

# LEENY and TAMARA



**About our producer, Art Hays:**  
*[myspace.com/arthaysproducer](http://myspace.com/arthaysproducer)*

Art Hays has been performing and writing music professionally since 1989. While at University of North Texas on a jazz music scholarship, he toured Texas and the South, playing sax with funk band Goodfoot and also led his own three-piece rock band, Fletcher. After moving to New York, Art toured US, UK, Canada, and Australia with Matchbox Twenty playing sax and guitar on the Mad Season Tour from 2000-01. He also performed with them on Jay Leno, David Letterman, VH1, and Rosie O'Donnell. In addition, Art was a member of Carbondale, who signed with RCA in 2001. Their CD, *'cause 7 ate 9*, was produced by John Fields in 2002.

Since then Art has produced independent singer-songwriters in the New York area and has written music for commercials and industrial spots. His music was featured in the 2008 Beijing Olympics broadcast on NBC and has appeared on The Oxygen Network and Access Hollywood. Two songs that he co-wrote are on the soundtrack for the 2009 documentary film "FEAT." In 2007, he performed music for the films "Meet The Spartans" and "Lost Boys II" and he has recorded music for the EA video games "Boogie" and "American Idol."

Art keeps a healthy songwriting schedule. Collaborators include Jeff Franzel, Alex Forbes, Toby Lightman, Steven McMorran, Matt Stamm, Carly Greenberg, Rachel Platten, Lynne Timmes, Tom Kimmel, Sally Barris, Henry Hey, Tamara Hey, and David Browning. Some other notable names Art has worked with include Eddie Kramer, Bobby Caldwell, Myron Floren, Shawn Pelton, Mark Rivera, and Ann Hampton Callaway.



**Interview with Art Hays:**  
**Producer, arranger, multi-instrumentalist, cool dude**

**How was producing a children's music album different from what you have done before?**

"No different because of the simple fact that I have never fully grown up myself! To be more specific, I've always remained creative to a degree that I don't think I would have if I was working outside of the arts. Younger humans seem to create more than their more mature counterparts. Music is a place where you can continue to tap into that part of your brain. I really think that kids like music, period! If it's labeled 'music for children' then so be it, but in the end, they seem to react to stimuli and process in their own way. Take the lyrics away from the instrumental backing of these song and you are left with music that is pretty universal. That being said, I think that writing and producing for kids forces you to be more creative than usual. With this project, songs were kept fairly short and things are always going on musically to keep those shorter attention spans locked in. Keeping the clarity of the production was key as well, so that there was a clear focus, which was usually the vocals. A lot of these things are not much different from making music for everyone else, except we kept the lewd comments to a minimum."

*(continued...)*

*(Interview with Art Hays continued)*

**What did you enjoy about the creation of this album, and the music?**

“It’s nice knowing that hopefully this audience is not as rigid or judgmental as older audiences. Having an open mind is one of the great blessings of being a kid. I also really enjoyed the fact that Leeny and Tamara tapped into their memories of kids’ music from our generation, which is music that holds up so well. My favorite records were Nilsson’s *The Point*, *Free To Be You and Me*, the first Sesame Street album, *Mary Poppins* and other Disney classics, as well as *The Muppet Show* album and the *Muppet Movie* soundtrack. All of those records are just pure music with lyrics that kids can relate to and spark their imagination. I really loved hearing the basic rough sketch of these songs and imagining the arrangement and what great sounds and textures I could apply to them and places I could go with them. Each song feels like a little amusement park ride to me. We have the crazy spinning rides like ‘Vitamin C’ and ‘Your Epidermis Is Showing’ as well as the sedate rides like ‘My Baby’ and ‘It’s Cool To Be You’ and stuff in between. I feel proud to have contributed to this record and am very excited to hear kids’ and parents’ reactions.”



Leeny and Tamara  
P.O. Box 39  
Gloucester, MA 01931  
978-973-3006  
[www.leenyandtamara.com](http://www.leenyandtamara.com)  
[www.facebook.com/leenyandtamara](https://www.facebook.com/leenyandtamara)  
email: [info@leenyandtamara.com](mailto:info@leenyandtamara.com)

