

HIP TO BE SQUARE? The J. Geils Band, the Boston Tea Party rock club, and the folk coffeehouse Club 47 were a little before my time, but amateur photographer Steve Nelson had a front-row seat on the scene here in the late '60s and early '70s from his vantage point making sandals and hawking underground newspapers in Harvard Square by day and producing rock concerts by night. His snapshots of this rockin' era bring it to life with never-before-seen photos of Peter Wolf and Jonathan Richmond next to images of forlorn George McGovern campaign posters and anonymous hippies selling the *Phoenix*. Get a sneak preview at www.snpx.com, then catch "The Square: Stills from the Scene, Harvard Square and Cambridge, 1967-1973" at the New England School of Art & Design when it opens next Thursday.

"Thomas Gainsborough 1727-1788" is at the Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, June 15 through September 14. Time-and-date-specific tickets are required; call (617) 267-9300. "The Square: Stills from the Scene, Harvard Square and Cambridge, 1967-1973" is at the New England School of Art & Design, 75 Arlington Street, June 19 through July 18; call (617) 573-8785.