



BIOGRAPHY

Rob Shanahan

Rob Shanahan's journey from small-town roots to the forefront of music photography is a testament to his passion and dedication. His dual interests in drumming and photography emerged early; he received his first drum kit at age ten and his first camera at thirteen. This combination of talents has uniquely positioned him to capture the essence of the music world from both sides of the lens.

Shanahan moved to Los Angeles, aiming to pursue careers in both drumming and photography. His initial work included sports photography for NFL and MLB games, which honed his technical skills. His big break in music photography came through connections with companies like Paiste Cymbals and Yamaha, leading to collaborations with renowned drummers such as Stewart Copeland and Sheila E.

A pivotal moment in Shanahan's career occurred in 2006 when he met Ringo Starr. Their shared background as left-handed drummers led to a strong professional relationship, with Shanahan becoming Starr's personal photographer. This role has granted him unparalleled access to intimate moments with music legends, including capturing candid interactions between members of The Beatles and The Rolling Stones.

Shanahan's work has been featured in international advertising campaigns, galleries, records, books, and magazines worldwide. He has published two acclaimed photography books: "Volume 1: Through the Lens of Music Photographer Rob Shanahan," with a foreword by Ringo Starr, and "Volume 2," featuring a foreword by Sheila E. and an epilogue by Keith Richards. These collections showcase his extensive portfolio, including iconic images of artists like Paul McCartney, Elton John, and Eddie Van Halen.

Beyond photography, Shanahan is an accomplished drummer, performing with the Hollywood Stones, a premier Rolling Stones tribute band, since 1994. His deep understanding of music performance enriches his photographic work, allowing him to connect authentically with his subjects.

In recent years, Shanahan has embraced his role as a keynote speaker, delivering captivating presentations that blend his visual artistry with engaging storytelling. His talks offer audiences a behind-the-scenes look at the music industry, sharing insights and lessons learned from his illustrious career. He seeks to empower audiences with actionable principles to pursue their passions and achieve success – personally and professionally – with the daily axioms he's cultivated in his career.

Rob Shanahan resides in Venice, California, with his wife, daughter, and two Bengal cats.