

## Mp3 The Cowsills - Global



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Power pop music building bridges between 60s pop and modern adult contemporary pop. 12 MP3 Songs

POP: Power Pop, POP: Pop/Rock Show all album songs: Global Songs Details: The real-life inspiration behind the hit television series *The Partridge Family*, The Cowsills were one of the biggest pop acts of the late '60s, distinguished by their angelic harmonies and sun-kissed melodies. The group's origins lie with brothers Bill and Bob, who as children began their singing careers covering Everly Brothers hits. Given guitars by their father, Navy man William "Bud" Cowsill, the siblings soon recruited younger brothers Barry and John to play bass and drums, respectively, and as Beatlemania dawned, the teen foursome began performing live at school dances and church socials throughout their native Newport, RI. Eventually they landed a regular weekend gig at the local club, Dorians, on Bannisters Wharf, and in 1965 recorded the single "All I Really Wanta Be Is Me" on the Joda label; the record generated little response until an appearance on NBC's *The Today Show*. The group then signed with Mercury Records, releasing three more singles. Upon signing with MGM in 1967, The Cowsills with their lineup now numbering seven (brother Paul, sister Susan and mother Barbara joining the original four) had their first million-selling single, *The Rain, the Park and Other Things* (usually called the flower girl song) which was featured most recently in Jim Carreys movie, *Dumb and Dumber*. They performed on such notable TV shows as the *Ed Sullivan Show*, the *Johnny Cash Show*, the *Tonight Show*, *Merv Griffin*, *Mike Douglas*, and also had their own NBC television special in 1968. *Indian Lake* and *We Can Fly* followed in the summer and in 1969 they had their biggest hit, the multi-million selling title song from the musical *Hair*. The Cowsills also recorded the theme song for the TV show *Love, American Style* which is still one of the most popular songs they perform in their shows. They were one of the early pop acts to record commercials for television (nationally shown milk ads for the American Dairy Association) and there is

currently a serious movement to ensure their induction into the Rock n Roll Hall of Fame. Today, The Cowsills tour and perform together (although brother Barry died during the Katrina hurricane, brother Bill passed away at the same time from illnesses in Canada and brother Richard is retired and lives in New Mexico) and their harmonies are still as infectious and bright as ever.

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