# GC PRESENTS

# **LETTER FROM THE EDITOR**

Dear readers,

This month I want to talk about GC Pro's ongoing efforts to support pro-audio education. Aspiring audio professionals in secondary education programs—specializing in recording, post-production, live sound, film scoring and more—receive the benefit of standardized curricula and instruction from expert faculty with certification in current industry technologies. Although the allure of self-taught, self-nurtured basement genius is powerful, the importance of these formalized programs cannot be understated. Standard nomenclature, best practices, and contemporary and vintage analog gear (and its intersection with ever-changing digital equipment and techniques) are invaluable tools on the road to success in professional audio, and this is what accredited schools offer.

GC Pro supports these programs by consulting on trends in gear, offering educational discounts to students and faculty, and participating in enrichment opportunities whenever possible. One of the advantages of working with GC Pro is the knowledge base of our Account Managers. We're experts on the science of audio and the art of creating world-class sound. Experience with real-world, practical applications of gear and techniques puts us in a unique position to offer our expertise. We currently have special programs set up with recording arts schools across the country—more than 40 of them. When students enroll in a program, they are often expected to obtain certain gear to complete their assignments, based on the requirements of the individual program. Our website offers easy access to our Account Managers, to get the right tools for their courses and production needs. At the same time, we work with these facilities to provide them with the finest equipment for instruction purposes. After graduation, we welcome these newly certified audio professionals to stick with us as we help them build their own studios and personalized setups.

So please join us in supporting pro-audio secondary education, and visit gcpro.com for more information.

Rick Plushner Vice President, GC Pro



# **HELPING LIGHT THE GAS MONKEY BAR N' GRILL**

MARTIN PROFESSIONAL'S NEW RUSH SERIES OF **COST-EFFECTIVE LED FIXTURES MAKES THIS BARBECUE-AND-MUSIC DESTINATION A REAL DISCOVERY** 



You wanted cast-off hot cars brought back to life before your very eyes? Gas Monkey Garage proprietor Richard Rawlings' reality-TV hit Fast N' Loud has done exactly that for four seasons on the Discovery Channel. You wanted to chow down on Texas brisket in a place like that? Rawlings brought the Gas Monkey Bar N' Grill, his Dallas barbecue emporium and live-music destination, to life last year. The Gas Monkey Bar N' Grill combines two of reality television's biggest draws—food and cars—into a major-league music venue with world-class sound, video and lights, with all systems designed and installed through GC Pro's Dallas office.

What touring artists like Anvil and Uncle Kracker-both of whom visited the club this year—will find at GMBG, as the place has come to be known, is rider-ready equipment such as the 180-degree, 32,000-watt D.A.S. Aero line array sound system capable of hitting 121 dB and composed of two Aero 40A cabinets, four WR6412DX weatherized enclosures, a dozen D.A.S. Road low-profile monitors and two D.A.S. Avant 118 subwoofers. These cover an outdoor concert area that can hold as many as 1,500 people. Inside, eight D.A.S. Aero 8A compact line array columns and four D.A.S. LX215 subwoofers keep crowds in the 19,000-square-foot dining space amply entertained. Music is mixed through a Behringer X32 FOH console indoors and a Midas Pro 2 digital desk outdoors.

# **Hot Lights**

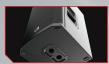
Matching the sound is world-class lighting, with one

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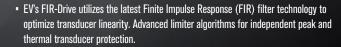






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# **HELPING LIGHT THE GAS MONKEY BAR N' GRILL**

of the first major installations of Martin Professional's new Rush Series of products. These include six Rush MH1 profile moving-head LED fixtures, six Rush MH2 wash moving-head LED fixtures, and four Rush MH3 beam moving-head fixtures. These and other fixtures are controlled through a Martin M1 lighting console with a built-in folding touchscreen. The emphasis on LED lighting is what makes GMBG as flexible as it needs to be — you never know when Rawlings and company will show up with cameras ready to show that barbecue is done and the joint is rocked.

