



# BRISTOL RECORDING & VOICE STUDIOS

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## AUDITIONS:

### MALE OR FEMALE VOCALIST

**NEEDED!** Boston-based special event band looking to add a male or female vocalist for backup and some leads. Must have a great attitude, stage presence and looks. Playing an instrument helps, but is not necessary. Steady weekend work in the New England area. All interested parties contact [joey@joeyscott.com](mailto:joey@joeyscott.com).

**ATTENTION FEMALE VOCALISTS!** A Boston area female vocalist is currently in the process of forming an all female pop funk/R&B group. Looking for fun, energetic and determined vocalists, ages 17-25 who are able to sing and dance. You must have a good look and be serious about performing. For information please contact Pamela at [jinxtproductions@yahoo.com](mailto:jinxtproductions@yahoo.com).

**VOCALIST WANTED!** Boston-based hip hop/R&B group, Infinite Ends, is looking

for a vocalist who can perform Boys 2 Men style vocals. The group currently consists of two vocalists and a rap artist. For more information call Dan at 508-880-3750.

### SEEKING KEYBOARDIST AND GUITARIST FOR COUNTRY/GOSPEL

**BAND!** A Boston-area band is looking for experienced members interested in playing country/gospel crossover who are also able to make a long-term commitment. Call Stephen at 781-724-7176 for more information.

## GRADUATES:

**Congratulations to our recent audio engineering and voice graduates:**

**Engineering 1:** Cheryl Hajjar, Andrew Sterner

**Reason:** Jonathan Rhecliffe

**Pro Tools 1:** Jonathan Henshaw  
Jonathan Rhecliffe

**Pro Tools 2:** Jonathan Henshaw,  
Jonathan Rhecliffe

**Pro Tools 3:** Mario Rivera

**Digital Performer:** Mike Mobray

**Production 1:** Cortland Mathers-Suter

**Production 2:** Cortland Mathers-Suter,  
Mario Rivera

**Voice Level 1:** Paul Logan, Gallus Fotabong, Patrice Peris, Michael Grill, Matt Soares, Pamela DeArruda, Keri Wilson, Doo Byong Park, Pablo Longobardi

## NEW STUDENTS:

**Welcome to new voice students:**

Connie Balagadda, Chris Kezik, Alaia Dixon, and Melissa Erius!

# SUCCESS STORY:

## AL BARR - LEAD SINGER THE DROPKICK MURPHYS

### Dropkick Murphys Singer Puts an End to Vocal Frustration

After years of frustration, **Al Barr**, lead singer for the Boston breakout punk act **Dropkick Murphys** finally took control of his voice last summer with the help of **Ric Poulin**, owner of Bristol Voice & Recording Studios and renowned producer.

In addition to being the Dropkicks frontman for over seven years, Barr has been involved with music and singing since he was just five years old. "I never thought anything about my voice in terms of how I sounded," he said. "But as I got into this band, it became my life in the sense that I no longer was working a day job to do music."

Over the years, Barr has worked with many vocal coaches, trying to find different ways of making his voice do the things he hoped it could. Despite working with classical coaches from Vienna to New England, Barr was provided with all the same rudimentary exercises, which were not applicable to his style of music or live performance situations.

*"It wasn't until I came to Bristol that I heard the analogy 'Why would you take tap dancing from a ballet instructor?'" he said. "And that seemed to hit the nail right on the head. I'm a punk rock singer, but I had basically been going to people who were trying to teach me classical music."*

That was until he began studying with Ric.

"Now when I sing I'm able to visualize my voice and do everything that I'm visualizing for the song, whereas before I didn't really understand what I was doing. I just kind of did it because that was the way I always did it and I never really examined my singing until Ric broke it down for me," he said.

After training at Bristol, Barr went on to record **The Dropkick Murphys'** fifth studio album, titled "**The Warrior Code.**" In every interview supporting the album he received comments



on the improvement in his voice. He feels that since studying with Ric he has learned the right exercises to pull himself out of a bad voice day, and as a result calms that he's more confident both in the studio and performing live.

"I think so many people out there are seeing vocal teachers who don't know what they're talking about," he said. "And that's the difference. If your vocal coach is unable to get you out of the mud, then guess what dude, you're wasting your money. It's as simple as that."

For more information on Al Barr and his band Dropkick Murphys, check out their website at [www.dropkickmurphys.com](http://www.dropkickmurphys.com) or pick up their latest album "The Warrior Code."

# ARTIST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## MELISSA JANE



After a year and a half at Bristol Recording & Voice Studios, and a lifetime reaching for the spotlight, neo-soul vocalist and **Bristol Entertainment Artist Development artist, Melissa Jane**, is beginning to work on her first album.

