

*For Immediate Release*

## **Ronan Chris Murphy Enlists Terry Bozzio and A-Designs for Solo Outing**

LOS ANGELES - May 2006 -- For more than 15 years, Ronan Chris Murphy has proved himself to be one of the most sought after producer/mixers of hard jazz, progressive rock and experimental music. Lending his engineering talents to respected virtuosos like Robert Fripp, Tony Levin, Mike Keneally and Steve Morse, Murphy is especially highly regarded for his work with a “who’s who” of spectacular drummers, including Terry Bozzio, Bill Brufford, Greg Bissonette, Pat Mastelotto and Lewis Pragasam.

Over the past five years, Murphy has spent much of his time working from his own Culver City-based Veneto West Studio, which continually attracts an eclectic spectrum of “musicians’ musicians” from both L.A. and around the world.

Having engineered and produced over 200 albums for others – including some 15 records for King Crimson and various offshoots – Murphy, an accomplished guitarist and composer, is now turning his attention to his own solo project, which benefits from an all-star backup band of Levin on bass and Chapman Stick, Keneally on keys, and both Mastelotto and Bozzio on drums.

Seeing that Bozzio’s percussion setup spans 16 feet and includes literally dozens of drums and cymbals, Murphy and co-engineer Dan Richards chose to run the drummer’s entire kit through 15 channels of A-Designs Audio microphone preamplifiers comprised of four two-channel Pacifica solid-state units, six EM Series modules (two EM-Red, two EM-Silver and two EM-Blue) and a tube-equipped MP-1A. An additional Pacifica was also called upon to mic Murphy’s own guitar amp.

According to the engineer, the results were nothing short of stunning. “I have become a huge fan of A-Designs gear, especially the Pacifica,” he says. “I find that if I run it conservatively, it provides a beautiful representation of what I’m recording and makes everything sound just a little bit bigger and more glamorous. And if I want to drive it harder to make tracks more aggressive or bring out extra harmonics, I simply push in the pad switch and it opens up a whole new palette of sounds. For me, that switch is a huge creative tool.”

To be certain that the A-Designs preamps were the right tools for his project, Murphy A/B-ed the products against a number of other competitive units on the market. “We set up shootouts between the Pacificas and some very well-known clean, neutral-sounding mic pres widely regarded as staples for classical and jazz use. Surprisingly, we actually found the Pacifica to be more accurate in terms of capturing the spectral content of the sound source.

“But the main reason that I’ve become such a die-hard fan is because I have been absolutely stunned at what a wide range of things the Pacifica invariably becomes my first choice on. I’ll put it on a guitar amp, push the fader up and it just sounds like a

record, for lack of a more scientific term. Or I'll put it on a lead vocalist and it totally delivers the body and tone I was looking for. There are certainly other great products out there – including many of which I own and have really enjoyed using over the years – but I've never had another mic pre like this that is so good across the board and so consistently the winner when it comes to A/B testing.”

Aside from tracking and mixing in his own Westside L.A. studio, Murphy also often gets called upon to work in other studios around the globe. In fact, later this year he will be recording projects in both Iceland and Italy. When asked if he planned to take his A-Designs gear with him, he responds, “Absolutely. I can't imagine making records without them now. So when I pack for a trip these days, it's the toothbrush, deodorant, shaving cream and Pacifica. As long as I have that in my rack, there's not much I can't handle.”

Looking to the future, the producer/mixer/musician predicts, “My guess is that within the next five years A-Designs will be widely considered one of the major players. I say that because I have never read anything even remotely disparaging about their products online; the comments are always glowing, which is truly remarkable. In the 15 years that I've been a part of the online recording community, I have never known another product that has received universal praise like the Pacifica. So I think we're going to be hearing a lot more about A-Designs down the road.”

In addition to its music production and mixing services, Veneto West also handles consulting for the recording industry and operates a series of recording training workshops called Home Recording Boot Camp. For more information, visit [www.venetowest.com](http://www.venetowest.com).

A-Designs Audio is a boutique manufacturer of high-quality professional audio products, including the MP-A Series (all-tube microphone preamplifiers), Pacifica (stereo solid-state microphone preamplifier), REDDI (all-tube direct box), and ATTY and ATTY2'D (passive line attenuators). For more information, please contact A-Designs Audio at 818-716-4153 or visit [www.adesignsaudio.com](http://www.adesignsaudio.com).

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Related image: **Ronan and Terry.jpg** – Ronan Chris Murphy (left) and Terry Bozzio with a rack of Pacificas and EM Series mic pres at Veneto West