

THE HILLARY STEP



ROB SCHIFFMANN (ASCAP) (guitar, vocals, songwriting and everything else) has been a musician since he was born. As Freud would have it, at five years old, he started taking lessons from his mom, a terrific pianist, which inspired his first composition, "The Mom Boogie". At eight years old and five teachers later, he began studying piano with Andre Gribou. Around the time that Andre was introducing him to all kinds of new music, from Jazz to Cuban music to Little Feat, Rob realized that practicing piano was nowhere near as cool as coming up with new chords on his own, which, with the gift of a computer from his attentive family, began his composing and recording career. At Oberlin

College, he wrote for modern dance, a cappella and other groups, and began writing songs. It was during those years that he picked up his first guitar and started playing in a band. It quickly became apparent that guitar was the instrument for him. Most people had no time for the musical ramblings of this budding musician until Jon Rothstein, his pal since second grade, gave him the time of day, and they started writing music together.



JON ROTHSTEIN (ASCAP) (Bass, vocals, songwriting) sang "The Star Spangled Banner" for his second grade class, and it was all over from there. The performing bug grabbed hold of him and carried him through years of school chorus and plays. Ultimately it led Jon to children's theater where he began to perform in original shows with original music, which inspired him to write music on his own. Although he always wanted to sing in a band, Jon followed the acting path, ultimately starring as Jeffery Childs aka "The Wimp" in the ABC Afterschool Special, "Getting Even: A Wimp's Revenge," and appearing on Broadway as a member of the ensemble in the short-lived "Ghetto" at the tender age of 19.

Although he began teaching himself piano during this time, his musical leanings would not start to take hold again until college, where he joined the Middlebury Dissipated Eight a capella group and got to show off all his talents singing lead on arrangements of Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean" and Jefferson Airplane's "White Rabbit." He began voice and classical guitar lessons in college and finally decided that since he was going to make his living as an actor, it was a good idea to major in music. From that moment on the die was cast, and after college, he reunited with grade-school buddy Rob Schiffmann and started writing songs.