

UNIVERSITY AT BIFRÖST

Connection

Performing for the audience

5/27/2010

Assignment 2

When I was listening to William playing yesterday I began to think about how some people don't appreciate to listen to live performance and the magic that it can bring to you if you give yourself to it. When I'm alone at my home and listening to music of all kind I often find myself alone with my thoughts and feelings. When I'm in that state of mind I can completely let go of myself and enjoy the music to the fullest. I find myself singing and dancing, crying and laughing and really let go of my emotions. One of my favorite things is going to all kind of concerts. When I find myself in one of these events I find it hard to go with other people because they intend to talk a lot during the concert. I just want to sit there quietly and really get in to it with the music and the ones who are performing it. Good performers can really get to you and take you with them on a journey that they are going on with their performance.

I myself have played in numerous of concerts but there are few times when I have really connected with the audience. The music that I'm playing is pop music and most of the time I'm playing for people that are drunk and just want to have a good time. But maybe you could say that this is a sort of some connection, people are having fun and just enjoying the show.

But the concerts that really get to me are those who can manufacture all kind of feelings and get me into a rollercoaster ride. I have been productive in recent years going to the symphony concerts in Iceland. For me that is some kind of experience that I cannot describe in words. I completely go in to my own world and I stay there until the end of the concert.

One time I was playing at a tribute concert in Reykjavík Iceland. The subject was the music from a musician called Jeff Buckley. My role in that concert was to play one of his most famous song called Hallelujah. The song is very emotional and it is recorded live with one guitar and one voice. This song has a lot of meaning for so many people all over the world. And there I was, alone with my guitar and my voice and 400 hundred people waiting for that particular song. People were sitting one or two meters away from me made it more up close and personal. While I was performing people where crying and really in touch with their emotions. After I was done I went to the bathroom and just cried for like five minutes. This

moment is one of my biggest in life because I really felt the audience and they really felt me. It was like we all emerged in to one thing, I became them and they became me.

When William was playing all this beautiful music for us I found myself sometimes feeling what he was feeling, especially when he was playing the slow songs and the piece from Faust. Faust reminded me of the beauty and the beast and I could see in my mind and put to gather a story with real characters and the classic fight between good and evil.

Porgy and Bess was beautiful and it was interesting just watching William while he was playing that piece and see all the different looks on his face and see just seeing him giving it all for us to be closer to what he was doing on the instrument. If I would have been at home and listening to the same thing on my CD I don't think that I would have been that connected as I was when he was playing. For me that is the big difference between live music and listening to music that is not, cut out the middle man.