

David Pack Bio

2016

Grammy Award Winning Artist, Producer, and Music Director of Global Events

David Pack is perhaps best known as the co-founder, singer, and guitarist of Ambrosia, and the voice of the timeless hits they produced in the 1970's and 80's. But since that time David has established himself as a successful solo artist, in-demand Grammy-winning record producer, and Music Director of global special events - including both of President Clinton's Inaugural Galas, and events for Barbra Streisand, Elton John, Billy Joel, Madonna and others.

His collected works have sold over 50 million units worldwide. His two principal musical mentors for over 30 years are friends Quincy Jones and the late Leonard Bernstein.

David has had a career that most artists can only dream of and he is still going strong well into his fourth decade in music, with his classic songs not only enduring on the radio, but striking a chord with today's hottest musicians and film-makers - in 2015 Pack's "How Much I Feel" was sampled by hip-hop artist Big Sean on his song "All Your Fault" (feat. Kanye West) from his #1 album "Dark Sky Paradise," with Pack credited for 50% of songwriting. In 2016 Judd Apatow's Netflix original series "Love" featured David's classic "Biggest Part Of Me" in the series trailer and in the first two episodes.

Career History

David's career was launched through Ambrosia's acclaimed debut album in 1975 on 20th Century Fox Records. The self-titled album (which was mixed by Alan Parsons and Grammy-nominated for "Best Engineered Album") spawned the band's first top 20 national hit "Holdin' On To Yesterday," which David co-wrote and sang. This early success, which also included #1 FM radio and college hits, allowed the band to tour America with acts such as Fleetwood Mac, The Beach Boys, Rush and Kansas, aggregating a large fan base as a premier progressive rock act. Billboard magazine and countless TV entertainment shows of the day called Ambrosia "the next big thing" in music.

The band was so hot by the fall of 1975 that legendary manager & film producer Jerry Weintraub asked for a meeting and pitched wanting to manage the band, but the group declined.

Ambrosia then scored another top 40 hit with a cover of the Beatles classic "Magical Mystery Tour" (featuring the London Philharmonic) appearing on the film soundtrack for "All This and WW2." Then in 1976 Alan Parsons produced their 2nd album "Somewhere I've Never Traveled." The album received great critical acclaim, including Billboard calling it "a close-up into one of the most intriguing collective minds in today's music." It was nominated for a Grammy, and yielded several #1 FM radio hits, bolstered by constant touring in America.

Then with a label change to venerable Warner Bros. Records, David went on to write and sing Ambrosia's signature hit songs: 1978's #1 smash "How Much I Feel" then 1980's "Biggest Part of Me" and "You're The Only Woman," all BMI 3 Million Airplay and Grammy nominated songs. The band was featured on major TV shows including hosting Dick Clark's Rockin' New Years' Eve 1981, Midnight Special, and Don Kirshner's "Rock Concert." Warner Bros. put them on packaged tours with Fleetwood Mac, and several tours with the Doobie Brothers.

This momentum helped the band sell out L.A.'s premier concert venue The Greek Theater in the early 80's. Then the band recorded their last studio record with Pink Floyd engineer/producer James Guthrie in England, titled "Road Island," in 1982. They disbanded a year later.

Then, seeking a new career path, David met and befriended legendary Quincy Jones who mentored him and declared that David should start producing records for other artists. Quincy launched that facet of David's career by giving him Patti Austin to produce for his Qwest/Warner record label.

Quincy asked David to write a song for daytime TV heartthrob Jack Wagner from General Hospital, who Jones had signed to his label. That song, co-written with Glen Ballard and Cliff Magness, became the #1 CHR Smash "All I Need," spawning Wagner's only hit and gold record.

David has continued to produce platinum and gold-selling Grammy-nominated records over the last 30 years, for artists such as Kenny Loggins, Wynonna, Aretha Franklin, Michael McDonald, Linda Ronstadt, Brian McKnight, Phil Collins, CeCe Winans, Patti Austin, Trisha Yearwood, and others.

