

The Renaissance

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Davy Jones at the Renaissance Theatre, May 23, 2009, 8:00 PM

Maintaining his allure as a sexy icon through generations of fans, Davy Jones first invaded teen hearts as the international idol of millions in the 1960s Emmy Award winning television classic *The Monkees*. Since the show hit the small screen, Davy has triumphed as both a serious actor and a comedian on the theatrical stage; as a rock musician, composer and artist; and, true to his first love, as an extremely able horseman.

Davy continues to ride and train his beloved racehorses to be winners. In 1996, he won his first race in England on his prized horse, Digpast. "I've always thought if all the show business success hadn't happened, I'd have been a world champion jockey. It's in my blood. I've always dreamed of going back to England — riding a few winners," he says.

Davy was born in Manchester, England on December 30, 1945. He began entertaining at 11 years old as Ena Sharples' grandson on the still-running ITV soap opera, *Coronation Street*. His performance was so memorable, theatrical agents sought him out as he was working as an apprentice jockey in Newmarket and took him to London where he portrayed Dickens' mischievous Artful Dodger in the West End production of *Oliver!* Later, at the age of 16, Davy found himself the toast of New York where he originated the Artful Dodger role on Broadway and was nominated for a Tony Award. As a result, Davy was offered a contract with Columbia Pictures/Screen Gems Television, and *The Monkees* was created shortly after.

Davy is also an accomplished writer and humorous storyteller. He recently completed the second edition of his autobiography, *Davy Jones: Daydream Believin'*, which updates his life and career to the present. Davy's talents extend to short stories, poetry, and photography. Davy also teaches seminars throughout the country where he gives motivational speeches and converses on many subjects including his diverse experiences in show business as well as techniques used in all aspects of entertainment.



The Monkees

Unlike most bands of the time, *The Monkees* were not formed by its members, but rather by TV producers: they were a fictional band in the TV show of the same name.

TV producers, Bert Schneider and Bob Rafelson, formulated an idea for a show about a Beatles-like band, then put ads in newspapers, seeking musicians to star in the series.

The band was composed of Mike Nesmith, Mickey Dolenz, Davy Jones, and Peter Tork. All the members had some musical experience.

The show debuted on NBC in 1966 and became a huge hit. Each week the group would sing a song or two written by top industry names like Carole King, Neil Diamond and Gerry Goffin, while instrumentation was provided by talented musicians, including Stephen Stills and Harry Nilsson.



Concert Connection

The Monkees' principle audience consisted of young teenagers and children. Nonetheless singles like "I'm a Believer" became Top 10 hits, and the "Prefab Four" became media icons. By 1967 *The Monkees* were perhaps the most popular band in the United States.

Source: www.thebiographychannel.co.uk/biography_story/263:2843/1/The_Monkees.htm

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