

CELEBRITY BOOK CLUB

John Flansburgh is one half of the Brooklyn-bred music duo *They Might Be Giants*, a band currently celebrating 25 years in the business with a CD in 2007 for adults called "The Else" and a new CD/DVD combo for kids (and parents) called "Here Come the 1, 2, 3s" (\$18.98; Disney).



**White Bicycles:
Making Music
in the 1960s**
By Joe Boyd
Serpent's Tail, \$18

What He's Reading: "White Bicycles: Making Music in the 1960s" (\$18; Serpent's Tail) by acclaimed producer Joe Boyd.

What It's About: Boyd's memoir is a fly-on-the-wall look at some of the seminal music moments of that decade. He served as Muddy Waters' tour manager, literally plugged in Bob Dylan's guitar when Mr. Zimmerman went electric at the Newport Folk Festival, produced Pink Floyd's first single, worked with a shy fellow called Nick Drake, managed UFO (the hippest club in London for a brief, psychedelic period) and on and on.

What Flansburgh Says: "Did you ever see Woody Allen's "Zelig"? Boyd was like the human Zelig of the '60s. He has a really interesting point of view and he's a cool writer. He went to Harvard and has really solid writing skills, really vivid."

What's to Be Learned: The ABCs (and 123s) of creating great music, since Boyd was a signal player in touting classic groups like Fairport Convention (the British equivalent to The Band), ultimately producing classic albums by everyone from Sandy Denny and Richard Thompson to Nick Drake and R.E.M. *Michael Giltz*

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