

The many sides of David Cassidy

There are so many aspects of David Cassidy that it's impossible to deal with in just one book . . . it'd need more like a library to house all the stories about him. To outline all his ambitions. But let's now just hustle through a series of random thoughts that he's expressed . . .

For instance, there's no doubt that his main ambition now is to go into a full-length major movie. There's already been a lot of discussion about this, but his hold-up is the same one that faces so many top popstars . . . finding the right script.

Something like those "churned out" by Elvis Presley? Well, don't expect David to knock Elvis. He's a strong fan of the Presley recording style. But he says: "I doubt if I could make that kind of film. You see I regard myself as being primarily an actor, and Elvis was really a singer, who was acting a bit. In a sense, he just played himself and inserted his songs and everybody was happy."

But then Elvis had to make a lot of films because he couldn't possibly tour the world every year . . . we've had the television series to get ourselves across to the greatest number of fans.

"No, one day I'll do a big film. I'll get an acting part, but I hope it's got something to do with music. As a matter of fact, I wouldn't be scared about taking on the kind of role that people would hate . . . you know, the kind of guy who just wouldn't appeal to any woman in her right mind!"

Well — fair enough. Be sure, though, that David WILL get into movies in a big way. And that he'll apply the same professional touch to the problems he'll find.

To *Flip* magazine in the States, David admitted that he was a very experienced daydreamer. "I dream about where I'll be a few years from now, and what I'll be doing.

"Say in five years time . . . well, I can't exactly imagine that I'll still be doing the *Partridge Family*, though I guess it's possible. But I'm sure I couldn't keep up the kind of schedule I'm doing now with the filming and recording and personal appearances.

"But I know I can't give up show business altogether. It's right there in my blood now, and I'll always be involved, either in front of the cameras or behind them."

"But at the same time I have this vision of myself a few years from now and I'm living on a farm where I grow my own vegetables and everything I eat is fresh and natural. And there's a lot of wide open spaces where I can roam around.

"And I picture me with a wife and a couple of young children. On one hand it's hard for me to picture myself married because I really just don't feel ready for it yet. I still have this feeling that I won't get married until I'm over thirty — and that's way, way off yet.

"But on the other hand I could really dig, sometime in the future, being married to one spectacular girl and having a couple of kids. Can you see me as a daddy? Wow!

"I can see me out there on that farm with my wife and kids who breathe clean air and know what trees really look like, and believe me I wouldn't like to raise

kids in a big city. But for the moment it's all a daydream. Just a pipedream . . ."

And a few more facts and figures on David . . .

He's by no means a tidy person, especially in his dressingroom. He likes to dress casually anyway, but he's liable to leave newspapers and books and things all over the place.

He likes to read history books rather than fictional stories, but he doesn't get much time to do his "highbrow" act these days.

He loves having a birthday because he says that getting thousands of cards from all round the world is one of the nicest things about his life as a . . . pop person. Don't, never ever, call him a star, much less a super-star, because he thinks it sounds pompous. And use the word "idol" about him at your peril.

He thinks that's even worse . . .

He doesn't like the jokes about the fact that his stand-in on the *Partridge Family* is a girl . . . lady named Jan Freeman. He isn't all that keen on the fact that so many people think he looks like a young Shirley MacLaine, either. Except that he thinks she's a first-class actress!

He has said, in one of his more philosophic moments: "We all have images, don't we? I'm all White Knight, Prince Charming — like Paul McCartney used to seem, and who I admire greatly.

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But I'm not. I've got my problems like everyone else.

He says of those who stick his name on products: "It's okay, except when they put the name on things that are rubbish. It's hard to stop them, but I hate the idea of fans not getting value for money."