The disc will be eight songs in total, all co-written by Melissa and studio owner and renowned producer **Ric Poulin**. "I begin with an idea and then write lyrics from that idea while imagining the melodies," she said about her songwriting process. Melissa comes back with the lyrics and she and Ric go over them and then collaborate on the melodies until the song develops.

Melissa's style is influenced by artists like Erika Badu, Jill Scott and Bilal. She has been training her voice since age ten, and studied at the Berklee College of Music, but she didn't find her match until she began training at Bristol Studios.

"It was a lot of musical theater and classical," she said. "This is the first place that

I've actually had training in the music that I want to sing. It makes so much of a difference."

Aside from the album, Melissa is performing regionally at widespread events from club nights to private parties. She recently began a side project with local hip hop DJ, Sin, singing hooks and choruses on some of his latest tracks. "Turntable," a song the two did together, was featured in a Phat Farm fashion show on December 4, 2005, and Melissa and Sin plan on shooting a music video for "Turntable" in the near future.

In addition, Melissa has started to organize an open mic night on Sunday nights at An Tain, a downtown Boston venue across from the Aquarium. Artists can email her at [melissa@melissajane.com](mailto:melissa@melissajane.com) for open mic night performance opportunities.

For more information about **Melissa Jane**, visit [www.melissajane.com](http://www.melissajane.com).

## KATIE DAVIES



**Bristol Entertainment Artist Development vocalist, Katie Davies**, is building

her career one step at a time. A young, singer/songwriter from Danvers, MA, Katie has been studying at Bristol Voice and Recording Studios since the beginning of last fall, originally as a vocal student taking lessons from **Aaron Winthers** and now in the Bristol Entertainment Artist Development Program with **Ric Poulin**.

Star-struck since the age of three, the 19-year-old is finally on her way to recording her first demo. "Right now Ric and I are working on getting my voice up to standard for recording," she said. "We do a lot of vocal exercises and he's giving me steps on how to write my songs."

With two songs ready to record and a third on the way, the demo is soon to be a reality. Katie isn't waiting until after recording, however, to move forward with her career.

She recently headlined a New Year's Eve performance at the First Night Teen Concert in Newport, Rhode Island at the Jane Pickens Theater, along with Gregg Raposo from the boy group Dream Street. Davies belted out seven songs, including two originals, for a nearly packed house.

In the upcoming year Davies has her eyes set on finishing the demo and performing as much as possible. "I want to do a lot more shows and really get myself out there," she said.

For more information about **Katie**, visit [www.bristolstudios.com/katie](http://www.bristolstudios.com/katie)

## MUSIC INDUSTRY NEWS:

### SXSW 2006:

Recently the 2006 South by Southwest Festival came to a close. Held annually in Austin, TX, music industry professionals got together from March 15th - 19th for a music conference, festival and trade show. Earlier in the week film and interactive conferences, festivals and tradeshow were also held.

For more information on what went on during SXSW you can check out [www.2006.sxsw.com](http://www.2006.sxsw.com) for video blogs, podcasts and daily recap.

# VOICE AND RECORDING STUDIO NEWS

## RENEE MARCOU



Seventeen-year-old **Renee Marcou** found success and a willing audience for her music when she debuted her first single, "Best Thing" at a Wilmington High School prom fundraiser on November 16, 2005. The Bristol Voice student was the featured performer of the evening, and ended up selling out her new two-song demo CD.

"It was a full crowd, and so many people were coming up to me afterwards," she recalled. "Best Thing" is a relationship song written by Renee about a male who pushes his girlfriend away only to realize that she was the best thing he had.

Renee has been working with Bristol Recording & Voice Studios for about a year now, at first taking vocal lessons from **Brent Barlow** and now in the **Bristol Entertainment Artist Development Program with Ric Poulin**. She just finished her demo in November and is now working on a full-length album.

Renee feels that she's on the right track at Bristol Studios. **"I'm starting off where I want to be, and everyone really supports me here," she said. "I was always a little nervous, but now I feel much more confident."**

She has performed at other recent events, including a Barbizon fashion show in Waltham, MA on February 16, 2006 and at a Calvin Klein promotion at the Saugus Mall in Saugus, MA. In the future she hopes to get a record deal, make a name for herself performing and eventually touring.

