers. It led to the mammoth task of tracking down drummers and persuading them to sign their own sticks from 13 years ago!

Laughing at the letters he sent, Peter says, "It was the most inane, preposterous question!" However, the responses he got were music to his ears. "They were just amazed that I still have their sticks." Peter is proud to show off sticks signed by everyone from REM to Nirvana. Much of his collection, now insured for \$1 million, is on display at Ohio's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

After collecting more drum beating instruments than you can shake a stick at, Peter has become a friend to the stars. "It's always exciting round here," he says. Drumming up support for his collection is no longer a problem - bands mail them to him directly!

Peter's wife continues to humor her hubby about his unusual hobby, although, he admits, "She thinks I should grow up!" The drumstick dude is thrilled that he holds a record, "To me it's the coolest thing ever - I'm blown away!"

Did You Know?

Each drumstick in Peter Lavinger's extensive collection is valued at nearly \$730!

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