

By Scott Hays



# Batdorf & Rodney Reunite for Orange County Concert

*Back during the glory days of The Golden Bear in Huntington Beach, musical legends such as Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, The Doors, Jackson Browne, B.B. King, Peter Gabriel, and countless others were given a stage to help launch their careers. For those of us who remember some of these concerts, it was an extraordinary opportunity to feel engaged on an intimate-level in the burgeoning music industry.*

**D**oubtless the one group that had the most influence on my taste in music was Batdorf & Rodney. Many readers of this magazine may not even remember John Batdorf and Mark Rodney. They were two local guys who toured with every big act of the 70s: Chicago, The Doobie Brothers, Dan Fogelberg, Poco, Harry Chapin, Fleetwood Mac, and Linda Ronstadt. They eventually recorded several albums, including one with David Geffen's Asylum Records. My older brother still has their original albums, which recently have been re-released on CD. We probably attended a dozen or so of their concerts at The Golden Bear and McCabe's Guitar Shop in Santa Monica.

Batdorf spent years scoring primetime TV shows such as *Promised Land* and *Touched by an Angel*. His new solo album *Home Again* features two remixed Batdorf & Rodney songs. His album with James Lee Stanley titled *All Wood and Stones* features acoustic version of such Rolling Stones classics as "Satisfaction," "Ruby Tuesday" and "Paint it Black."

As luck would have it, Batdorf & Rodney have agreed to a reunion concert here in Orange County on August 10 (location TBA); a once in a lifetime opportunity for those of us who appreciate great songwriting and great musicianship. Opening are David Fertitta and Steven McClintock, who recently were awarded Best Group/Duo at the International Acoustic Music Awards. For more information, contact the Wood & Souls Concert Series at 949.306-3290, or visit [www.WoodandSouls.com](http://www.WoodandSouls.com). Seating limited. **HB**

