

MYSTIC REVOLUTIONARY SHAMAN ARTIST

Over the past ten years as a musical artist I have found myself quite literally taking it to the streets. Due to circumstances beyond my control such as a career loss, fragmentation of society, the isolationist tendencies of fellow musicians and artists, a need to develop my skills as a performer and basically just making ends meet, I somehow naturally fell into this routine of becoming a part time busker.

A busker is someone who performs their artistic craft at the street level. They deal with their public face to face and ask for nothing in return. If you throw one a dollar they will most likely thank you kindly unless they are a mime. If they were given nothing they would still be out there performing because it is a labour of love, not something they just do for money.

Much like the common law of the land busking as we now refer to it has gone on since time in memorial. There has always been a court jester or singer, musical free spirited wandering gypsies, or just singing for your supper. In fact busking next to prostitution may be one of the world's oldest professions.

The most frequented busking venues I have performed at over the past decade have included a number of different local LCBO and Beer Stores. I have also spent a good number of summer Saturday mornings at the Brampton farmer's market and a one year tenure as a TTC subway musician. Playing my music for the public has given me more satisfaction, belonging and intonation with my environment than all of my other jobs combined.

I feel the reason for this fulfillment lies in the awareness that as a singer, musician, sculptor, painter, dancer or athlete, when you perform your craft with a high level of competency you are transmitting a high level of positive energy. This positive energy vibrates and resonates with other people within its radius causing a spilloff effect which in turn creates more positive energy.

This is why music, dance and the arts along with athletic competitions such as the Olympics have been so highly revered throughout our history. You see it is a little bit like a double-edged sword, if you give off a lot of negativity you will in turn receive the same but when you give of yourself freely, open and honestly you create a wave of good vibrations that will come back to you and reward you tenfold.

Michael Dillon