But lighting of this level of sophistication wasn't this readily accessible or this affordable before Martin's Rush Series became available last year through GC Pro. "This is a great match: Martin's Rush and GC Pro," observes Greg Jones, senior manager for installation products for the Harman Pro Group, which acquired Martin Professionial's in 2013. Martin Rush fixtures hit a home run with target markets such as small-to mid-sized venues like GMBG that need sophisticated LED and moving-head fixtures. The Martin brand and reputation is recognizable and acceptable to compete for national touring acts, and with the new Rush line by Martin it is now possible to keep costs reasonable. They're a perfect fit, too, for GC Pro's broad market that ranges from small cafés to large clubs that can handle national concert acts and more.

"We were originally contacted by one of GC's lighting champions, GC Pro Account Manager Jeff McDaniels, who brought this opportunity to the table," says Jones. "Sometimes timing is everything. With the recent launch of the Martin Rush Line, the new partnership between Martin and GC and the fact that GMBG was looking for a professional system that delivered and met every expectation, it all seemed to fall into place. We are very excited to work with the likes of Jeff and the rest of the GC Pro team on many projects to come. If GMBG is an example of what's ahead, then who wouldn't be?" GMBG was also sold on the Martin Rush two-year warranty.

Alex Mendonsa, general manager of the Gas Monkey Bar N' Grill and a veteran of high-profile multi-use venues (having managed the House of Blues in Las Vegas), knows the value that products like Martin Rush can bring to a complex AVL project. "It's been a seamless experience, thanks to GC Pro, and GC Pro Affiliate Program Member Trinity Group International, which also installed the audio components," Mendonsa notes, though he adds that there were plenty of twists and turns. "For instance, we had to raise the roof on the stage, and we needed custom trussing fabricated for it. No problem for GC Pro. They got us out of a pinch on several occasions."

Jones says that the Martin Rush Series fixtures are at the leading edge of a revolution in entertainment lighting, not unlike what the advent of affordable digital audio technology has been for music recording and production. "LED technology is exponentially making lighting better, replacing the discharge systems that had been the standard for decades. LED has allowed an option that is lower in weight and power consumption, smaller in size, and affordable without sacrificing features. With products like Rush that really leverage the power and price-performance of LED, we've got a whole new market of venues, like Gas Monkey Bar N' Grill, open to us. And through GC Pro, we now also have a way to find them. Instead of clubs having to wait until they were working on a national level to be able to afford Martin lighting, now Martin can be their first lighting system and follow them as they expand. GC Pro has become our gateway into that market."

As it turns out, the Gas Monkey Bar N' Grill has been greenlit for its own reality-TV pilot on the Discovery Channel. And thanks to GC Pro, the club has the entire package it needs to make Gas Monkey Bar N' Grill as ready to rock as it is to cook.



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# **AUDIO SOLUTIONS**

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GC PRESENTS

# **AUDIO SOLUTIONS**

# **JOACHIM GARRAUD**

THE SPACE INVADER FINDS A HOME EVERYWHERE



Joachim Garraud is in a good place. Geographically, the in-demand DJ and producer is in Los Angeles, talking from his car on the way between his home and the recording studio space he leases inside film studio Paramount's sound department. A native of Nantes, France, who bounces between his homes in L.A. and Paris, Garraud likes having a studio that's private yet in the heavily trafficked halls of Paramount, where he bumps into a good mix of other musicians, producers, composers and other industry denizens that feed his creativity.

In a larger context, though, Garraud is also at the nexus of several intense trends in the music industry. Born in 1968, he is at the top of his game as a DJ and mixer just as electronic dance music (EDM) is hitting its stride in the U.S.—the biggest music market on the planet. And he is also here at a time when the concept of what it means to be a DJ is evolving and being defined differently for everyone with that title. Garraud routinely spins in front of crowds numbering in the tens of thousands in Europe and elsewhere—after a quick stop at SXSW in Austin in March, he set off on a tour that took him to Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Mexico before he stopped in Paris again—and his twist on that is to simultaneously perform as an instrumentalist. In addition to turntables in the DJ booth, he also wields a "keytar," which Garraud plays in between or sometimes with tracks he spins as a DJ—the same tracks he records in the Paramount studio. In other words, Garraud does it all, both because he can and because he has to.

