

FRANCES SCHOENBERGER: DAVID AS NOBODY KNOWS HIM

I was with David in Los Angeles often enough to interview him for BRAVO, and I knew him as a sunny boy who was sometimes a bit complicated or withdrawn, and now I've spent three weeks criss-crossing Europe with him, sneaking through hotel back entrances, seeing him at rehearsals, concerts and breakfasts. Now I know David Cassidy, the man. Before, I only knew David Cassidy, the star

David, the pensive one: as soon as he is alone, his smile disappears. He is constantly thinking about his future

David, the exuberant one: At a BRAVO party after his concert in Munich, he danced happily with Frances

Typical for David: He wants to kiss his background singer as a greeting. Suddenly he spots the camera and he's tense again, kissing with closed lips

Goddammit, I'm not 16-year-old Keith Partridge, I'm 24 years old and grown up. After a press conference in Copenhagen, David Cassidy is deeply depressed. Everyone wants to take me for a fool. They keep asking me questions that I've already answered a thousand times - I don't want to be taken for a ride any more!" I often saw David in this mood on his European tour. David is hypersensitive, critical and suspicious of everyone I finally want to be myself, I want to live I've been doing the same thing for four years now. Now it's high time for me to develop further. I want to do something else in the future that I can be proud of."

Many newspapers report that David wants to withdraw from the show business. "Nonsense," he says. "I just don't want to do any more tours. I need a long break first to develop my personal musical style. I want to show what I'm made of. I want people to finally get to know the real David Cassidy." What does this real Cassidy look like? I remember a conversation I had with him on the flight from Hamburg to Frankfurt. Beforehand, David had hidden behind a newspaper, as he always did when flying, to avoid being recognized and approached. When he felt completely safe, he put the newspaper down and looked ahead of him, lost in thought. He played with his hands and let the sun's rays shine through his fingers as they fell into the window. Suddenly he said to me without looking up: Do you know, Frances, that I met with my brother Shaun in New York before my trip to Europe?" -I didn't know. David continued: "I wanted to warn him not to make the same mistakes I did.

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