

THE SKINNY ON SLIM MAN

When Slim Man was 5-years-old, his dad showed him a movie, a film called *The Five Pennies*. It featured Danny Kaye and Louis Armstrong, and when young Slim saw Louis sing and play the trumpet, he told his dad, "That's what I want to do."

Slim Man studied trumpet for the next 9 years, and also taught himself to play piano and bass guitar.

After studying piano, composition, and harmony at the Peabody Institute of Music in Baltimore, MD, Slim Man got signed as a songwriter to Motown Records. He's had songs recorded by the Temptations, Angela Bofill, Carl Anderson, and others. Slim Man also recorded a CD for Motown, which gave birth to his signature style--a unique blend of jazz, soul, and pop.

Slim Man went on to form the band BootCamp, a band that had two of the first 100 videos ever played on MTV. Those videos launched BootCamp into a successful concert career, performing with The Tubes, The B-52s, Squeeze, Split Enz, Johnny Winter, and many others.

Slim Man then organized and hosted a nationwide talent contest sponsored by Marlboro. It was during this contest that he got the nickname, Slim Man. He went on to discover Ronnie Dunn, who later hooked up with Kix Brooks to form the multiple Grammy award-winning country music duo, Brooks and Dunn.

Soon after, Slim Man started writing and producing songs for vocalist Brian Jack, which led to a contract for Brian with Epic Records. The CD was never released. Undaunted, Slim Man went back into the studio, re-recorded some of the songs in his own voice, and released his debut CD, *End of the Rainbow*. The CD was on many Top Ten lists for the year.

JD Considine (Rolling Stone) described the Slim Man style as "A near-perfect example of how jazz and soul can be combined as pop." Since that debut, Slim Man has released 11 CDs.

In the late 90s, Slim Man started another band, Bona Fide, an instrumental group whose combination of funk and jazz culminated in the Number One single, *X Ray Hip*. Bona Fide also received "Best New Artist" award at the Smooth Jazz Awards. Bona Fide has released 4 CDs.

Slim Man has also produced about 40 cooking episodes for the Italian American Network. These videos feature Mr. Man cooking his original recipes, as well as some family favorites. His new cookbook, *Slim Man Cooks*, features those recipes, as well as stories about his wild ride in the music biz. The cookbook also features links to the 40 cooking videos.

Slim Man just won "Best Jazz Vocalist" at the Coachella Music Awards (2016).

Slim Man was born in Baltimore, and now lives in Palm Springs, CA.