

Ira Ingber

Minneapolis-born and Los Angeles raised, Ira Ingber was born into a musical family. His mother played piano, his father sang, and his brother was a guitarist. Ira recorded his first original song at the age of 15. After time spent honing his skill on a Gibson J-200 that belonged to Don Everly at Gold Star Recording Studio in Hollywood, he was soon asked to become a member of a popular LA band called *The New Generation*. A recording contract with Capitol Records and prestigious live performances followed shortly thereafter. Although the band recorded only one album, the time Ira spent in Studio B at the Capitol Tower widened his knowledge of the recording process.

Studying music at Los Angeles City College, UCLA and privately with the legendary conductor educator, Joseph Valenti, gave form and structure to the guitar playing skills he had acquired at an early age. His older brother, Elliot Ingber, had given him his first guitar, instruction, and the invaluable exposure to the blues. Elliot was a member of Frank Zappa's first Mothers Of Invention, and later founded the Fraternity Of Man, which gave the world "Don't Bogart That Joint", and then joined Captain Beefheart's Magic Band becoming known as Winged Eel Fingerling. It was through this connection that Ira eventually wrote and recorded with Captain Beefheart.

An early association with Lowell George led to Ira's second record deal. Lowell produced several tracks for the band, with executive producers Ahmet Ertegun and Robert Stigwood. Ira reciprocated years later by producing two tracks for the Lowell George tribute album entitled *Rock and Roll Doctor*.



Tours and recordings with the Southern California singer/songwriter "mafia" brought along associations with J.D. Souther, Karla Bonoff, Jennifer Warnes, Andrew Gold and Bonnie Raitt. The stage was then set for Ira's third record contract, this time with Clive Davis' Arista label, signing his band The Pets, with the resulting album *Wet Behind The Ears*. Ira was asked to form a band for Bob Dylan that led to the recording of two Dylan albums, *Empire Burlesque* and *Knocked Out Loaded*. One song, the 12+ minute epic "Brownsville Girl", went on to appear on Dylan's *Greatest Hits Vol. 3*.

A long working relationship with Van Dyke Parks resulted in Ira's involvement as both musician and producer of scores with a wide range of film, television, record and commercial projects, including the Howard Stern movie *Private Parts*, the Robert Altman directed *The Company*, and the Brian Wilson/Van Dyke Parks collaborative album *Orange Crate Art*, among many others. Most recently, he performed on, mixed and mastered Van Dyke's acclaimed album, *Songs Cycled*. Following *Songs Cycled* came another collaboration with Van Dyke on a single, *Charm School*. Co-written, co-produced, mixed and mastered by Ira, it went on to receive international acclaim. The motion picture, *Midnight Run*, with a score written by Danny Elfman featured Ira's prominent slide guitar over an orchestral backdrop. Prior to *Midnight Run*, he performed on another Elfman score for the film *Hot To Trot*.

Ira has composed and performed numerous original scores and songs for film, television and commercials. His guitar work was prominent in *Eureka*, *Battlestar Galactica*, *The Walking Dead*, *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* (with composer Bear McCreary) and *The Life and Times of Tim*. Currently, Ira is a featured guitarist on the hit Starz Network show *Black Sails*, and a founding member of jackiO.