



Helen Marketti's Music Corner

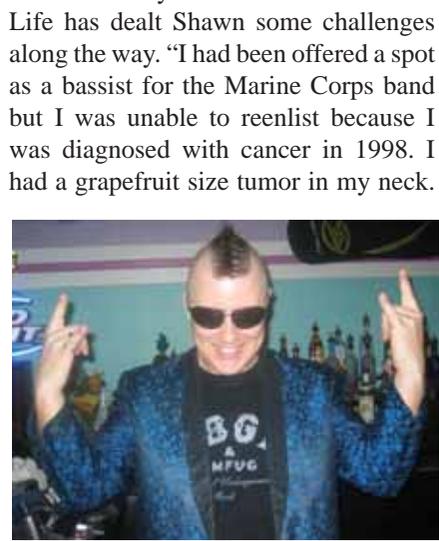


The Mohawk Studio

Shawn Daley has quite an extensive music background and life experience that has brought him to run his own studio for aspiring and veteran musicians. "When I was eight years old, my older sister was dating a bass player and I decided that is what I wanted to do," recalls Shawn. "I started playing bass when I was around 12 or 13. I didn't really want to be a front guy in a band, I'm happy just to play. I remember tuning my bass and playing songs with my dad while he played the piano in our living room. I would play Greensleeves or Christmas tunes." (laughs)

Shawn continues, "I started taking formal bass lessons when I was 14. Then I started playing the upright bass and learning to play the cello. My instructors were adamant about knowing music theory and the intricate parts of that before you become rock stars. In high school, I was in multiple bands and played the tuba in marching band. As soon as I graduated from high school, I joined the Marines. I was stationed in Hawaii and was gone from home for quite some time. By day, I was in the infantry and by night, I was working on writing songs. I found some other kindred souls and we formed a punk rock band. (The 33inch Miceys) The background music for many of the surfer videos during the 90s that were made by Jack Johnson is by the The 33inch Miceys."

Life has dealt Shawn some challenges along the way. "I had been offered a spot as a bassist for the Marine Corps band but I was unable to reenlist because I was diagnosed with cancer in 1998. I had a grapefruit size tumor in my neck.



I had surgery and then returned home to help with the family business."

Shawn has experience, knowledge and a passion for music. He is interested in helping others succeed also with what they love doing. "My first studio was in my apartment. The vocal booth was the bathroom, the spare room was the studio, and that's how Mohawk Studio got started. I was starting to do DJ gigs as well. My wife (Erin) joked that I should change my name and get a funny haircut. She didn't think that I would really do it but as you know, you don't dare a Marine to do anything (laughs). I decided to keep my name but still get a funny haircut. (Pointing to his Mohawk haircut) If you can do something like this and market it, then you have something. If you can make something that is a recognizable brand then it could work. I started getting more gigs

to DJ because of it."

Shawn knows what he is looking for when working with bands. "I like to work with bands who are not afraid to take chances," said Shawn. "Many bands contact me because they hear what I've done and they want to get themselves to the next level but aren't sure how to go about it. I have worked with bands that are willing to follow my suggestions and just do it. I can dust them off so to speak and give them a good polishing to be more marketable." "I know some bands may go to a studio that's cheaper or someone lets them

record as a favor but in some cases, you get what you pay for. That's the way I look at it. My philosophy is "Face Your Music", if you don't care enough to invest the time and money into yourself than why should I or anyone else. You need to be hungry for it to help make your band successful. If this is what you want to do, then make it the best you can. I run my studio out of my house. I don't charge high dollar per hour, nor do I have 20 rooms or a

secretary. I'm the guy behind the curtain with my technique. You're not going to be able to copy my technique and run with it. I'm the trick arrow. I have some equipment that is one of a kind that you would find in New York or LA."

"I'm not afraid to tell someone that even though their idea may be near and dear to their heart; they're going in the wrong direction," said Shawn. "People hear with their heart. They will probably see you more than they hear you. If your music appeals to them then they will want to see what you look like. Now days, you are judged by your image. I know many musicians think



the grass is greener in Nashville, NY or LA but the best paying gigs are right around here (Toledo, Cleveland and Columbus). Take chances on yourself. Think outside the box. Take your music seriously but don't take yourself too seriously."

www.mohawkstudio.net
Mohawk Studio is on Facebook.
Shawn Patrick Thomas Daley is on Facebook.

Mohawk Studio is located in Huron, Ohio.



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