

JOHN EINARSON is a widely-respected rock-music historian and author of more than a dozen books, including critically acclaimed biographies of Neil Young, Buffalo Springfield, Gene Clark, Randy Bachman, and The Flying Burrito Brothers. He has written for *Mojo*, *Uncut*, *Goldmine*, *Discoveries*, *Record Collector*, and *Classic Rock*, and is a frequent contributor to the *Winnipeg Free Press*. John wrote the Juno-nominated Bravo television documentary *Buffy Sainte-Marie: A Multimedia Life* and CBC TV's *The Life & Times Of Randy Bachman*. He has contributed to a number of other television productions and has hosted several CBC radio series. He lives with his wife and family in Winnipeg, Canada, where he teaches a popular course on rock'n'roll history at the University of Winnipeg and is involved in the creation of a Manitoba music museum.



Widely hailed as a genius, Arthur Lee was a character every bit as colorful and unique as his music. In 1966, he was Prince of the Sunset Strip, busy with his pioneering racially-mixed band Love, and accelerating the evolution of California folk-rock by infusing it with jazz and orchestral influences, a process that would climax in a timeless masterpiece, the Love album *Forever Changes*.

Shaped by a Memphis childhood and a South Los Angeles youth, Lee always craved fame. He would achieve his ambition with a mixture of vaulting talent and colossal chutzpah. Drug use and a reticence to tour were his Achilles heels, and he succumbed to a dissolute lifestyle just as superstardom was beckoning.

Despite endorsements from the likes of Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton, Lee's subsequent career was erratic and haunted by the shadow of *Forever Changes*, reaching a nadir with his 1996 imprisonment for a firearms offence. Redemption followed, culminating in an astonishing post-millennial comeback that found him playing *Forever Changes* to adoring multi-generational fans around the world. This upswing was only interrupted by his untimely death, from leukemia, in 2006.

Writing with the full consent and cooperation of Arthur's widow, Diane Lee, author John Einarson has meticulously researched a biography that includes lengthy extracts from the singer's vivid, comic, and poignant memoirs, published here for the first time. Einarson has also amassed dozens of new interviews with the surviving members of Love and with many others who fell into the incomparable Arthur Lee's flamboyant orbit.



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BIOGRAPHY OF
ARTHUR LEE

Forever Changes

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