

Our Teen Idols: What Are They Doing Now?

Brigitte Bardot

She was one of the most stunning movie stars of the 1960s. With her long, blonde hair and trademark bangs, cat eyeliner and perfect figure, Brigitte Bardot was envied by women and desired by men. Bardot was a sex symbol, but there was a certain innocence about her as well.

The Parisian-born Bardot began her acting career in 1952 and starred in 47 films, including the controversial “And God Created Woman” in 1957. She retired in 1973 and since then has devoted herself to animal rights activism. She has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to animal rights organizations and established a foundation of her own, the Brigitte Bardot Foundation for the Welfare and Protection of Animals. Always outspoken, Bardot has been critical of Muslim immigration into France and was fined five times for inciting racial hatred. Now 81, she’s still controversial.



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Have you ever wondered about the film and music stars you adored when you were young? Here’s a roundup of what some of them are doing now.

Racquel Welch

Who can forget that poster of Raquel Welch that displayed her physique in a fur bikini? The star of “One Million Years BC” and “Fantastic Voyage,” now 75, had a long acting career, appearing in films and TV roles as recently as 2012. In the 1980s, she started producing beauty and fitness books and videos. She found business success with a line of wigs.

Bobby Sherman

Bobby Sherman, a singer who appeared regularly on “American Bandstand,” was beloved by teenage girls in the 1960s. His hits included “Julie (Do Ya Love Me)” and “Easy Come, Easy Go.” Sherman retired in 1990 and

became a medical training officer with the Los Angeles Police Department and later a deputy sheriff in San Bernardino County. He retired in 2010.

Twiggy

Lanky, short-haired and doe-eyed, Twiggy, whose real name was Leslie Lawson, defined the 1960s Mod look. In the 1970s, she switched to acting and singing, starring in Ken Russell's film "The Boyfriend." In the past decade, Twiggy, 67, reinvented herself on reality shows, including "America's Next Top Model," and is a fashion designer with a line that's sold on the Home Shopping Network.

Shirley MacLaine

Perky, strawberry-blond Shirley MacLaine starred in films like "The Apartment," "The Trouble with Harry" and "Irma la Douce." At 82, she's still at it, having recently had roles in "Glee" and "Downtown Abbey." Outside of her career, she has written books about spirituality and metaphysics. Her brother is another '60s heartthrob, Warren Beatty.



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Little Richard

Little Richard, 83, whose birth name is Richard Penniman, started singing in church as a child in Macon, Georgia. He brought that gospel shout and a flamboyant, high-energy style to his performances of hits like "Long Tall Sally," "Tutti Frutti" and "Lucille." After six decades, his shows were still full of fire. His most recent live performance was in Las Vegas in 2013.

Grace Slick

As lead singer for The Great Society and Jefferson Airplane, Grace Slick was one of the first female rock stars and an icon of the 1960s counterculture. She performed with subsequent incarnations of the Airplane until 1988, when she gave up the music business, saying that people over 50 were too old to rock and roll—although she’s performed a few times since then with Jefferson Starship. After retiring, drawing and painting became her artistic passion. She speaks out on causes like tolerance and veganism, and has sold many of her paintings of her 1960s musical colleagues and a series of works based on “Alice in Wonderland.”



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Christopher Walken

Christopher Walken made his first movie in 1969 and gained fame in the 1970s with films like “Annie Hall” and “The Deer Hunter.” But before then, was a child actor who appeared frequently on TV, including a two-year stint on the soap opera “The Guiding Light.” Later Walken, a trained dancer, and moved to on- and off-Broadway theater. The 72-year-old actor became known for his quirky and often villainous roles, and he’s still acting in films, appearing in two movies released in 2015.

Mia Farrow

Mia Farrow, 70, came to our attention in the TV soap opera “Peyton Place” and early movies including “Rosemary’s Baby” and “The Great Gatsby.” She appeared in more than 50 more films, including 12 directed by her significant other, Woody Allen. She continues to perform occasionally in films and on the stage but primarily

devotes her time to human-rights activism. She has served as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and has

focused attention through films and public appearances on humanitarian crises in Darfur and Rwanda.

Paul Anka

We danced to teen idol Paul Anka’s songs, “Puppy Love,” “Put Your Head on My Shoulder” and “Diana” in the 1960s. Now 74, he’s still singing, launched a tour in January 2016. He released a duets album in 2013, on which he collaborated with Dolly Parton, Willie Nelson and Tom Jones. His recently published autobiography is titled “My Way.”