

Reveal Audio Services

327 Buckingham Drive
Marietta GA 30066

David Leonard, President
<http://www.revealaudio.com>

770-928-1955
david@revealaudio.com

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Dear Friends -

I want to again emphasize that the 'blog' page of my website ([What's On My Mind](#)) is intended to be a resource for you. There are some very useful articles here.

- If you've ever wondered how it is that artist information pops up on your computer when you play a song, and you'd like your music to do the same thing, [you'll find it here](#).
- If you need a starting point for sites to place your music for film and TV, [it's here](#).
- For an upside down perspective on how to make money with your music, read [the gist of my "Music Is Free" speech](#).
- Want to know a little more about why your CD doesn't play in the car, [read all about it here](#).
- Get the [three guiding principles](#) for writing effective songs.
- Check out some of my "[Song Doctor Cures](#)" that I use in the studio.
- Want to know about the sources of money for physical sales, downloads, airplay, and streaming? [Get it here](#).
- Wish you had the money to hire a focus group to give an honest evaluation of your recording and find out who your real audience is? Well, it's not expensive and [the link is here](#).

In addition, this is where you'll find links to great local seminars on topics like "Collaborating for Film and Television." When you subscribe, you'll be notified instantly whenever I post a new article. I encourage you to take advantage of this by [following this link](#), signing up, and following the directions to verify your email address.

SONGWRITING WORKSHOP

I will be conducting another workshop on **The Zen Of Songwriting** in conjunction with [Creative Studios of Atlanta](#) and Vivian Varner on Saturday, June 1, 2013. These are the guiding principles I use every day in the studio in my critical listening of songs and the basis for offering any suggestions for improvement. Details will be found in an upcoming evite notice.

LOCAL SONGWRITING ORGANIZATIONS

If you haven't checked out the [Georgia Music Industry Association](#), you should. This organization is made up primarily of songwriters from every background. It is a great place to network with other creative people and also a rich source of information through its workshops and seminars featuring some of the top names in not only the Atlanta music scene, but the national scene as well. Visit their website and check out the upcoming events.

The [Nashville Songwriters Association International](#) is not just for country songwriters. It is for anyone interested in improving their songwriting skills, no matter the style of music. The monthly meetings are the perfect place to play your songs for other writers and get immediate feedback. Not only that, but by joining, you get the benefit of participating in music industry-based activities and contests designed to get your music heard by people who are currently making their living at it. There are a number of local chapters here, coordinated by writers with excellent ears. Visit the link above to find one in your area and get involved.

NEW CD'S/EP'S



Marty Nickel
Daydreaming

Tropical pop songs just in time for summer. Kick back with "A Day At The Beach", "Daydreaming" and "Trains." CD release party is June 22, and will be available for download from the artist's website.



Doug Astrop
The Hype

Original instrumental CD featuring Doug's piano on a wide range of styles from electronica to new age. Available at Amazon, iTunes and CD Baby.



Logan Downs
Hairline Fracture

Indie rocker with pared down guitar/vocal style. My favorite tracks are "Got Away" and "Soul Keeper." Available from the artist's website.



Hoosier Daddy
Hallowed Ground

Stylistically, this band sits on the border of blues, funk, and country. Songs like "Who Do The Voodoo" and "Who's That Girl" are sure to keep you moving. Soon to be released by the Tate Music Group on all available online outlets.



Mark Eskew
Peace On Earth

If you're an Elvis fan, you will love this album of Christmas favorites that were recorded by The King. The album is available by visiting the website and contacting the artist directly.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Chris Adams is a veteran of the music biz. He's been in it since the days of tape, and has worked alongside some of the top names in rock on the Atlanta music scene. We just completed a five song songwriter EP to be pitched to publishers in Atlanta and Nashville.

Leanne Allen recorded a piano/vocal version of her song, *I Am Enough*.

Tony and Maria Annunziata recorded three more songs to round out their musical western of the kid called Billy. Now all we need is to find a producer for the movie!

Doug Astrop completed work on his straight-to-digital release CD titled "*Emotional Cost*." This is a rework of his previous CD of the same name, this time with guest professional vocalists from across the US.

David Awadalla recorded two guitar/vocal songs with me - *Just Let Go*, and *Through The Night*.

Bob Bakert continues work on his CD with three new songs, *Take Away Love*, *I've Got To Find A Way*, and the classic *Autumn Leaves*. These feature not only Bob's impressive guitar work, but the skills of **Dustin Cottrell** on piano, **Mark Letalien** on drums, **Joseph Patrick Moore** on bass, and Grammy award winner **Mace Hibbard** on saxophone.

Robb Barkley recorded his unforgettable song, *Marina Joe's* with me. This needs some air time on Tiki Island Radio!

NSAI award winning songwriter **Tom Bohn** demoed another well crafted tune called *In Your Hands*.

Kelly Bowling finished up his satirical look at the left, *Liberal Man*, just in time for the November elections. It featured southern independent artist **Mike McCarroll** on vocals.

