The topic : Do musicians or people who are studying music have a potential and talent of imitating or acting.

The main reason we started thinking about this questions is because both of us are interested in music more than a hobby. One of us is playing bass guitar for 10 years, performing on stage outside of the university and the other one has a musical education and plays drums for 3 years. As a result it is not unexpected for us to have friends who mainly are also musicians. While spending time with our friends and attending to a variety of concerts listening to live music we have noticed that musicians also have a tendency of acting. Beginning from that day we started searching for facts which can support our idea or find an answer to our question. And we believe that this free student project will give us an enourmous oportunity to make a strong research.

First of all we started searching for musicians who lately in their careers became actors or viceversa actors who became musicians. Russel Crowe, Jared Leto, Jeff Bridges, Johnny Depp, Juliette Lewis are some of the examples for such actors we found. Also not only they are becoming actors they really succeed in it. Jared Leto, Jeff Bridges and Russel Crowe have won an oscar, Juliette Lewis and Johnny Depp were notminated for an oscar. There are much more examples of that kind of talanted people, those are only a few we mentioned about.

Then we thought about the reason. Why do musicians can act or imitate. What does music and acting have in common. Examining both of the topics the most important thing they have in common is talent. Obviously you cannnot go far and reach success without talent. How do you acquire talent? Yes it is true that some people seem to be born talanted but without hard work it is very easy to lose the talent. If one is lucky enough to have natural talent he or she has to be grateful and never stop working on it to become better and better everyday. Also we know that both of them are branches of art. What is art? Art is a diverge range of human activities in creating visual, auditory or performing artifacts-artworks, expressing the author's imaginative or technical skill, intended to be appreciated for their beauty or emotional power. Musicians and actors express their emotions with their performances and with the music they create and compose, they make us feel therefore they are perceived as artists.

Many researches have been made but we are still very curious and with the help of this research any questions or any unsatisfactions of the answers will be vanished. Because does not matter how much time a person spends in front of a computer nothing gives you as concrete and productive results as observations and live conversations with people.

Not only acting but also imitation is one of the talents musicians have. When it comes to the question is not acting and imitating the same things we believe that the answer is no. Acting is having an idea about a character you are going to perform and according to the information one has in his or her mind it is creating someone who does not exist. According to the information we gained from the internet acting is the work of an actor or actress, which is a person in theatre, television, film or any other storytelling medium who tells the story by portraying a character and, usually, speaking or singing the written text or play. But imitation is an advanced behavior whereby an individual observes and repeats another's behavior or specific actions.

The idea of a musicians lifes gives us fair enough reasons to think they are successful in imitating or acting. They spend a lot of time on stage. When they are on stage they know they have to please the audience with their music, performance and behavior. They have limited privacy in their lifes for that reason they have to think twice before taking some actions, they have to think of what may be acceptable and what will not be. Knowing all of these facts it very possible for them to act in the public, to imitate someone the audience will like. This of course refers to well known musicians, when it comes to musicians in general think of the way they express their emotions. A musician imitates a memory from his life, a dream in his or her head which pushed him or her to compose a melody or to write lyrics about. They express the exact emotions they have experienced while performing the piece and furthermore they awake certain emotions in the ones who listen.

Execution plan :

As an execution plan we want to investigate a few students who are studying music. We have choosen Berklee College of Music, located in Boston, Massachusetts, United States, which is the largest independent college of contemporary music in the world. Known primarily as the world's foremost institute for the study of jazz and modern American music. Also depending on a students interests they can choose from a wide range of genres such as rock, flamenco, hip hop, reggae, salsa and bluegrass.

We have divided the plan into three parts. The first is to test the students ear for music. Simply show them a chord on piano or a guitar. They will listen to it and name the chord and according to how good they know the chords by ear we will evaluate how good their ear is. The second part is to show them some sounds, for example the sound of a waterfall, a roaring lion or a bird and ask them to imitate the sounds they have heard. Then to write down how successful they were to have a chance of referring to the records when we accomplis our final task. Last but not least the final step is to show the student some melodies, parts from some songs and ask them to remember them then after a short time ask them to repeat them. While they will repeat the melody we will investigate how detailed the student has remembered it and how they are performing it. Here we also will examine their short term memory and if it can influence the creativity of an individual. Let us briefly explain what is short term memory ; it is the capacity for holding, but not manipulating, a small amount of information in mind in an active, readily available state for a short period of time. Does it affect creativity? According to the researches the brain is very sensitive to new information however over time repetitive stimulation becomes monotonous and its effectiveness decreases. So if our brain is sensitive to new information it means shot time memory has the capability of increasing our creativity. Because creativity is associated with improved information processing.

We will do all of this experiments to verify our idea. If the students will successfully do the imitations and complete the tasks we will prove the fact that a musician has a talent of imitation. The first experiment will show us how good musicians they are, the second experiment will show can they imitate or not and if the do how well they are doing it and the third one will show us how good their short term memory is which is very much dependent with creativity.

As we are two people we have distributed the tasks between each other. First of all one of us (Berkay) will be the one who will explain the experiments to the students and also ask for their opinions. Look for the materials which will be used such as sounds which will be asked to imitate or melodies which the students will have to remember and then perform. And also to play the chords when we will examine their ears. In addition write down the notes we will gain from the observation of the performances and the responds the students will give. The other one (Gunes) will be the one who records the results. Also we will take a camera with us so we can record the performances on video to have an oportunity to go over the videos if there is anything we have missed during the experiment.

The required expences will be two tickets and an accomodation. For the tickets as we are two people it requires 3200 tl for the tickets to Boston, USA. For the accomodation we will need 800 tl to stay there for a week. So in total our expences will be consisting of 4000 tl. The duration of the project is expected to be one week. Traveling takes away two days which means five days left for the experiment. One of the days is the weekend which leaves four days. We intend to do the experiment two or three days in a row and maybe spend one day to get aknoledged with the place itself and to find students who will agree to take place in our procet and will suit the best for our research. The experiment is expected to take place in November. Any date would be suitable but if we have to be more specific from 14 to 21st November.

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