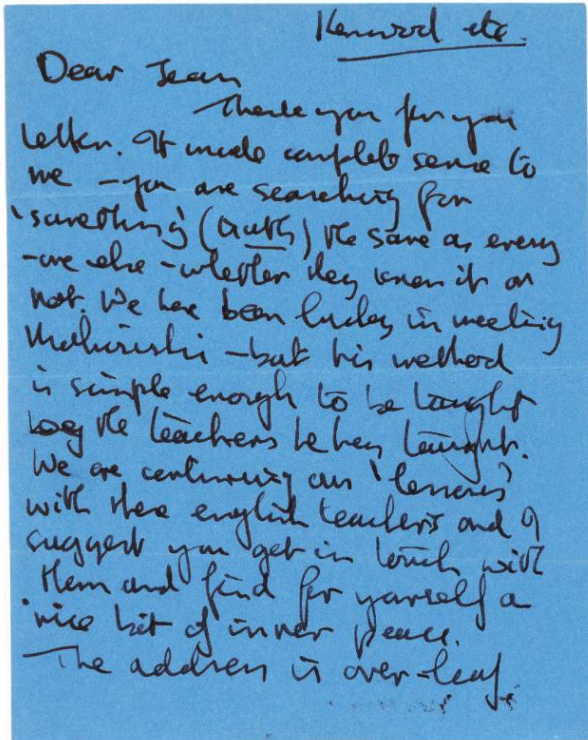


Basic Detail Report



Handwritten letter by John Lennon

Date

c. 1967

Primary Maker

John Lennon

Medium

Paper

Description

A handwritten and signed letter from John Lennon to a fan of The Beatles, "Jean." Double-sided letter on blue writing paper with black ink. Undated, although c. 1967. Included is a stamped addressed envelope, sent to Lennon with the recipient's original letter. This letter is a response to Jean, who had written Lennon regarding transcendental meditation. She had reportedly received Lennon's address

through her employer, a florist who had worked for Brian Epstein. The letter starts, "Dear Jean, Thank you for your letter. It makes complete sense to me - you are searching for 'something' (truth) the same as everyone else - whether they know it or not. We have been lucky in meeting Maharishi - but his method is simple enough to be taught by the teachers he has taught. We are continuing our 'lessons' with these English teachers and I suggest you get in touch with them and find for yourself a nice bit of inner peace. Lots of love John Lennon x". John Lennon (1940-1980) was a musician, singer, and songwriter best known as the co-lead vocalist and guitarist for The Beatles. Lennon and Paul McCartney served as the primary songwriters for The Beatles, and their collaboration is credited as one of the most successful musical outputs of all time. Lennon was born in Liverpool, England where he was raised by his aunt, Mimi Smith. In 1956, Lennon received his first guitar and formed a band, the Quarrymen. While playing with the Quarrymen, Lennon met Paul McCartney and George Harrison who joined the skiffle and rock and roll group. The band changed their name to The Beatles in 1960. Lennon and The Beatles released their first single in 1962, "Love Me Do," and their debut album, *Please Please Me*, in 1963. By 1964, the band had reached international stardom, with Beatlemania taking over both European and American airwaves. The Beatles toured extensively from 1964 to 1966, when they became a studio band. Their initial rock and roll sound transformed into new styles, with influences of the 1960s psychedelic and counterculture movements - led by Lennon's anti-war and protest activism. After the dissolution of The Beatles in 1970, Lennon embarked on a solo career. His 1971 album *Imagine* and its title track became his most popular solo release. Lennon left the music world during the mid-1970s, returning to the studio in 1980 for the album *Doubly Fantasy*. On December 8, 1980, Lennon was shot and killed outside of his apartment building in New York City by a disillusioned fan of The Beatles. Lennon is

remembered as one of the most influential musicians of all time. His work with The Beatles is credited with shaping the musical landscape of the 20th century. His early demise led to many tributes by his friends and colleagues such as Bob Dylan, David Bowie, Elton John, and the other Beatles.

Dimensions

Overall: 7 x 5 1/2 in. (17.8 x 14 cm)