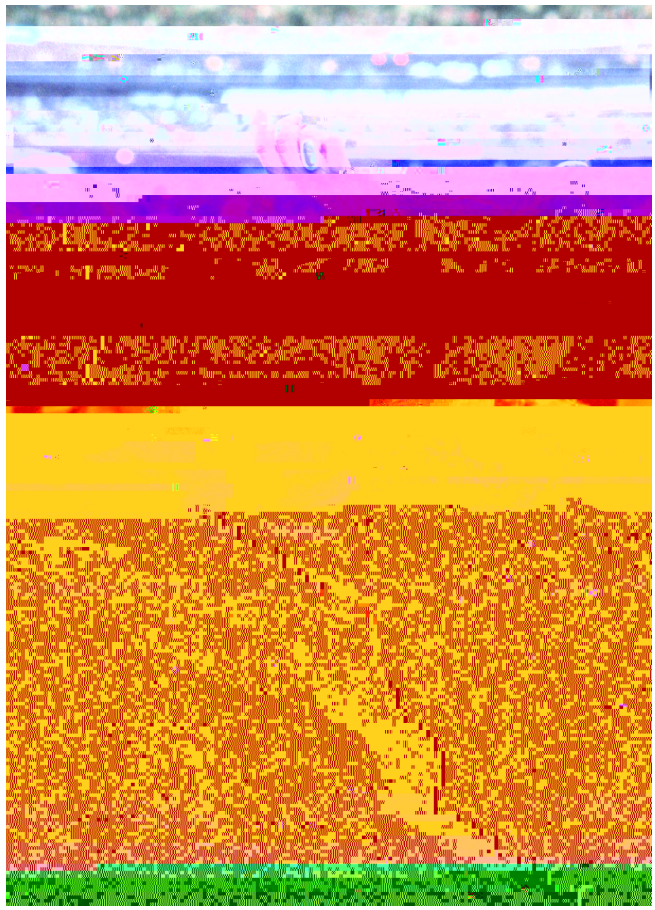


portion of the devoted fan base never had an encounter with the original band – myself included. However, this has no bearing on the devotion of show attendees. The intense, often spiritual connection that grew between the music and the band’s original devotees is maintained in 2023, even reaching a rough wider jrcdoha h

audience gathering, but rather something that happens in the air between the two. The Grateful Dead’s music has a modern relevance that demands attention, and that is completely unlike any other music from the same era.



This project was a privilege to complete. Throughout this process, I witnessed the stigma and derision that is often directed at the Dead, no less at someone trying to bring the subject into academia. These sentiments ever came from people unfamiliar with or outside of the community of Deadheads. The Deadhead community, those that may only attend one show or those that follow the whole tour (as is very common), are the kindest and most welcoming community I have ever had the pleasure to be a part of. I have found the general attitude of Deadheads, with a great intent toward deeper nothing and toward listening. The all,

photographic portion of my project was very successful, and I believe it will be a valuable aid to teaching people about the community; the photo featured here is of a spinner at the first show in San Francisco, on July 14th.