



RICKY SMALL & THE TALLS

Ricky Small grew up in the Central Maine town of Skowhegan, Maine. From an early age, his creative and artistic family nurtured his affinity for entertaining, and Ricky took every opportunity to perform - from community theater roles to school choirs that traveled from coast to coast. Throughout high school, Ricky regularly attended an open mic night at The Granary Brew Pub in Farmington, Maine which is where he met future producer Jason Mancine.

After high school, Ricky enrolled as a Songwriting student at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. It was there that he really began to refine and hone his writing and performing skills. In his sophomore year he met drummer Nolan Greene who became the first member of *The Talls*. Ricky and Nolan began performing in small venues like King's Lounge in Boston, and occasionally returning to the open mic in Farmington.

It was on one of these Farmington trips that Jason Mancine, now the owner of the *The Sween Machine Records*, signed Ricky to an Artist Development Agreement and began putting things in motion for the production of Ricky's first album.

Back in Boston, Ricky and Nolan rounded out *The Talls* by adding Bryan Percivall on bass guitar and Owen Ross on lead guitar. As a quartet, *Ricky Small & The Talls* bring a fresh sound to popular music with heavy reggae grooves complimented by funk and folk influences.

In late July 2007, Jason commandeered a closed restaurant in Carrabassett Valley, Maine and it was there that he and *The Talls* began production on *Same Old Story*. Over three sunny summer days, the band laid down the instrumental recordings and then returned to Boston where a small studio was set up to record vocal tracks, which were then sent to Jason's studio in Maine via the Internet.

Ten months, thousands of production hours and a dozens of gigabytes later, the finishing touches were put on *Same Old Story*. The album is slated for a mid-late summer release, and will be available online at www.rickysmall.com as well as for download at iTunes, Rhapsody, and most other online music stores.



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