**For more information on this young artist, visit [www.reneemarcou.com](http://www.reneemarcou.com).**

## STANLEY PORTER



**Stanley Porter**, a contemporary Christian gospel artist, is working hard to pursue success for his second studio album "Grace Amazing," which was recorded at Bristol Recording & Voice Studios and released in September of 2005. By focusing on regional touring and garnering more radio play, Porter hopes the album will catch on and touch people's lives.

Recorded, mixed and mastered with Bristol's Senior Engineer and Producer **Chris**

**Billias**, "Grace Amazing" fuses elements of hip hop, rap, gospel and short skits to create a unique, urban Christian sound. "Grace Amazing" was a two year project for Porter which developed from a rough and chaotic time, but now that he's received an overwhelmingly positive response, the effort seems worth it all.

Right now he's focus is on touring and increasing radio play. He has already received airplay on WEZE 590 am, Boston's leading Christian station, and is in heavy rotation on Northeastern University's radio station WRBB. During the summer of 2006 he plans to tour through out Texas and Florida and is currently busy with regional gigs.

In addition, Porter has recently agreed to host Boston Neighborhood Network's gospel talent show titled, The Dream Chaser, which is modeled after American Idol. The show first aired on BNN on February 10, 2006 and will continue to air on the 10th and 24th of each month until the winner is announced on April 21. Porter has agreed to mentor the winner in starting his or her career in music by funding a demo, which he have done at Bristol Studios.

Extremely satisfied with the outcome of the current album, Porter says, **"I still have so much creative energy to get back in the studio and keep working. Chris is a great engineer and producer but also has an amazing knowledge of music. He knows when to push for a better performance and when to back down and let me do my thing."**

Originally a rapper, Porter eventually made the transition into gospel music, and formed an independent contemporary Christian label, 4:12 Records. In addition to working on 4:12 Records, Porter is a high school history teacher in Boston.

**For more information on Stanley Porter visit his website at [www.412records.unimstores.com](http://www.412records.unimstores.com).**

# BRISTOL ENTERTAINMENT

## JADA



**Jada** started the new year off with a bang at the Radio Disney New Years Concert at Boston's City Hall Plaza. After performing along with **P-Diddy's R&B supergroup B5** and pop/rock trio **Everlife**, **Jada** landed the featured spot ringing in the new year with **Mayor Thomas Menino** on the evening news on CBS TV!

Recently, Jada has headed back into the studio to record new material for their upcoming album with some of the hottest names in the business whose credits make up a who's who of the music industry today! Weekend trips to New York and New Jersey have resulted in 15 amazing new songs .

Jada's management arranged to have **Sisqo**, pictured above, take time out of his own busy recording schedule to stop by Jada's recording session a couple weeks ago and to hear them sing. After listening to the girls' version of "Oh Darlin" by The Beatles, he offered some words of inspiration:

**"I've never heard the Beatles sing it like that! I think the best thing is the way you guys really love (what you're doing)," he said after hearing Jada's performance. "That's what's missing with a lot of artists today - they spend so much time trying to be cool, and it's a detachment, in my personal opinion, from the audience."**

After nearly ten years in Dru Hill, Sisqo knows how to keep a group together. So when he pointed out the obvious friendship between Jada members and a love of their music as key ingredients to their appeal and success, he confirmed that Jada was on the right track.

For more information on Jada check out their website at [www.jadamusic.com](http://www.jadamusic.com)

## MUSIC INDUSTRY TIP

**Producer RIC POULIN - Bristol Recording & Voice Studios Owner/Director**



### The Music Career Business Model - College? I Don't Think So!

I continually find myself having this conversation with artists daily. **Every business evolves from a model based on successful actions.** There are different models for bakeries, insurance companies, fast food restaurants, etc. and there can be more than one successful model. **To make any business work, you just have to find the model that has previously worked for others and emulate it.**

Take a look at successful Pop/R&B/Rock stars. How many graduated from a music college that specifically prepared them for their career? It's very hard to think of any. That is NOT the business model for Pop/R&B/Rock success. **The real model, as I see it, is total immersion into the marketplace and private study, whether self taught or with a mentor.** This is similar to training for the Olympics. **The time to do it is while you are young, not after you graduate from college.**

It takes working on building your career daily, for many hours, and focusing on the right activities. In addition, you have to align yourself with music industry people who are active in the field and have access to promoters, producers and record labels. Whether early on or later, building a fan base is essential. You won't last without one, with a large fan base one can successfully work for their whole life.

