

## **StarCity Brings Big Sound To Small Town**

Three professionals got together to make beautiful music in the Lehigh Valley.

Curt Riedy  
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For some artists, the process of recording an album also means working in an impersonal environment, rushed studio time and (unless they're backed by a major label) an empty wallet. Now, thanks to the StarCity Recording Studio in Bethlehem, both local and big name recording artists have found a haven right here in the Lehigh Valley.

Formed by Carl Cadden-James, Jeff Glixman and Lily Salinas, StarCity is a full-service, multi-room recording studio providing 5.1 audio production to both local talent and high-profile acts that range from Ludacris to Marvin Gaye.

The 18,000-square-foot studio is also equipped for movie post-production. StarCity has already worked on a few notable titles, such as M. Night Shyamalan's *The Village* and Zeke Zelker's *Loggerheads*. StarCity's sound production studio also includes its own fully decked-out 30'x40' THX theater, which is used as a screening room.

A major credential for the studio itself is the presence of recording engineer Jeff Glixman, who has produced a countless number of classic albums for bands ranging from Black Sabbath, the Allman Brothers and Kansas (he oversaw the recording process of such all-time radio staples as "Carry On My Wayward Son" and "Dust in the Wind"). Together with Lily, who comes from Universal Music and Carl who had his own "signed" band and a background in the technical side of things, their collective experience is impressive.

So, if they're such hot shots, then why are they setting up shop in Bethlehem? For artists already on top, it's a nice getaway, says Jeff. "The studio is perfect for the musician who doesn't like going to the city and feeling rushed," he said. "Best of all, you don't have to worry about leaving the studio at 2am to grab a bite to eat and having your throat slit." For up-and-coming artists, it's where the

music is, he says. "I think that there's a great value in looking around and seeing what's growing in your own yard. As it turns out, this is a very fertile area," said Jeff. "I've heard a bunch of really good music come flying through the door already in the less than a half year that we've been here."

The physical space of the studio is the former home of Angel Mountain Studios, and since taking it over, the staff at StarCity has made big plans for improvements. "We're envisioning a studio with brighter colors and an open atmosphere that provides for a more productive and creative environment", said Lily. "You have to believe in the artists and make their dreams come true, and we're taking the appropriate steps to really make that happen."

StarCity also serves as a production company. They recently signed a 22-year-old Kentucky native Nathan Lee Jackson, and they are also currently working with Bridges and a Bottle, a jam-rock band from Harrisburg.

But anyone's welcome in the studio, says Lily. The trio is ready and willing to share their expertise and experience with anyone who's interested.

"As a musician myself, I know how we think. I know how we speak," said Carl. "All of us can articulate ideas that may be hard for others to put words to, especially in regards what a musician wants."

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