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**JOE PERNICE SIGNS DEAL WITH RIVERHEAD BOOKS, A DIVISION OF
PENGUIN BOOKS USA, TO WRITE FICTION**

Joe Pernice has signed a book deal with Megan Lynch of Riverhead Books, a division of Penguin Books USA, for world rights. Joe will write a novel for them, which is about one-third done, but if you ask him when he'll finish his face turns all red, and he yells, "When I finish!" If we were betting people though, we'd bet that that the next US President will be celebrating his or her first 100 days in office around the time it "streets," as they say in the music business. If you ask Joe what the book is about, he sticks his fingers in his ears and sings "la la la la la, etc."

Primarily known as a recording artist, Pernice wrote the novella *Meat is Murder* for Continuum Books' 33 1/3 series in 2003. That book remains one of the bestselling pieces in that series, and Pernice is working with Neal Huff, an actor who appears regularly on HBO's *The Wire*, on the *Meat is Murder* screenplay. Again, he is not forthcoming on when that project might see the light of day. He also previously published a volume of poetry called *Two Blind Pigeons*, on his own Ashmont Books imprint. That remains the bestselling (only) title on Ashmont Books.

Said Pernice, "I am really excited to join the Penguin family, where I get to be labelmates with writers like Homer."

Joe Pernice began his recording career in the mid-90's with the Scud Mountain Boys, in Northampton, Massachusetts. They released two records before signing to Seattle's Sub Pop in 1996 and releasing *Massachusetts*, along with *The Early Year*, a compilation of the two pre-Sub Pop recordings. In 1997, he disbanded the Scuds to form Pernice Brothers, whose debut *Overcome By Happiness* was released by Sub Pop, as was *Chappaquiddick Skyline*, more of a Joe Pernice side project in 2000. *Big Tobacco*, a Joe Pernice solo record was release in Europe in 2000 (and later in the US). Later that year, Joe left Sub Pop and he and his longtime manager Joyce Linehan established Ashmont Records, based in Boston, where they have released several Pernice Brothers records: *World Wont End* (2001) , *Yours, Mine and Ours* (2003), *Nobody's Watching/Nobody's Listening* live album and DVD (2004) *Discover a Lovelier You* (2005) and *Live a Little* (2006).

Joe Pernice's music has been featured on television shows *The Gilmore Girls* and *Six Feet Under* the movies *Fever Pitch*, *On Broadway* and *Slaughterhouse Rule* and in commercials for Sears and Southern Comfort.

Joe is also an accomplished television star, having made a 45-second appearance as a troubadour-wannabe in a 2006 episode of *The Gilmore Girls*.

Pernice grew up in the Boston area, and attended UMass Amherst, where he received an MFA in Creative Writing. He currently lives in Toronto with his wife and young son.

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