FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (SAN FRANCISCO, 13 March, 2017) Humanities West celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of the Summer of Love with a special Saturday evening presentation of lectures and a live performance exploring the distinctive history of 1960’s San Francisco. 

**Summer of Love: San Francisco, 1967** takes place on Saturday, June 10, from 6:30pm to 10:00pm, at Marines’ Memorial Theatre, located at 609 Sutter Street in downtown San Francisco. Tickets are $60 orchestra and $45 balcony; individual teacher and student balcony tickets are $25. Order direct from City Box Office 415-392-4400 or [www.cityboxoffice.com](http://www.cityboxoffice.com). Free tickets are available in limited quantities for students age 25 or younger; inquire at info@humanitieswest.org.

Humanities West’s unique lecture-performance event **Summer of Love: San Francisco, 1967** takes a trip back to the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood of the 1960’s as it was transformed into a center of counterculture inhabited by the Beats, the bohemians, and the hippies. Lectures by local historians trace the vibrant forms of cultural expression that burst forth, from rock music to poster art to freeform radio. The program includes a special live performance by The China Cats, a premier tribute band, celebrating the music of the Grateful Dead.

**Mitchell Schwarzer** (*Urban and Architectural Historian, California College of the Arts*) opens the program with **Hippies in the Hood: Haight-Ashbury in the Summer of Love** exploring why sixties counterculture coalesced in a small neighborhood on the eastern edge of Golden Gate Park and how hippies turned the Haight-Ashbury into an incubator for alternative lifestyles.
Peter Richardson (American Studies, SFSU) follows with a talk on *Situating the Summer of Love.* Richardson will discuss the arts and music scene of the 1950’s that gave rise to the cultural confluence of the Summer of Love a decade later, with special attention to the San Francisco Renaissance and Beat writers, the bohemian culture at the California School of Fine Arts, Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters, and other influences.

Nicholas Meriwether (Director, Center for Counterculture Studies) explores San Francisco’s 1960’s music scene in his talk *The Soundtrack of the Summer of Love.* The music that flourished at that time was vibrant and eclectic; a soundtrack forged by hundreds of musicians and bands that still attract a passionate audience today. This lecture will discuss the major and many of the minor voices whose music defined the Summer of Love, from the Grateful Dead and the Jefferson Airplane to the Charlatans and the Mystery Trend.

The evening event concludes with a live performance by *The China Cats,* the acclaimed Grateful Dead Tribute Band based in Santa Cruz. Players include Matt Hartle (lead guitar and vocals), Mike Owens (drums), Roger Sideman (bass), Scott Cooper (rhythm guitar and vocals), Steven Sofranko (keyboard and vocals). *The China Cats* are known for bringing new life to old favorites and their interpretations demonstrate a reverence and sophistication that has built a loyal following, establishing them as Northern California’s premier Grateful Dead tribute band.

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About Humanities West
Serving the Bay Area since 1983, Humanities West Explores History and Celebrates the Arts through time and across the globe, bringing illuminating lectures and dynamic performances that focus on the people, places, and events that have shaped, and still inform, modern cultures.

Each season Humanities West presents a number of programs in which leading scholars and artists present lectures, performances, readings and discussions to audiences in San Francisco’s Marines’ Memorial Theatre. These one- or two-day events represent an opportunity unique not only to the Bay Area, but also to the entire United States. In cooperation with other institutions, such as the Mechanics’ Institute Library and the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, additional public lectures and panels are presented to further expand upon program topics.

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CALENDAR LISTING: EVENTS/LECTURES/ARTS & CULTURE

WHAT: Summer of Love: San Francisco, 1967
Humanities West presents *Summer of Love: San Francisco, 1967*, a unique lecture-performance event exploring the distinctive history of 1960’s San Francisco, as it transformed into a center of counterculture inhabited by the Beats, the bohemians, and the hippies. Lectures by local historians trace the vibrant forms of cultural expression that burst forth, from rock music to poster art to freeform radio. The program includes a live performance by The China Cats, a premier tribute band, celebrating the music of the Grateful Dead.

WHEN: 6:30pm, Saturday, June 10, 2017

WHERE: Marines’ Memorial Theatre
609 Sutter Street, San Francisco

TICKETS: $25 - $60
Tickets are available through City Box Office at 415-392-4400 or online at [www.cityboxoffice.com](http://www.cityboxoffice.com)
Group tickets: [info@humanitieswest.org](mailto:info@humanitieswest.org)

PUBLIC INFO: 415/391-9700 or [www.humanitieswest.org](http://www.humanitieswest.org)