"It's not the same business as it once was; you have to be able to do a lot more," he says. "Even DJing: it's not what is was when I was a kid, playing for free to make my friends dance at home. I have the keytar to make a link between the recorded music that I produce and play and a live instrument on stage. That's what makes each show just a little bit different, unique. And if EDM does become less popular someday, I have something else I can play."

### **A Different Business These Days**

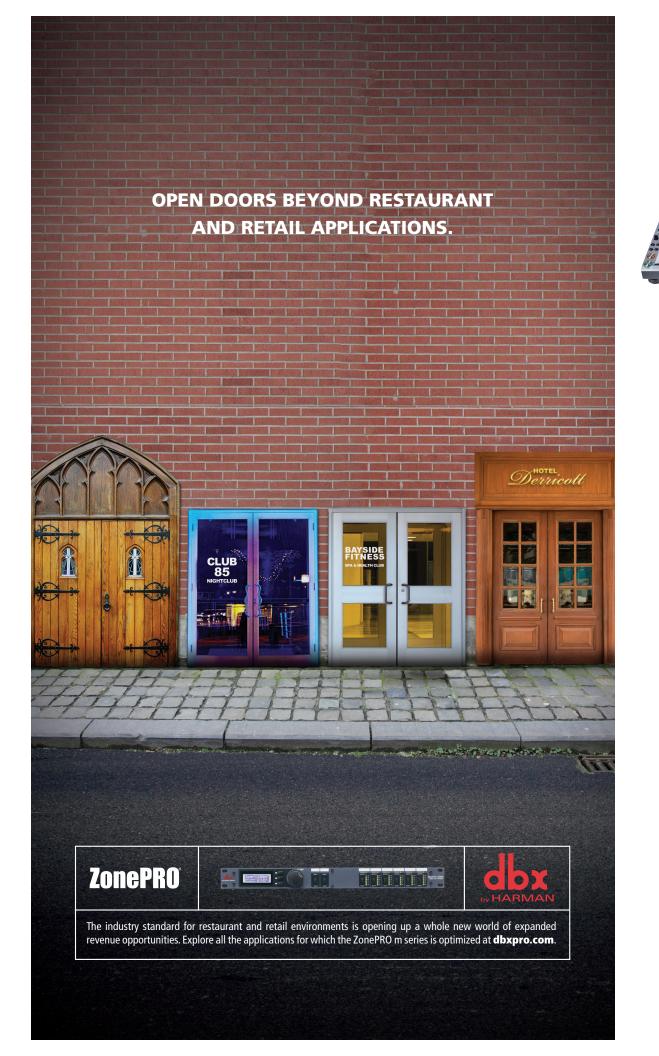
Garraud's portfolio is deep. He's remixed or produced tracks for a wide range of artists including Paul Johnson, Deep Dish, Kylie Minogue, OMD, David Bowie, Kid Vicious, Myléne Farmer and Culture Club. Most recently he's been in his studio working with Jane's Addiction lead singer Perry Farrell on a series of tracks that will eventually constitute the vocalist's solo album and are slated to be included in a musical show Farrell's preparing for a run on the Las Vegas Strip. At the same time, Garraud is well aware that, at least in the U.S., EDM's fortunes are a lot like gambling these days.

"In less than five years, EDM in the U.S. has created a bigger buzz than it has anywhere else for the last 15 years," he marvels. "That's what I really like about business here. When they do something, they do it big. It's a bubble, for sure, and maybe that's the problem with doing anything very fast. But you can't go against that. You have to ride with it."

Garraud has a sizable organization of professionals helping with his career, and included in that crew is Rich Avrach, Garraud's point of contact at GC Pro in Los Angeles. GC Pro helped him gear up his studio with everything from an Avid Pro Tools HD native system to the JBL M2 Master Reference Monitors, which he says are the *ne plus ultra* for critical listening, as well as Crown IT5000HD amps to power them. And for Garraud the instrumentalist, GC Pro has access to the entire inventory of Guitar Center for everything up to and including all the latest keytars.

"I'm in there almost every day," says Garraud. "All of my equipment, for the studio and the stage, comes through GC Pro and Guitar Center. If I need a mixer for my live show, it's there. If I need a strap for my keytar, it's there. One place—I love it!"





# **AUDIO SOLUTIONS**

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