

The Bobby Tender Story

a mockumentary



*Azur is the trademark for the collaboration of Martin Ilmoni
and Rabbe Sandelin in the field of tv, film and media*

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The Background



Bobby Tender (Martin Ilmoni)
The flamboyant Finnish singer who takes on London and becomes a smash hit in 1982.



Investigative Reporter **John Clam** (Rabbe Sandelin). *His very personal mission is to unravel everything about Bobby. He is a big fan of the 80's but he has obviously fallen behind the times, both in documentary style, and in the choice of wig fashion.*

The Bobby Tender Story is the first major collaboration between Finnish artist-songwriter **Martin Ilmoni** and producer **Rabbe Sandelin** under their new marketing trademark: Azur.

The Bobby Tender Story works on two levels. It is a show-piece for the musical talent of Martin Ilmoni, and at the same time a humorous, satirical look at the news-hungry TV documentary format, where any old bit of information is used to make up a juicy story.

Shot and edited entirely in the digital domain, it also incorporates old film and video material from Martin Ilmoni's own career.

Although a limited budget independent production, locations impressively include – amongst others – London, The French Riviera, Dallas and Los Angeles.

"We are pleased with the end result, and it feels good to finally have a finished program", says producer/writer Rabbe Sandelin, who also plays investigative reporter **John Clam** in the film.

The project, which started in the autumn of 1999, has been an ongoing thing between other jobs. Rabbe Sandelin wants to point out that *The Bobby Tender Story* is not to be taken too seriously.

"The film follows the tradition of other mockumentaries of yesteryear. But basically The Bobby Tender Story is firmly rooted in an original story about Finnish rural boy **Robert Aaron Tenderloin**, who back in the 1980's as the first Finn ever rises to international singing fame".

The film draws on the rich catalogue of Martin Ilmoni's songs written in English, some of which were used with Finnish lyrics when he recorded with EMI in 1994, the others never before published.

FOR MORE PRODUCTION INFO, LINKS TO THE **BOBBY TENDER** WEB-SITE AND DOWNLOADABLE TRAILERS AND MP3s, VISIT
WWW.SANDELIMNMEDIA.COM/AZUR

The Story...



Bobby Tender in London 1982.



Sam Hoover, who played in Bobby's first band, but nowadays has a band of his own.



Bobby's shadowy manager Helmut von Gratis.



Band leader Bob Ribbons, who met Bobby in Memphis in the 90's.

Nobody would blame you if you think that just recently, international pop stars have appeared from remote Finland. But that's just because the story of **Bobby Tender** has largely gone untold up till now.

Fact is, ***The Bobby Tender Story*** is the first attempt to document the phenomenal saga of Bobby Tender (born in the early 60s as **Robert Aaron Tenderloin** in Nökö, Finland).

From very humble beginnings, Bobby sets out on a musical career. After a formative stage, he goes to London in 1982, and becomes the first big Finnish pop star ever.

Despite significant success and a skyrocketing career, Bobby for some unexplained reason suddenly disappears, and travels to the United States. After a short stint with the movie business in Dallas, he goes to Memphis and Las Vegas to write a couple of massive hits, but again he suddenly withdraws from the limelight – just when it seems that life would start smiling at him.

The film follows investigative reporter **John Clam** as he goes on a worldwide search with two purposes: tracking down Bobby's career, and finding the truth behind his sudden disappearances and the terrible rumours that he might be dead.

The Makers



Bobby Tender's fans are worried about the rumours that he might be dead...



...but his songs keep them hoping for a come-back.

FOR MORE INFO ON
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Martin Ilmoni and **Rabbe Sandelin** were working with moving pictures already during their school years in the 1980's. After school their paths separated for a while. Martin pursued literary studies, but music was becoming more important; he became a songwriter, artist and radio journalist. Rabbe studied journalism and worked with corporate communications, graphic design and layout.

When Martin published his first album with EMI during 1994 the two renewed their long standing plans on collaborating on different projects. Work got under way a few years later, when Rabbe quit his job to form his own company, Helerab Graphics (nowadays Sandelin Media), and Martin started his own production company, Ilmoni Audiovisual.

At that time technology had reached a level where the duo at last could do all things independently: tv production, music, screenwriting and graphics. They began collaborating under the name Azur, working in the same office space in Helsinki.

Their projects include writing and producing program content for Finnish broadcaster FST, writing a comedy script for famous Finnish producer Pirkka-Pekka Petelius, producing and directing a documentary about sailor/author Göran Schildt (which premiered on Swedish national television), and a documentary about department store Stockmann's 140 years. Their current projects include a TV comedy script and the script and music for a TV comedy musical.

The Technical & Legal

Length: 29 min..

Also available: Trailer, 55 sec.

Native format: DV (delivery master can be of any choosing)

Aspect ratio: 4:3

Native sound: DV 48 Khz

(Parts of the programme has inferior picture quality due to Super8 and VHS sources. Other parts have been "aged" to confirm with the programme content.)

Story by Martin Ilmoni and Rabbe Sandelin

Written by Rabbe Sandelin

Directed by Martin Ilmoni & Rabbe Sandelin

All music produced and copyright cleared by Martin Ilmoni
(normal transmission collecting applies)