

*If there is a particular sort of music that means a lot to you personally, could you describe in words why this is so? Are there aspects of musical experience for which words fall short?*

*How do you regard the role of transpersonal meaning in the experience of music as meaningful?*

Music plays a part in almost everyone's life in one way or another. All do we have a favorite song, a favorite band or music genre but often it seems to be a thing that we don't pay close attention to, we just like to listen to this or that kind of music at a particular moment in life.

The music I like varies a lot but there is one artist who I continue to like and I listen to probably up to one third of the time I spend enjoying music. His music does not necessarily fit in a specific genre because he keeps redefining himself one year he's making folk music and the next year he's only using percussion instruments and his voice.

What makes him different in my opinion is the combination of expression he uses, he does not only write lyrics and songs were one can not live with out the other. He writes poems so that when you are reading them they have an independent life. That is also the case of his songs; the melody has a life with or without the poem or lyric. But what makes him exceptional is his voice; it has a sound to it that is quite commonly known in the blues genre and the instruments he uses in his music are typical for blues like trombone, trumpet, guitar and a piano. There are three different mediums for expression that come together and make an integral whole despite they all having a life of their own.

Why this kind of music suits me the best I don't know, maybe because of the way it makes me feel or how it provokes some feelings other music genres don't necessarily do. I believe music to be an ill describable object that is always a part of your life but for most of us it is in the background. It can enhance emotions we are feeling and therefore further our experience of the music as well as the emotions or feeling themselves.

Perhaps for the most articulate person it is not a problem to put musical experience into words; I on the other hand find it quite difficult. Often the feeling your favorite music provokes is an indescribable because it can make you feel

five different emotions at the exact time. It can make me feel collected and stressed at the same time as well a peaceful and some sort of childish joy and at that moment and only for a moment feel like I have a pair of new spectacles to look at the world through.

Is it possible for me to share that exact fusion of emotions with a group of people? I am not so sure; of course it is possible for a transpersonal musical experience to happen were people feel similar feelings but the same? I'm not sure and perhaps doubt that. Also it does frighten me a bit if it is possible for a group of people to feel the exact same fusion of feelings, when does the collective identity stop and the individual identity begin and where does individuality then come from if not from inside.

*Rain dogs by Tom Waits*

*Inside a broken clock*

*Splashing the wine*

*With all the rain dogs*

*Taxi, we'd rather walk*

*Huddle a doorway with the Rain Dogs*

*For I am a Rain Dog, too*

*Oh, how we danced and we swallowed the night*

*For it was all ripe for dreaming*

*Oh, how we danced away*

*All of the lights*

*We've always been out of our minds*

*The rum pours strong and thin*

*Beat out the dustman*

*With the rain dogs*

*Aboard a shipwreck train*

*Give my umbrella to the Rain Dogs*

*For I am a Rain Dog too*

*Oh, how we danced with the*

*Rose of Tralee*

*Her long hair black as a raven*

*Oh, how we danced and you  
Whispered to me  
You'll never be going back home  
You'll never be going back home*

*Oh, how we danced and we swallowed the night  
For it was all ripe for dreaming  
Oh, how we danced away  
All of the lights  
We've always been out of our minds*