

My Heart Is Still Lonely

The new David Cassidy-a familiar sight: With long blond hair like in his Partridge days, David presented himself in the BRAVO photo studio where this photo and the mini-poster on the previous page were taken

It's 11.30 a.m. at Munich's Riem Airport. The plane from Paris has just landed. And a few minutes later he is standing in front of me: the most radiant David Cassidy ever! He had come to Germany especially for BRAVO one day after presenting his new LP in London and Paris and appearing on various TV shows. Not even the pouring rain could dampen his dazzling mood. And I am amazed: I saw David on his first visit to Germany in 1973: shy, almost anxious during the interview. Then in 1974 during his tour, finally last year during his BRAVO visit and now again. And each time I had the feeling that he had become freer and more self-confident.

So the first thing I ask him when we sit opposite each other in the hotel is whether this impression is correct. David nods his head vigorously "Exactly. When I think about how scared I used to be of strangers! I was suspicious of everyone. No wonder I led a life like a bird in a cage. My record company and the TV company told me what to do and what not to do. I couldn't let go of this mistrust even when I had lost all my contracts. It's only now that I'm starting to feel really free."

How does he see his teen star past now?

David smiles: "I think I exaggerated a lot in many interviews back then. I was ranting like a madman - it was all still too fresh. Now I'm beginning to realize that my musical past with the Partridge Family was very, very important to me. After all, it helped me get my musical career." His new record? "The LP 'Home is where the Heart is' is the best thing I've done so far. My first LP, The Higher They Climb, was misunderstood by many. That's largely my fault. It was actually meant more ironically, I was settling accounts with my image as a teen superstar on that LP. I just had to get rid of it. Now I've put that behind me and I'm free for my music. Music is clearly the main focus of my new LP. The record doesn't have a common theme this time, but all its songs say a lot about me. I wrote seven of the ten songs, and most of the arrangements are also mine." When he mentions his musicians, David goes into raptures: "It was a wonderful collaboration, we all became close friends while working together and there was an incredibly creative atmosphere." He is particularly enthusiastic about his lead guitarist Steve Ross: "He's almost as good as Eric Clapton. I've known him since my high school days and I really appreciate him."

How does David live now? "My life has become much easier. I've finally realized what things are important in my life. Money certainly isn't. Okay, I have my houses in Los Angeles and Hawaii, for which I am also very grateful. But the most important things are my friends, people around me who I trust. I've finally realized that. My new LP also says a lot about that."

And what about love for David? He looks serious: "I still haven't found my true love. Maybe it doesn't even exist. In any case, my heart is still lonely. Okay, I know a few girls who I meet up with from time to time - but I have to say that at the moment my friends, my musicians and my new life are much more important to me. It's all very exciting for me at the moment, so my musical development comes before love..."

Does he have any movie plans? I've had more than enough offers," says David, from Partridge-like material to porn films. None of it was the right thing. Now I've found a script that I would like. But after our first conversation, the director and I realized that we had two completely different ideas about the guy I should play. But the final word hasn't been spoken yet - that's why I'm not talking about it yet. But I can only confirm it again and again: Although I started out as an actor, today I feel first and foremost like a musician..."

Jürgen Tiedt