

## Concert Report: Henry Rollins at Tarrytown Music Hall

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Henry Rollins spoke at Tarrytown Music Hall on Sunday night.

*Photo by Lorraine Schwartz*

Usually when [punk legend](#)/raconteur [Henry Rollins](#) begins a show, he says hello and immediately offers his observations about the town he's visiting that night. Last night at [Tarrytown Music Hall](#) in Tarrytown, NY, he didn't get the chance to. An audience member felt the need to try to engage him in conversation from her seat in the balcony. After being robbed of the chance of having a magical acoustic evening with Brian Fallon by loudmouths who view a silent room as an opportunity to shout things at a performer, I've decided I've had it up to here with those people. Henry obviously has too.

Stopping dead in his tracks, he made sure it was clear that this was not an interactive show, and that if people were hoping to screw with the flow of things, they will succeed, because there is only one of him and many of them. It didn't feel like a dressing down so much as a genuine plea for silence by a man who just wanted to tell his stories without being stressed out by hecklers. Thankfully it worked, putting the random hollering to an end right off the bat so Henry could continue the evening uninterrupted.

I generally save my money for nights of rock music. So why would I go to listen to one man speak for three hours in a row without a break? Well, who else can give me an unbiased firsthand report of what the citizens of the Middle East really think of the US? Knows what it's like to spread the power of [the Stooges](#) and [Coltrane](#) to teenage minds in Sri Lanka? Has given Senior General Than Shwe of Burma the finger right to his face and lived to tell about it? Is nerved enough to try to inspire change while on a visit to China by suggesting to any Chinese person who will listen that they should get out of Tibet? And most importantly, who else not only shares my love for rock and roll music, but articulates his love via personal stories and monologues with so much passion, I feel like I'm in church? Henry Rollins, that's who.

You've heard the expression "A man of few words"? Well Henry Rollins is the opposite. He regales audiences around the world for hours with tales of international voyages, visits with friends who are both famous and unknown, thoughts on the latest headlines, and will even slip in an admission of a recent brief sexual identity crisis brought on by a confusing day as a judge on the set of RuPaul's [Drag Race](#). If I told you, "Sit down and listen to one man for three hours", you would be scared I'm sure. No need to be here. Henry will entertain you every second you are willing to give him. Even after listening to Henry speak for three hours without one pause even to take a sip of water, you will leave wanting more. I know I did. My only wish walking out of the show last night was that even though I had just heard amazing stories of Henry's travels around the world, I still wanted to know what he thought of quaint little Tarrytown.

For more info on upcoming shows, visit Henry Rollins' official [site](#).

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