



Unlike many of his contemporaries, who also became recording engineers in the Seventies and producers in the Eighties, Mike Clink's list of credits does not consist of seemingly endless pages containing hundreds of artists. But Clink's credits are equally if not more impressive for the quality of the projects he's worked, rather than the quantity. As an engineer at Hollywood's legendary Record Plant Studios, he worked on several albums that still influence many musicians, particularly guitarists, to this day, like UFO's *Obsession* and *Strangers in the Night*. Heart's

*Appetite for Destruction*, which topped the Billboard 200 album chart and is currently the 11th best selling album of all time in the US with 18x Platinum certification (not bad for a first production endeavor). He got the gig partly because Slash was a big fan of his work on those two UFO albums and also because he had the patience needed to focus the creative energy of one of L.A.'s most notoriously rowdy and rebellious bands.

"A producer needs to become a mediator, if necessary," says Clink. "A band can be a very fragile collaboration within itself. There may be strife between the

Even though Guns N' Roses was going through interpersonal turbulence almost from the beginning, Clink had developed such a great relationship with the band that he went on to produce another four albums with them, *Use Your Illusion 1* and *2*, *G N' R Lies* and *The Spaghetti Incident*. Other best-selling and influential albums he's produced include Whitesnake's *Slip of the Tongue* (featuring Steve Vai on guitar) and Megadeth's *Rust in Peace*, as well as albums by Mötley Crüe, Sammy Hagar, ~~Buster Poindexter~~ and Grammy-nominated performer Sarah Kelly.

Slash" contest is a groundbreaking unsigned band competition that will give one lucky winning artist the opportunity to record a three-song EP with Mike Clink behind the board and collaborate with Slash, who will help the winner write the single and perform on the recording.

**"... this is a very exciting opportunity for a lot of musicians. It's as if you're getting a major label deal."**  
 Mike Clink  
 "Slash and I have a mutual respect