Kamedah Bowyer laid down basic tracks and vocals of her original songs *Voodoo*, *Pinot Gris*, and *Other Woman Syndrome* in preparation for final production in Chicago.

Duane Branam recorded a song he had written years before, *You Are My Everything*, and sang new lyrics to an earlier demo of *All About The Song*.

Indie publisher **Ray Bruce** used my studio to record Atlanta artist **Samantha Stroh** on a demo of a new country song, *Hurtin'*.

Preston Camp Jr recorded two new Americana songs - *Kristofferson's*, and *Red Texas Sun* for his next album. His album "*Anywhere Texas*" continues to stay in the charts, finishing at #97 on the Roots Music Report True Country 2012 Top 100 Albums chart.

Jim Chase along with former band mates **Rick Dovi** and **Steve Hawes** created some gorgeous harmonies for his song, *In My Life*. *Daddy's Eyes*, the song that Jim posted to YouTube last year, has now gotten over 169,000 views. One of its fans is country singer Katie Deal, daughter of governor Nathan Deal. She will be singing it with the Atlanta

Pops Orchestra in concert in Milledgeville, GA on Saturday, June 8 of this year. I created the orchestral score, and I can't wait to hear it performed live!

Geoff Cole took advantage of Drum Day 2012 and used top session drummer **George Sandler** on his song, *Good Looks*. **Dustin and Adrienne Cottrell**, aka [Tortoise and Hair](#), recorded two originals - *Waiting*, and *Peace Like A River* here. The songs feature bassist **Fuji Fujimoto**, drummer **Phil Smith**, **Bob Lewis** on trumpet and trombone, and **David Freeman** on saxophone.

Aspen Countryman recorded a demo compilation to get some live gigs. It must have worked. You can catch her at the Roswell Tap, the Painted Pig in Canton, and various festivals in and around Atlanta.

Jay Croft finished three new songs, *Beautiful Ruins*, *Good Man Bad*, and *Everything From Me*.

Rick Diamond remastered an audience favorite - *Every Time I Look At You* and created alternate versions of *I'm Over You*.

Young writer **Madison Downey** recorded her original song, *Forever Love You*.

Danny Enlow is completing work on his newest spiritual CD album before he moves to Las Vegas to lead worship in a church there. Good luck, Danny!

I created the background tracks for Elvis tribute artist **Mark Eskew's** Christmas CD, "*Peace On Earth*." These were recorded to be as faithful as possible to the original recordings. Maybe I'm biased, but I think they're maybe a little better... Mark's vocals really do The King proud.

Phil Evans recorded his original song, *Time Machine*.

I recorded tracks for Nashville indie artist **Phillip Lee Eyer's** song, *Not Dead And Gone*. Currently, we're working on another one called *Amy Rose*.

My buddy **Skip Folsie** has been busy with a new direction. He's hooked up with the guys behind the internet radio station [Tiki Island Radio](#) to become a podcaster. He's gone from, "how can I fill up 30 minutes of time" to "I just can't make it fit into anything less than four hours." We recorded an interview with trop-pop artist **Marty Nickel** here in the studio and debuted "*Mike The Mojito Man*" from Marty's new album. Skip and I also did a version of '*Boats To Build*' (called '*Bars To Build*') as an advertisement for the guy who basically funds the show.

Mississippian **Jenny Gipson** recorded two of her originals, *Done And Buried*, and *Down In The Land*.

Ron Gouge completed three new country demos - *Beale Street Blues*, *Hank Couldn't Make It*, and *I'm Gonna Fly Someday*.

I mastered the song *Rainy Days* for **Aaron Hawkins**.

The **Hoosier Daddy Band** used Reveal Audio to mix and master their CD, *Hallowed Ground*, originally recorded at Tate Music Group in Oklahoma. The members are Perry White (guitar), Clay White (keyboards), John Cianfaglione (bass), and Marshall Choka (drums).

Brigit Jackson and the LuFam clan were in to record *Bring Something Out Of Me*. They have been working both here in Atlanta as well as in Nashville with music business veteran Ralph Murphy. If you're a fan, be sure to download her [Brigit Jackson Android app](#) so you'll never be without her music.

Ivy Johnson used my studio to record **John Clark** singing *Baby You A GMC*, a takeoff of the hit country song *Cruise*, for **Jim Ellis GMC**. It was written John, and he had friends **Chuck Alexander** on bass and **Kurt Alexander** on acoustic guitar to help him out.

Kevin Johnson and **Marty Johnson** recorded the audio for the product launch of their new life enhancement app [Level 9](#). In addition to being packed with content on health, wealth, and lifestyle, it also affords a way to earn your own income stream.

Courtney Jones recorded vocals to *Everything Nice*, a music track to be used in an upcoming animation project.

YouTubers **Bria and Chrissy** are working with producer **Jon Nguyen** on their new pop CD, *Take Me To Heaven*. I've been working with them on the mixing and mastering for the project. Their YouTube channel has over 20,000 subscribers and has gotten over 3 million views so far. You go, girls!