Leonard Bernstein, the most celebrated artist of the 20th Century, was David's friend and music mentor for over 25 years - and godfather of his adopted daughter Beth. English classical engineer Gordon Parry introduced David to Bernstein in 1971, then a year later Pack became a featured performer for a 3-month run at the Mark Taper Forum production of Bernstein's "Mass" commissioned to open John F. Kennedy Performing Arts Center. David went on to produce Leonard's daughter Jamie, then introduced Bernstein to Quincy Jones and Michael Jackson at a UCLA classical concert and private dinner "hang" afterwards that Pack organized.

In the early 90's, Barbra Streisand asked David to help her arrange, conduct, and be her vocal coach for a fundraiser featuring a new song by Alan & Marilyn Bergman "Common Threads." The event supporting Sen. Barbara Boxer featured Barbra, Dionne Warwick, Melissa Etheridge, Judy Collins, Goldie Hawn and other female superstars. Then in 1992, David conducted and music directed the massive Aids Project L.A. Commitment to Life event produced by Bernie Taupin featuring Barbra Streisand, Elton John, Billy Joel, Eddie Van

Halen, and other greats performing David's arrangements of West Side Story. That event raised \$4 million for AIDS research, and was the night of Streisand's now famous "Boycott Telluride" speech.

In 1996 he conceived and produced "The Songs of West Side Story," a brilliant tribute to his late friend, maestro Leonard Bernstein. It featured legendary superstars like Aretha Franklin, Natalie Cole, Selena, Wynonna, Trisha Yearwood, Little Richard, Chick Corea, Phil Collins and TLC, and many more, all performing David's new arrangements of the timeless songs of West Side Story. The project was RIAA-certified Gold and raised money for Grammy in the Schools and Leonard Bernstein's Education Foundation.

In 2011 David served as music director, celebrity judge, and music producer for the global Avon female talent search titled "Avon Voices." This included Black Eyed Peas' Fergie, Natasha Beddingfield, Diane Warren, Reese Witherspoon, and other stars. He produced the Diane Warren song "Until U Love U" for Russia's #1 star Valeriya (over 100 mil CD's sold) as the project's debut single. Check out photos and more about that show [here](#).

In August 2005 David released a jazz-pop-oriented solo CD on Concord Records titled "The Secret of Movin' On" featuring special guests Ann Wilson (Heart,) Steve Perry (Journey,) Timothy B. Schmidt (Eagles,) Dewey Bunnell (America,) and good friend jazz keyboardist David Benoit. The CD yielded two top ten national AC & smooth jazz hits, and rave reviews from pop and jazz critics – including Jazziz Magazine's Top 5 best CD's of 2005. In 2007, David was nominated for "Best International Vocalist of the Year" by the Canadian Jazz Awards, along with Al Jarreau and Corrine Bailey Rae.

In September 2008, David's first-ever musical "The Bubble – A Musical Dot Comedy" premiered as part of the New York Musical Festival (www.nymf.org.) He wrote all of the music and co-wrote lyrics with book writer Karen Paull. It is based on the greed-fueled Silicon Valley internet bubble and stock market crash of 2000, and inspired by the classic Broadway musical "Damn Yankees".

In 2002, David wrote and produced a tribute song to Rev. Billy Graham titled "Thank You Billy Graham" co-written with country star Billy Dean and Pat Boone. It features: Bono, Faith Hill, Leann Rimes, Michael McDonald, CNN's Larry King, Andrae Crouch, Tim McGraw, DC Talk, Pack, and others. Proceeds go to Graham's charity Samaritan's Purse. It is sold at BGEA.com store.

Film and TV highlights include: NBC TV's "Mercy" and ABC TV's "Castle" featuring David's hit songs in 2010. 2007's "Knocked Up," Judd Apatow's #1 blockbuster comedy film starring Katherine Heigl, featuring David's classic "Biggest Part of Me." Taylor Hackford's 1987 film "White Nights," for which David wrote and sang "Prove Me Wrong," the dance number for Barishnikov and Hines (also on the multi-platinum White Nights soundtrack.) David sang a duet with Bette Midler for her movie Beaches (with a #1 double-platinum soundtrack.) David wrote five songs for Goldie Hawn's "Wildcats." He wrote all music for Roseanne Barr's

"Roseanne" talk show on NBC. And in 2006 he wrote all music and cues for Rick Dees's new radio show on Movin' 93.9 Los Angeles. He penned "Our Love" (w/ Michael McDonald) as the end title song for Richard Gere and Kim Basinger's film "No Mercy." Most recently David composed a significant amount of music for the film "Gallow's Road," starring Ernie Hudson (Ghostbusters) and Kevin Sorbo (Hercules.)

