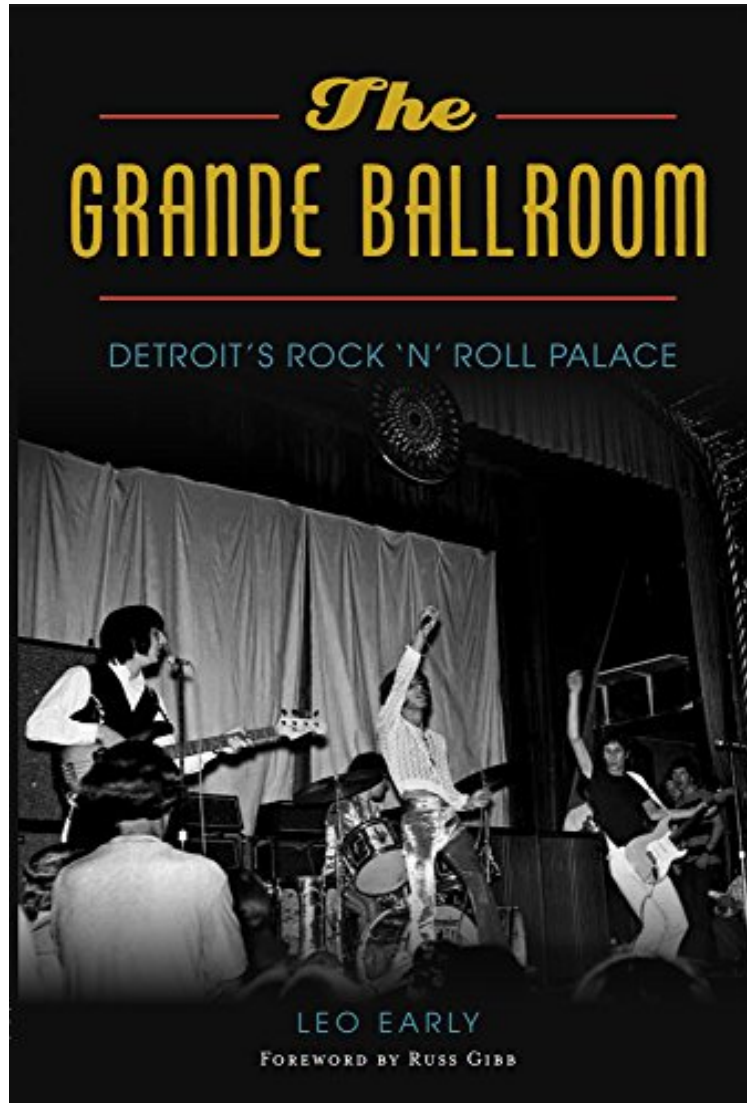


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Grande Ballroom, The: Detroit's Rock n Roll Palace (Landmarks)

Leo Early

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Leo Early : Grande Ballroom, The: Detroit's Rock n Roll Palace (Landmarks) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Grande Ballroom, The: Detroit's Rock n Roll Palace (Landmarks):

In the 1920s, a jewel of Detroit entertainment arose on the Westsidethe Grande Ballroom. The venue flourished under the ownership of infamous gambler Harry Weitzman and management of dance scion Paul Strasburg. The advent of

rock n roll pushed the ballroom into hard times, but in 1966, local schoolteacher and disc jockey Russ Gibb resurrected it with the promise of live rock music. The new psychedelic ballroom style attracted scores of suburban baby boomers and helped launch the careers of local legends like the MC5, Iggy Pop, Alice Cooper and Ted Nugent. Soon the ballrooms prestige attracted international acts like Cream, the Who and the Jeff Beck Group. Detroit music history expert Leo Early celebrates this beloved venue.