



percent of it is blown out of proportion. I honestly don't read that much about myself. It's one person's interpretation of me after an hour long interview.

The writer forms an opinion of me in that one hour and it can't possibly be that accurate in such a short time. I mean, I could be in a bad mood because of a headache or something."

I for one found David Cassidy distantly polite.

He hires writers to compose songs for him but did include one of his own compositions, "Ricky's Tune" on his "Cherish" album. I asked if he plans to record more of his own stuff.

"I'd really like to do that. But they're really behind in releasing my stuff. The album that I recorded a month ago won't be out until January. And there's a big difference between what I'm doing now and six months ago. They had the reins tighter on me back then but now I'm doing what's really

me. I wrote a couple of songs for my new album."

Wes Farrell, Cassidy's producer, has been in the business as writer and producer for many years. He has nothing but praise for David.

He commented: "When David was picked for the part in the Partridge Family series we weren't even aware that he could sing good enough to be on records. But he sang a song from a Chicago album and another from Crosby Stills and Nash and did really well. He's got a massive degree of scope and range and in the past two years has improved immensely.

"The only difference between Cassidy and Presley ... is time."

Meanwhile David is talking about his friends.

"Sam Hyman is my closest friend. I only have a couple. He lives in my guest house and coordinates all my concert merchandise."

Hyman and Cassidy met ten years ago when they were going to school together. They became close friends through the years and were struggling to pay the rent before David hit it big. At that time Sam was an assistant film editor and Cassidy a struggling actor following in his father, Jack Cassidy's footsteps. Sam stands about five foot nine, medium build with an enviable rich brown tan and close cropped brown hair. He's extremely cordial and talks freely about David's success.

He said: "This happened so fast. I didn't think anything like this would happen to David when I met him at 13. But when he started his career as an actor I knew something big was in store for him. He didn't let it go to his head and didn't change much. He's remaining pretty much the same except that he's matured a lot. But his ego has never gotten out of hand. He's had so much confidence and more drive than any other person I've met. I really admire and respect him for that. I stayed out of his career at first to ensure that our friendship would remain intact.

"My friendship with David is more important than any money or anything that could be made from him.

"I never have and never will jump on the band wagon to take a free ride as many people will. That's why he respects and admires me as a friend. What I do is advantageous for David as well as myself."

Unlike some journalists who doubt Cassidy's lasting power, I can see his career growing to an even wider following. He filled a necessary gap in entertainment and perhaps he'll develop into this generation's Sinatra.

Sneer at nothing in this changing world. DANNY HOLLOWAY. 