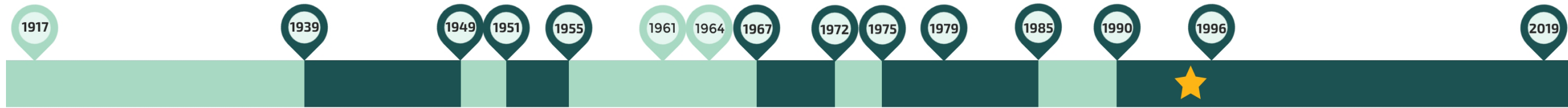


THE HISTORY OF THE SHOWBOX



CENTRAL PUBLIC MARKET

Charles H. Frye opens a public market building, designed by architect Buchinger.

SHOWBOX OPENS

Key acts include: Louis Armstrong, Ted Lewis, Duke Ellington Orchestra, & Sammy Davis Jr.

SHOWBOX CLOSSES

Financial struggles close the Show Box after 10 years.

SHOWBOX REOPENED

1950s acts included: Mills Brothers, Peggy Lee, Guy Mitchell, & Joni James.

SHOW BOX CLOSSES

Showbox Furniture Showroom

HAPPENING NITE CLUB OPENS

Key acts include: Merrilee Rush & the Turnabouts, Buffalo Springfield, Sonics, Daily Flash, Brave New World, & Peece.

CLUB CLOSSES

TALMUD TORAH BINGO HALL

MODERN PRODUCTIONS

The Showbox name returns. Key acts include: Magazine, the Police, XTC, Malfunkshun, Muddy Waters, James Brown, the Blackouts, & the Dishrags.

M.P. CLOSSES DOORS

SEATTLE IMPROV

Comedy acts included: Paul Reiser, Ellen DeGeneres, J.J. Wall, Jeff Dunham, Garry Shandling, Dennis Miller, Paula Poundstone, & John Mulrooney.

SHOWBOX MUSIC CLUB

Performers include: Lisa Loeb, Throwing Muses, Pearl Jam, Soundgarden, Elvis Costello, Erykah Badu, Coldplay, Lorde, Katy Perry, & Macklemore.



In the 80 years since the Showbox opened in 1939, the building has been used as an entertainment venue for 58 of those years.



In the 102 years since the building was constructed, the building has been used as an entertainment venue for 57% of its history.

Entertainment Venue Use
Non-entertainment Venue Use

Key Dates in Showbox History

★ 25 year threshold for Seattle landmarks (1994). The 25 year threshold for Seattle landmarks is for age of the building, not a hard stop for continuum of history and significance.

MUSIC GENRES

JAZZ (1930s-1945) -----

BIG BAND (1930s-1945)

BLUES (1940-1950s) -----

ROCK-N-ROLL (1953-1960s) -----

ROCK (1960s-1970s) -----

POP (1966 - present) -----

PUNK (1975-1980s) -----

NEW WAVE (1980s) -----

GRUNGE (1989-1995)

ALTERNATIVE (1993-1990s) --

This is a rough outline of some overarching music genres gleaned from Music Map: The Genealogy and History of Popular Music Genres from Origin till Present (1870-2016), <https://musicmap.info/#>.

Prepared by Northwest Vernacular for Historic Seattle for the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board designation hearing, July 17, 2019.