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FIRESIGN THEATRE STORAGE UNIT BURGLIED
SOME GOODS RECOVERED; HUGE CACHE OF MEMORABILIA
STILL MISSING

(Burbank, CA – June 16, 2015) – Library of Congress-inducted comedy group The Firesign Theatre is recovering from a burglary to their Los Angeles storage unit in April of this year. The bulk of the stolen items are personal memorabilia from the collection of founding member Philip Proctor.

Within the last week, some of the stolen goods, including Firesign's collection of vintage posters and handbills, kept in three art portfolios, were (almost completely) recovered after LAPD apprehended a suspect. However the bulk of the stolen memorabilia remains missing.

The thieves gained access to Firesign's storage unit after burgling the car of Firesign founding member Philip Proctor and stealing the key and gate passcode to the group's storage facility. In mid-April they gained access to the storage unit and burgled the goods. Phil Proctor discovered the burglary a week later after a routine visit to the unit. LAPD detectives opened an incident, and thanks to our research efforts and those of several Firesign friends on Facebook, we discovered that a suspect in North Hollywood was attempting to sell some of the goods on Craigslist. A sting was arranged, and LAPD and Firesign's archivist recovered some of the goods.

These items remain lost:

- **Phil Proctor's scrapbooks** from Firesign's Columbia years, appx. 1967-1976.
- **Phil Proctor's original photocollages**, in black presentation binders.
- **Firesign oversize press clippings collection**, in artist's presentation books.
- **Pignose Portable Amplifier, #57** of the original run of 65 Pignoses made in the late 1960s, signed by Wayne Kimbell & Richard Edlund.
- **Hanging bag** full of old Firesign tour costumes.
- **Clear Sterilite case** with costume hats and shirts.
- **Firesign Theatre / Proctor & Bergman handbill and poster collection** (some cherry-picked items are still lost); all items wrapped in Mylar with card stock backing.

A comprehensive list of stolen items is available on the Internet at <http://www.footnoteconspiracy.com/PressReleases/TFTStolenItemList2015-06-16.pdf> (including descriptions and photos when available).

Happily this will not adversely affect any of Firesign's upcoming archival releases, including a DVD reissue of their 1974 film *Everything You Know Is Wrong*, scheduled for release in 2015. However it obviously represents a severe blow to Phil Proctor's personal historical archive, and

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may seriously affect future reissue projects, including the documentary feature about Firesign which is currently in preproduction.

LAPD detectives believe that the apprehended suspect was not acting alone, and that the original burglars may still be at large. With the possibility looming that the stolen goods may already have scattered to local pawn shops / thrift stores, Firesign is calling on its fans, especially those based in the San Fernando Valley, to keep a lookout for the stolen memorabilia. Anyone who may have evidence that could lead to the recovery of these goods is invited to contact Firesign archivist Taylor Jessen at 818-238-4661 or ironybread@earthlink.net. Those who wish to remain anonymous may contact Firesign through the "Got Firesign?" form at <http://firesigntheatre.com/cgi-bin/gotfiresign.cgi> Thanks!

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