



MUSIC IS MAKING ITSELF AT HOME MORE PEOPLE BUILDING, BUYING HOUSES WITH RECORDING STUDIOS TO UNLEASH THEIR CREATIVE SIDES.

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"The number of home-buyers requesting recording studios as an amenity is definitely higher than ever before," says Christine Lloyd-Maddocks, a real-estate agent Real-Estate Agent for the Paramount Properties Division of Rodeo Realty who specializes in homes with recording studios. Lloyd-Maddocks' Web site, www.homeswithstudios.com, focuses exclusively on homes that meet this specific need.

"Many of the major recording studios have closed, and the recording process is at the point where you can do it all at home, and when you listen to the finished product, you can't tell the difference," she says.

"A lot of us who have been in the music industry for decades wonder if all the new technology and the ability for nearly everyone to have a recording studio at home makes it too easy to make music regardless of musical training and if that is detrimental to music as an art form," says music producer Jeff Worrell, owner of Burbank-based Worrell Music Productions.

Worrell, 52, has produced music for many classic acts, including the '70s folk band America and Natalie Cole.

"I've come to the conclusion that there may not be as many virtuosos, but some modern musicians who have mastered using the new technology are expanding the way we create music," he says.

Worrell and his wife, Jane, run a full-service commercial studio in their garage called Stories in the Wood. They say it cost about \$50,000 to convert their garage and that it was worth every penny.

"Having our studio nestled in our garden, where we're surrounded by natural beauty and our dog can come in and lay at our feet ... it all helps create a magical vibe for us, and that's important because recording hit songs is about creating magic," he says.

"One of the greatest luxuries is having a permanent creative space," Worrell says. "It's here when inspiration strikes, and it's here when we have friends over so we can all get together and jam. It definitely promotes bonding, and it's more entertaining than gathering around a TV set."