Today, David does volunteer work frequently for Pastor Rick Warren, author of the 40 million-selling book "Purpose Driven Life." In Dec. 2009 David's "Purpose of Christmas" CD for Warren was released exclusively by Walmart, with superstars Sarah McLachlan, Martina McBride, Vince Gill and others, and raised over \$500,000 for his PEACE missions. Then in March of 2010, David booked the Jonas Brothers for Warren's Saddleback Easter service at Angel Stadium in Anaheim, and produced a satellite radio special for Sirius XM live from the event.

In 2010, a new charity was established in David's name as part of Santa Barbara's Dream Foundation, for terminal cancer patients at <http://www.dreamfoundation.org>.

He is passionate about charity work including: Rick Warren's PEACE Initiative, AIDS Project L.A., Dream Foundation, American Bible Society, UC Irvine Medical Center, NSAI, Autism Rocks, Cystic Fibrosis, American Cancer Society, Grammy In The Schools, Rally Cancer Foundation for Children, and Cedars Sinai "Pamper Me Pink" for Chron's disease.

David continues to tour across America with a top-notch live band. 2015 concert highlights include a set at the massive BottleRock Festival in Napa, CA playing alongside friends and platinum superstars Bill Champlin (Chicago,) Jim Peterik (Survivor,) and John Elefante (Kansas); as well as performing for over 15,000 people as part of the 50th anniversary of Cathedral of Faith in San Jose CA, along side Elefante, as well as Michelle Williams (Destiny's Child,) Jamie Jones (All-4-One) and many more.

Recent Projects

Beato Band: David's newest album project, entitled *Beato Band*, was released in Feb 2016. It is a collaboration with his oldest friend and high-school bandmate Fred Beato (CEO of Beato Bags Inc.) Notably the album includes a song David started to write in the early 70's for Ambrosia and finally finished for this album called "Somedays." But many of the songs David wrote for this release were inspired by his decades-long friendship with Fred, including the album's centerpiece "Cuba BC," a 7-minute epic recounting Fred's true-life story of coming to American from Cuba as a political refugee at age 10. Learn more at www.BeatoBand.com.

Napa Crossroads: David Pack's Napa Crossroads CD was released on Concord Records in spring 2014. It was composed and recorded in Napa Valley over a 4-year period in collaboration with CEO's of five of Napa's most prestigious wineries: Silver Oak, Far Niente, Pride, Casa Piena and Gargiulo Vineyards. It features guest stars: The Doors' Ray Manzarek, Alan Parsons, Todd Rundgren, Bela Fleck, Rooney's Robert Schwartzman, Country stars Billy

Dean & Jimmy Wayne, legendary jazz stars David Benoit, Mindi Abair & Rick Braun; guitar greats Larry Carlton, Doyle Dykes and Cage The Elephant's Lincoln Parish, and others.

David has now turned this CD into a live concert brand called Napa Crossroads Live, specializing in unique multi-star concert events with some of the greatest classic rock and pop artists in the world. Key shows have included the 100,000-attendance BottleRock Napa Valley music festival, and major corporate events for huge companies like Altria; as well as charity concerts including sets two years in a row at the Convoy Of Hope annual conference, Executive Produced by Kevin Jonas Sr. Visit www.napacrossroads.com for more information.

Silent Night: On Christmas Day 2015 David released a single of the classic "Silent Night." Long a fan of Simon & Garfunkel, David had always loved the ingenious and emotionally-powerful version of "Silent Night" that they recorded in 1966, juxtaposing the evening news of the day - much of it devastating reports about war and political upheaval - with the stark, beautiful song and lyrics.

David released two versions - one an update of Simon and Garfunkel's version in which a reel of 2015's most affecting and poignant news stories are heard above David's soaring harmonies, to show how broken the world still is 5 decades later; and one mix without the news, representing the true peace that can exist when one tunes into God's message vs the noise of the world. 100% of the proceeds are going to Rick Warren's Global P.E.A.C.E. initiative.

David lives in Napa Valley, California, with wife Stacey and son Jackson, and has two older daughters, Beth and Kaitlyn.

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