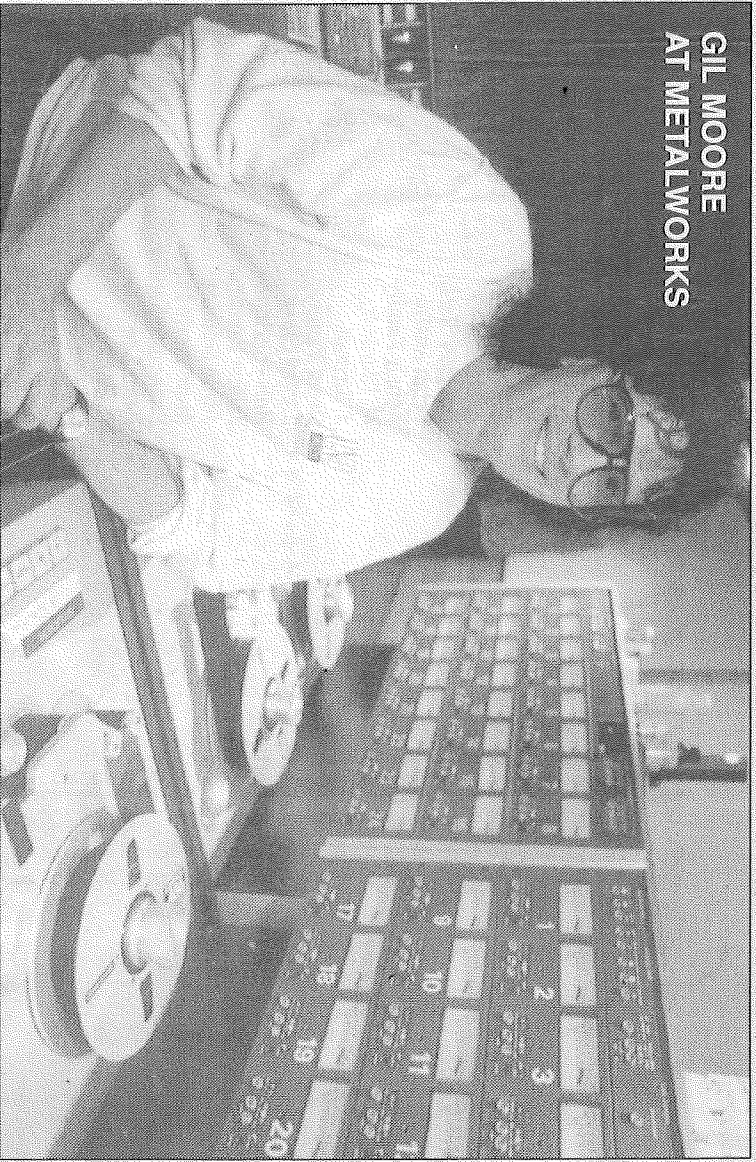


GIL MOORE AT METALWORKS



Rocker stays close to home

Running state-of-the-art studio

By MIKE TOTH
Special

*S - Peel biography
from 11/95*

Once a drummer, always a drummer. Gil Moore is living proof.

It was some 20 years ago that Moore first burst onto the Canadian music scene as the star drummer with the rock band, Triumph. Two decades later, he's still beating the drum for the music industry, but more as a behind-the-scenes man.

Moore, is the driving force behind the Mississauga-based Metalworks recording studio, tucked away at an unobtrusive industrial plaza on Mavis Rd.

To some of the biggest names on the rock music scene Metalworks is more than just a recording studio. It's a place for worship. This is where they go to have their prayers answered and their best works transformed into a gold or platinum seller. International recording star Tom Cochrane was one of the first name artists to record at Metalworks and he's still doing it. Recently Sylvia Tyson unveiled her new band (called The Quartet) for her brand new record.

Guns n' Roses, Jeff Healey, SvenGali, Dan Hill, Lee Aaron and the Spin Doctors have all filed through Metalworks' nondescript doorway to have their brilliance further enhanced by the studio's space-age technology and know-how.

"Plain and simple, music is our business," says Moore. "Sound-wise, there's nothing we can't do."

That probably explains why Canada's song-bird, Anne Murray, did some mixing at the Mississauga studio recently. Rumor has it that the Rolling Stones are looking this way, too.

Moore attaches a lot of importance to having a top-notch recording studio — and having it in

Mississauga's most interesting

PEOPLE

Mississauga. He was born here, raised here, played hockey here with Eirndale at Dixie and Port Credit Arenas. He also went to school here, started his music career here and established Metalworks with Triumph partners Mike Levine and Rik Emmett 15 years ago.

Like Moore, Triumph was a true-blue Mississauga product. The band started practicing at Moore's parents house in the Credit Woodlands before renting space at a bowling alley on Lakeshore Blvd. "I remember, my dad used to barricade himself where he couldn't quite hear how loud we were," Moore recalls.

That, of course, was wishful thinking — it was virtually impossible to shut out the Triumph sound. Teenagers in the late '70s and '80s loved it, embraced their music with wild abandon, making Triumph Canada's top rock band. Their reputation flowed way over and beyond Canada's borders.

"We played in every place in North America 10 times over," Moore recalls. "They were exciting times, but you could easily get caught up in the 'hamster-wheel' lifestyle."

Hotel living is okay with some, but more than a decade of it can get to you, he says. "I didn't want to spend the rest of my life on the road." Hence the birth of Metalworks studios.

Triumph is still alive today in a revised fashion, but apart from an occasional concert and some recording (coming soon is the album, Second Best of Triumph) they're not nearly as active as in the band's heydays.

Moore is 43, married to Sunny (identical twin sister to Miss Swanson) '88 Carolyn Ann Swanson) and has a nine-year-old daughter, Lauren. Of course, they live in Mississauga, Moore wouldn't have it any other way.

"I like Mississauga, I really do."