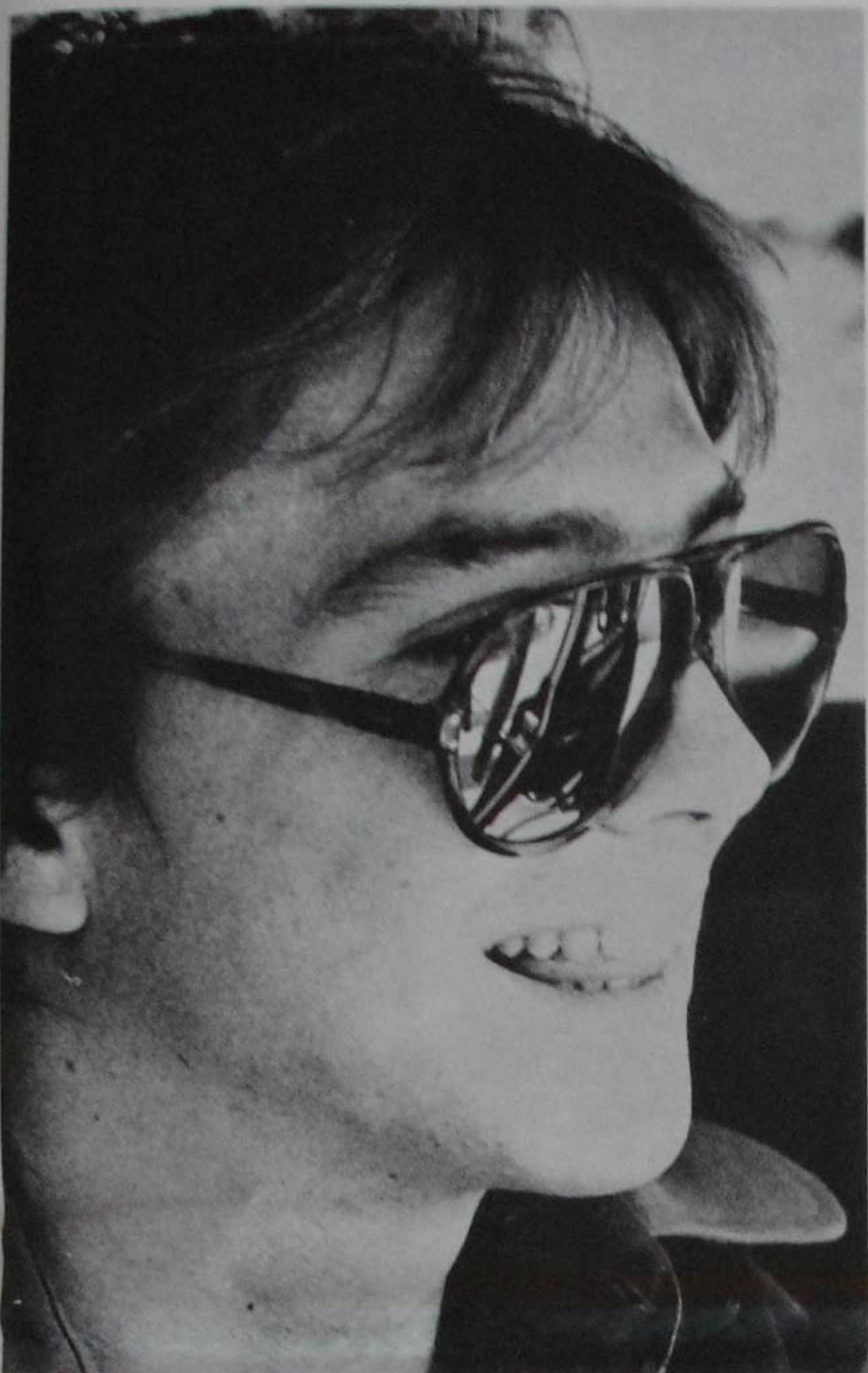
His fan-club, based at 58 Parker Street, London, is a hive of activity . . . and the letters and the presents fairly pour in by every post. They are sent on to him in Los Angeles, and he takes a great interest in what the fans are saying about him. Many of the letters are sent in the form of poetry, and if some of it hardly up to Poet Laureate standards . . . well, the adoration and love for David still shows through.

He now can't even look forward to his weekends, because of the pressures of work. He might do 50-plus hours on the TV shows, then recording sessions, then gigs each weekend.

So he'd take a midnight flight from Los Angeles and get to the town involved on the Saturday and do two shows, fly on to the "Sunday" town that same evening, and get back early enough to report, bright and fresh (!) for the Monday morning's work on the set!

He's very modest about his own sell-out capabilities at theatres and auditoriums, but he was justifiably proud when he recalled how the 10,000-seater Garden State Arts Centre in New Jersey

"... now is a full-scale movie!"



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