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The November 2018 MusicAppraisals.com Newsletter

Just in time for Thanksgiving and the rest of the year's holiday celebrations, here is another set of interesting items about everyone's favorite subject: Music! (You expected me to say Records, didn't you? I'm not a one-trick pon

If you have any inclination in donating before the end of 2018 to obtain a charitable contribution credit with the I.R.S., you have until Dec. 31 to officially transfer ownership of the property to the recipient organization. That means You do NOT have to turn over your property at the same time, and you do NOT have to get an appraisal done before the end of the year. If you file taxes in April, you can have your donation officially change ownership in December and you still have four months to getting an appraisal completed. Contact me for any questions on this topic.

Onwards to the Happy Holidays!

Stephen M.H. Braitman, ASA  
MusicAppraisals.com

[New London Hard Rock Café "Set To Boast"](#)



Will anyone remember this guy in the future?  
now?

How about

The memorabilia buyers for the Hard Rock Cafe have been boasting for years now about cluttering their many clubs with many, many expensive items bought at auction and elsewhere. Their deep pockets have driven hard the market for rock-related memorabilia. The newly expanded London location will now be geared towards the 21st Century: "Memorabilia from the late Amy Winehouse and George Michael will be on display as well as items from the chart-conquering Ed Sheeran and Ellie Goulding."

As patrons age, they have to keep their walls fresh. Eventually, nobody's going to recognize Madonna, Michael Jackson, and Elton John. The shelf life of those lasted a long time; Any bets on how long an Ed Sheeran signed whatever will elicit interest?

## [But, Really, Cassettes???](#)



Someone paid \$25.00 for a Kiss Alive cassette on eBay this month. A Pet Shop Boys cassette sold for \$70.00. Do a bit of searching, you'll find prices like these all the time for retail cassettes on eBay, Amazon, and elsewhere. Nothing's (yet) beat the \$10,000.00 paid for a rare AC/DC Australian cassette in 2013. Yes, there are collectors for anything and everything.

But little did we know that nostalgia's contemporary guise is a return to the cassette format for NEW releases. "Vinyl's Back" is an old story. Southern California-based Burger Records has been one of the spearheads of new cassette releases. Even Amazon lists over 400 new albums on cassette format. Ease of use, recordability, durability, duplicability... lots of reasons why cassettes remain a handy format. But, really, cassettes???

## [But, Really, CDs????](#)





OK, OK, we get it.

## [Classical Music Donations Wanted](#)



In the record collector market, classical LPs remain within a very small niche of dedicated collectors who treasure rarity, obscurity, and audio fidelity. Appraising a record collection of classical music is often a dispiriting exercise of having to explain low-value mainstream records of the "standard repertoire."

Often ignored, however, is how valuable even "common" and mainstream classical LPs can be to a library or archive. There are many institutions that would appreciate a donation of classical music: for any number of reasons: Educational: Cultural

a donation of classical music, for any number of reasons: Educational, cultural preservation; Simple listener pleasure. The story here of the University of the South in Tennessee receiving 2,000 mostly classical LPs makes a win-win for both the school's students and the donor. Lesson learned: Don't consider your own collection "worthless."

## ["Vinyl Is Back," Continuing](#)



One consequence of new pressing plants in various locations around the country: Regionalism is back. Maybe one day we'll start finding out that Chicago or Nashville or Tucson have hit songs that nobody anywhere else has heard because they are "local."

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Are you passionate about music? Do you have a music collection? MusicAppraisals.Com can help you with any appraisal needs including insurance coverage, donating for tax credit, selling or auctioning off your material, assisting in legal issues involving property settlement and other litigation ... or simply just finding out what your collection is worth.

[Schedule a free consultation to learn what the best time to sell your collection is worth.](#)

Schedule a free consultation today and get a better idea of what your collection is worth.

[FREE CONSULTATION CALL](#)



## About Stephen M.H. Braitman, ASA

Stephen M. H. Braitman has been involved with records and music most of his life. His widely acknowledged expertise in the marketplace makes his appraisal service an important component of estate planning, court and arbitration expert testimony, and insurance coverage and claims.

Stephen is an Accredited Senior Appraiser as a member of the American Society of Appraisers, active in the Northern California chapter. He is the ONLY senior appraiser with a focus on music recordings and memorabilia. He is also a member of the Association of Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC).

[Schedule a Free  
Consultation Call](#)



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