Kristie Salerno Kent has been recording audio for her upcoming eBook, *Dreams*. We were in the studio with California-based Studio PMG producer Joe McBride. *Dreams* is the autobiographical story of Kristie's journey as a person suffering from multiple sclerosis and how music has been the vehicle for finding her strength and empowering others with the disease. It will be available as a free download through Acorda, the makers of [Ampyra](#), a drug to help MS patients who have difficulty walking.

Tommy Ladshaw completed work on his original song, *I Amsterdam*, featuring Ellie Whittaker on vocals.

Scooter Lee recorded basic tracks for her songs, *I Love You I Do*, and *Honeybee*.

Logan Downs completed its second CD here at Reveal Audio, titled *Hairline Fracture*.

Mike McCarroll used **George Sandler** on drums for the song he's recording with ARS called *Bluer Than Memphis*. He's also recording a timely southern rocker called *My Guns*, using **Jody Worrell** on lead guitar.

Ben Mironer has been working on a number of original songs to put into an EP before his move to Los Angeles to attend

Stanford University.

[Moby In The Morning](#) added another parody to his growing collection: a takeoff on an old tune by Dr. Hook and the Medicine Show called *The Cover Of The G.O.N.*, which is the abbreviation for **Georgia Outdoor News**. With any luck, this song will actually put him on the cover!

Marty Nickel has finished up his latest CD, Daydreaming. **K.C. Conte** added some great harmonica to “Fast Train To You.” The CD release party is scheduled for June, and I plan on helping him out with some guitar. Look to my FB page for the announcement.

Cameron Pach recorded his debut voiceover demo. He did it at the request of a friend who not only thought he had a natural voice for this kind of work, but offered to help send work his way if he did.

Bill Robbins came in to record a new song, *Ego Man*, and to tweak some existing songs for lyrics and arrangements.

Omar Rose was busy with overdubs on his latest songs *Dancing With The Stars*, *Lonely Man*, *Dr Phil*, *Overrated*, *Sandy Hook*, and *They Run*.

Mark Sandiford called on me to master two songs for release in Barbados.

[Susan Schreer-Davis](#) recorded a piano/vocal version of her song, *Finally Home*.

Alvis Searcy brought in his dance track *Alley Cat* for mixing and mastering. He also got his first royalty check for a song he placed in a movie. Congratulations, Alvis!

I did a little bit of string overdubs, mixing, and mastering for [Jeff Silver](#)'s new song, *Heart Of Glass*. Jeff also wrote a song for Georgia Pacific to use in a training video, called *Keep Your Back Straight*. The aim of the video is to prevent workplace injuries. We had a blast recording it in the style of ZZ Top with a little help from **Jennifer Ferrin** on female vocals.

Steve Simkins recorded his workplace rebellion anthem, *To Hell With Work On Monday*. I think we can all relate!

Slam Dunkz and producer **Lwizzle** recorded three hot new singles: *Pullup*, *Bye*, and *Everyday*.

Brandon Smith recorded his song, *Miss Me*.

Bobby Smalls traveled from Chicago to get his rap down on two tracks - *Not A Gentleman*, and *Dance In The Rain*.

Kaitlin Stark recorded a new pop song with a message – *Redeemed*. I cannot believe this talented girl is just 14 years old.

Russ Still and I have been holding a semi-regular Monday music night working on some of his original music. He also used **George Sandler** on Drum Day 2012 for *Wrapped Around Your Little Finger*, *It's You*, and *Drive Me To Drinking*.

[Jeff Talmadge](#) is working on a new CD album that is designed to be a more intimate production than the ones he's done in the past. He recorded the guitar and vocal parts here, and then we sent them to his producer in Austin for overdubs and finishing. His album, *Kind Of Everything*, was at the top of the Americana charts this past year. Congratulations, Jeff!

Tonsta Records sent artists **Bobby Smalls** and **Kris Bonkerz** into the studio to rap and sing on *Play That Song* and *Tonsta Anthem*.

Pat Turner brought in vocalist **Suzanne Redd** to sing on four of his original songs.

Tonsta Records artist **Kris Bonkerz** finished tracks to *Family Bond*, *Wan Tin Tin*, *Monster*, and *Go Hard*.

The [Allstar Medicine Show](#) continues work on their songs *Man In The Moon*, *Beauty For Ashes*, *Born To Sing*, *Chicken Coop*, and *Run Out Of Love*. They took advantage of ReverbNation's crowd review and got 50 random people to review *Born To Sing*. It received numerous positive comments and got a rating of “Very Strong Track” - the highest you can get. The band is made up of multi-talented family members **Nancy Whitley**, **Bill Whitley**, **Claire Whitley** and **Jennifer Hillman**.

Jay Wilcoxon was in the studio with guest talent to record voiceovers for various projects for **Jay Bird Productions**.

Country writer and artist [Wayne Wills](#) recorded two new songs, *Same Old Same Old Blues*, and *Painting Pictures In The Dark*. He was featured on 94.9 The Bull's Backyard Country show for several weeks running. Congratulations, Wayne!

I think that about wraps it up for this update! Thank you all for allowing me to be a part of your musical lives.

Remember – keep your ears open!