**At Bristol Studios we have a comprehensive artist development program that addresses every issue confronting today's artists. For more information you can contact Julie at [promo@bristolstudios.com](mailto:promo@bristolstudios.com)**

# UPCOMING CLIENT SHOWS AND PERFORMANCES:

## Amy Famiglietti:

Saturday, April 15, 2006 – 1pm performing the National Anthem at the Portland Sea Dogs vs. Binghamton Mets

## Melissa Jane:

Every Sunday - Open Mic at An Tain in downtown Boston. Email [melissa@melissajane.com](mailto:melissa@melissajane.com) to sign up to perform

## WORKSHOPS

### Performance Workshop

Bristol's veteran producers, educators and performers will teach you the keys to performance success in a personal and supportive environment covering areas such as:

- Being comfortable and confident on stage
- Handling nervousness and overcoming stage fright
- Being comfortable talking to audiences (and what to say to them)
- How to put emotion into a performance
- How to achieve star presence and star quality on stage
- Physical movement, including gesturing in songs
- Stage manners

The workshop is held at Bristol Recording & Voice Studios one night a week for 10 weeks from 7-9:30pm. A nonrefundable deposit is due to reserve your place in the workshop. Enrollment is limited so register soon!

**Call Jacyn at 617-247-8689 for more information or to register.**

### Audio Engineering & Production Courses

Bristol Recording Studios offers a wide range of audio engineering courses, from basic to advanced, that cover the most current and innovative programs, equipment and techniques necessary for any aspiring studio engineer or producer. Taught by experienced and talented studio professionals, the program offers small class sizes and hands-on training in real life scenarios.

#### Basic Courses:

Audio Engineering I, Audio Engineering II, ProTools I, Digital Performer, Reason 3.0

#### Advanced Courses:

ProTools II, ProTools III, Production I, Production II, Mixing, Mastering

Package Discounts and specific individual tutorials designed to fit your educational needs are also available.

**Call Jason today at 617-247-8689 for more course information.**

## STUDIO SPECIALS

### RECORD YOUR DEMO!

Let our experienced producers and engineers create record quality music to get your demo the industry attention you've been looking for! Our demo package includes: 15 hours of studio time and 20 CDs with on-CD text in jewel cases, all for \$899!!! Bands: get a great sound, pay cheap rates, work with chill engineers and great gear! Songwriters: get radio quality production and exciting arrangements from industry pros at affordable prices. Bring your full musical vision to fruition. Singers: Work with specially trained engineers who can make you sound your best! We have a creative environment and comfortable surroundings. **This deal is offered for a limited time only so call Jason today at 617-247-8689.**

### LOOKING FOR AFFORDABLE REHEARSAL SPACE?

Bristol Studios is currently renting out rehearsal space by the hour. Solo performers and ensembles alike are welcome to **call Jason at 617-247-8689 to schedule a tour of our professional facilities and to find out how we can accommodate your needs.**

### FREE VOICE LESSON!

Bristol Voice Studios is now offering new students a great way to get into the TRUE Pop/Gospel/R&B vocal program! Buy four lessons and get the fifth one for free, with no deposit required! Already enrolled in the program? Don't worry, you can get a free lesson too! When you buy a block of 10 lessons you automatically get a free voice lesson. That's almost three months of lessons paid for at one time. This is the easiest and most economical way to manage your voice lessons. Anyone interested in finding out more about Bristol Voice studios is invited to come in for a free, no obligation vocal consultation. **To book your free consultation, or if you are interested in purchasing a block of lessons, please call Jacyn at 617-247-8689.**

### PROFESSIONAL TEACHING SPACE AVAILABLE!

Bristol Studios is now offering professional teaching space for rent by the hour! Instrumental instructors, voice teachers and dance instructors are welcome to **call Jason at 617-247-8689 to schedule a tour of our professional facilities and to find out how we can accommodate your needs.**

## SERVICES

### Artist Development:

Music Career Consultations  
Demo Critique  
Image Consultation  
Artist Development Seminar  
Performance Workshop  
Songwriting Workshop  
Music Business Workshop  
Vocal Recording Workshop  
"How To" Workshops  
Music Industry Seminars  
Professional Photo Shoot  
Professional Music Video  
Web Design and Hosting  
Press Kit Design  
Record Label Shopping  
Performance Opportunities

### Voice Studio:

#### FREE VOICE CONSULTATION!

Voice Lessons  
Piano Lessons  
Music Theory Lessons  
Voice Over Lessons

### Recording Studio:

Recording/Mixing/Mastering  
Production/Composition  
Media Transfer  
CD/Tape Duplication  
Web/Graphic Design  
Audio Engineering Courses  
Production Courses  
Digital Editing  
CD-Rom/DVD Authoring  
Video Recording  
Onsite Recording  
Voice Over Talent Casting  
Session Talent Casting