



ROUMELIOTIS
In surgical garb

This MD makes beautiful music

by Pierre Goad
Montreal Daily News

MEET Dr. Paul Roumeliotis and he'll hand you three business cards.

The first is for Autograph Records Inc., the record label he founded last year. The second is for Studio Secret Inc., the 24-track recording studio he co-owns and will soon own outright. The third is for the Baie Comeau Regional Hospital, where he heads the pediatrics department.

"When I was in Grade 6 I told my teacher one day I would be a doctor and part-time entertainer. Everybody laughed at me. But I did it and I'll keep on doing it," he says.

Combining careers as a pediatrician and minor music industry mogul almost makes sense when Dr. Paul describes his childhood yearning. It made more sense last year when he was working at the Montreal Children's Hospital, a few blocks away from his recording studio on St. Antoine Street.

But then he moved to Baie Comeau.

"I come down to Montreal every month or so," he says. "With a phone, a fax machine and a computer it's not really that hard to run my music business from a distance."

Not that all this has been easy. Dr. Paul's wife Diane remembers in particular a hospital residency/weekend drummer period.

"He would literally work 30 hours straight at the hospital, maybe sleep for four or five hours, then come down to the studio," she said.

"It was his way of unwinding. I think it helped keep him sane."

Dr. Paul admits the medical profession may not be ready for a pediatrician who's a lifelong Led Zeppelin fan, a hard-rocking drummer and a record producer.

Weekly show

During his medical training some colleagues at the Children's looked down on him.

"They seemed to think my music interests meant I wasn't devoted to medicine."

Now, Dr. Paul does a weekly medical show, the first step towards his ultimate goal.

"I want to do media-oriented medicine," he says.

"I'd love to combine teaching and entertainment and make educational records and videos for kids, doctors, nurses and paramedics."

But his heart, Dr. Paul admits, is still in rock and roll.

"One day I will produce a record that I play on — maybe even form a band."

Montreal Daily News, April 25, 1988



PERRY BEATON/Daily News

Making music: Roumeliotis with his 24-track Studer recording machine at Studio Secret.