



Room with a VU

by Mitch Gallagher

STUDIO NAME: Mojo Vegas Recording Co.

LOCATION: Ringwood, NJ

CONTACT: www.mojovegas.com

KEY CREW: Steve Brown, owner, producer, engineer; Jim DeSalvo, engineer, mastering; PJ Farley, producer

CONSOLE: Mackie 24/8

RECORDERS: TASCAM DA-88 [3], CDR-700 [2], DA-30

MONITORS: Mackie HR-824, Yamaha NS-10, Auratone, Sony MDR7506 headphones

OUTBOARD: FMR Audio RNC, Behringer Multicom, AutoQuad; ART Levelar [2], dbx 163x, Korg DT1 Pro tuner, Peavey Q215

EFFECTS: Antares Auto-Tune, TC Electronic M300 [2], Digitech Vocalist, SansAmp GT-2, SansAmp Bass DI, assorted Maxon, Guyatone, and Boss pedals

MICROPHONE PREAMPS: Focusrite VoiceBox, Behringer Ultragain Pro, Behringer Ultra DI

MICROPHONES: Neumann TLM103, Audix OM5 [4], Audio-Technica ATM25 [4], AT4051 [2]; Shure SM57 [4], Radio Shack megaphone

SAMPLERS/KEYBOARDS: Akai S1000, Korg Triton, Roland Super JV, Peavey DPM-V2

COMPUTERS: Apple Mac G4, Carrillon PC

DAW: Digidesign Digi 001

SOFTWARE: Digidesign Pro Tools LE, Sonic Foundry Acid, Steinberg Nuendo, Emagic Logic

GUITARS: Peavey Wolfgang, one-of-a-kind Hamer V, Les Paul; Fender Custom Shop Telecaster, Stratocaster; Guild steel-string, Taylor steel-string, Schoepfer Les Paul 12-string, Kramer bass, Takamine nylon-string

AMPLIFIERS: Peavey 5150

CABLES: George L, Monster

POWER CONDITIONING: Furman PL-8

STUDIO NOTES: "I've had the studio in my house here in Ringwood, New Jersey, for 10 years," says Mojo Vegas owner Steve Brown. "After the success of Trixter [Brown played guitar in the platinum-selling metal band, and wrote many of their hits], the dream was to have my own version of Eddie Van Halen's 5150 studio . . . so we built Mojo Vegas, a.k.a. 6160.

"Maz, the guitarist in my new band 40 ft. Ringo, and I constructed the studio in the unfinished basement of my house. No big-deal acoustic treatment — just a great room to make records. I'm very much into simple recording: I put the mics up, add a little compression and EQ when I mix, and boom . . . rock!

"The studio has been the creative underground lair for me and my partner-in-crime, PJ Farley [bassist in Trixter and 40 ft. Ringo] — we've played together for 15 years.

"We've made a bunch of records here and now we're producing and writing for other artists. I do a lot of work with Creative License Company in New York, where I've placed music with Pfizer, Intel, and Fox TV. I'm also a member of Taxi, where I submit a lot of music.

"Currently, we've just finished mixing a great band from Oklahoma called The Stellas, live at CBGB, we're starting to record the second 40 ft. Ringo CD, and we're shopping a deal for Tommy Lee's guitar player, J3. As we've learned in this crazy music biz, you have to have a bunch of things going at all times to keep the money rolling in."

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