

DAVID CASSIDY

Fifteen years after his last concert tour, David Cassidy is back on the road with new music, a new wife and a new image.

Cassidy, 41, the former cherubic-faced star of "The Partridge Family," is seeking to distinguish his current musical style from the bubble gum rock he played as character Keith Partridge in the hit 1970s television series.

"I was always more of a hippie than Keith was and was genuinely more into a progressive, harder-edged music than he was," Cassidy said in a phone interview. But when asked to describe his current musical style, he said simply, "successful," referring to his 1990 album "David Cassidy, which spawned a Top 40 single, "Lying To Myself."

A lot of people were surprised by how well-received his album was, said Cassidy, who bristles at the "former teen idol" label. "I think for the first time I got real critical acclaim for my writing."