**An Empty Canvas // The Painter**

Artists transform an empty canvas into a work of art through their skill, experience, inspiration and senses.  David Garibaldi’s life and transition into a world-renowned performance painter is no different.

The culture and color of graffiti art served as an early inspiration for Garibaldi. Born in Los Angles, he later moved as a youth to South Sacramento. It was here that he learned to enjoy the use of his hands and body through art on “larger and somewhat illegal canvases” by painting graffiti as an angst teen. Graffiti artist and high school dropout, he was living day-by-day. The only constants in his life were music and art.

Garibaldi had always combined his passion for music and color, or rhythm and hue, in his artwork. But it wasn’t until viewing performance painter Denny Dent’s portrait of Jimi Hendrix that Garibaldi discovered how his passion for paint and music could be an inspirational experience for more than just himself. He discovered music-driven-art, and in some ways it discovered him, revealing a portrait of passion and purpose.

Garibaldi’s synergy of music and art is what makes him unique as a painter and a performer.

**Rhythm and Hue // The Performer**

The performances he unwittingly practiced as a graffiti rebel in his garage is now on a public stage.  As a performance painter, Garibaldi creates images through his body movement and brushes while communicating via music to an amazed audience.

“I create images in an entraining way and my hope is to inspire the audience to use their passion to benefit and inspire others,” said Garibaldi. “That is music and color. That is **rhythm and hue**.”

For this young artist, musical inspirations include U2, Kanye West, Jay Z, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gay, The Beatles, Lady Gaga and Glitch Mob.  Featured shows also include the beats of Garibaldi’s exclusive DJ, Joseph One. The energy of these performances is both mesmerizing and engaging and there is nothing like it in the world.

Hundreds of thousands have witnessed Garibaldi paint live by transforming a blank black canvas into pop art icons through his “Rhythm and Hue” shows. Garibaldi has performed for Fortune 500 companies including AT&T, Intel and Disney. He has also been featured at charity events for Playboy, NBA, and celebrities Snoop Dog, Santana, Tommy Lee, Dave Navarro and Blue Man Group.

**War On Walls // The Studio**

Garibaldi’s portfolio and sophistication as an artist goes far beyond his accomplishments as a performance painter.  Influenced by Andy Warhol, Ernie Barnes, KAWZ, Takashi Murakami, Al Hirschfeld and the comic books of his youth, Garibaldi’s studio or “War On Walls” serves as his stage for these paintings of vibrant colors and fluid lines.

These smaller canvases embody the color and musical influence that is unique to Garibaldi’s performance work, but with a style and detail in each stroke.

In addition to being featured in galleries across the country, Garibaldi’s art is now an international brand and reproduced into posters, clothing apparel and iPhone cases. He is a featured Disney Fine Artist and has secured licensing rights for Jimi Hendrix, Bob Marley and Elvis Presley.

**Lessons and Influencers // The Inspirations**

Art was an ever-present part of Garibaldi’s life. From the moment he picked up a crayon as a young child and started to draw, he knew his passion for creating color and images would serve a greater purpose. Creativity surrounded him through his father’s music and dance and his mom’s work as a beauty stylist. Garibaldi picked up his first instrument, a trumpet, in fourth grade and shortly after developed a love for the beats and rhythms of hip hop.

He took the initial first strokes and steps by combining rhythm and hue, music and color, while listening to hip hop icons Run DMC and Snoop Dogg and painting graffiti with his middle school friends. Music remained a big part of his life joining high school hip hop dance group, Boogie Monstarz, but art became a more predominant force in his life as he perfected his skill in high school courses.

As he matured, so did his skill. By 2003, Garibaldi began his personal Harlem Renaissance by moving from graffiti to canvas and pulling from the cultural influence of jazz and its smooth sounds. It was then that he saw “something bigger.”  That inspirational and influential moment hit him while first viewing the work of Denny Dent and continued as he developed his personal faith. He discovered himself as an artist and a person; he discovered how he would live his life with passion and purpose.

**Living with Passion and Purpose // The Philanthropist**

Inspiration serves Garibaldi in his art and his life. “Living with passion and purpose” drives Garibaldi every day to transcend what he does as an artist into a philanthropist.

A high school animation teacher first inspired him to take his passion for graffiti and turn it into a more positive and creative direction. Garibaldi never forgets this encouragement and more importantly the value of someone believing in him. Every performance is an opportunity to give back – either through teaching youth or providing resources to the community.

In a few short years, and at 29 years old, Garibaldi raised over $1,000,000 for nonprofits and charities across the country through his art.  He works closely with charities such as Special Olympics, Echoes of Hope, Sacramento Children’s Home and World Vision.

$4 Million Dollars RAISED for charity through my art  
  
\*\*\*  
  
**David Michael Garibaldi** (born December 15, 1982)[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Garibaldi_(artist)#cite_note-1) is an American performance painter. His specialty is his "Rhythm and Hue" stage act in which he rapidly creates paintings of notable rock musicians.

Garibaldi was born in [Los Angeles, California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Angeles,_California). In July 2006 he was invited to the [Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_%26_Roll_Hall_of_Fame_and_Museum) in Cleveland, Ohio, where he painted a portrait of [Mick Jagger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mick_Jagger). In September 2008 he was the opening act for [Blue Man Group](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue_Man_Group)'s tour in Canada and the United States.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Garibaldi_(artist)#cite_note-2) He has also opened for [Snoop Dogg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snoop_Dogg). During the halftime of a [Golden State Warriors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_State_Warriors) basketball game in November 2007, Garibaldi painted [Carlos Santana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlos_Santana), after which the musician unexpectedly greeted Garibaldi and later signed the creation.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Garibaldi_(artist)#cite_note-3) On April 11, 2009, he appeared on [*The 700 Club*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_700_Club) and painted a portrait of [Jesus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus).[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Garibaldi_(artist)#cite_note-4) On July 29, 2010, he painted his first self-portrait during a benefit performance at the 11th Annual [Sacramento Film and Music Festival](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacramento_Film_and_Music_Festival) at the [Crest Theatre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crest_Theatre), following the world premiere of Walking Dreams, a documentary about his work directed by Chad Ross.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Garibaldi_(artist)#cite_note-5) On April 20, 2012, Garibaldi painted [Jeremy Lin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Lin) during halftime of the [New York Knicks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_Knicks) game.

Garibaldi appeared in the [seventh season](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/America%27s_Got_Talent_(season_7)) of [*America's Got Talent*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/America%27s_Got_Talent). He has gone forward all the way to the finals with his act, *David Garibaldi and His* [*CMYK*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CMYK_color_model)*'s*, finishing in fourth place.

Garibaldi's work is strongly derivative of the work of artists [Denny Dent](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denny_Dent)[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Garibaldi_(artist)#cite_note-6) and [Jean-Pierre Blanchard](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Jean-Pierre_Blanchard_(painter)&action=edit&redlink=1)[[fr](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jean-Pierre_Blanchard_(peintre)" \o "fr:Jean-Pierre Blanchard (peintre))].

On February 17, 2017, David was invited by [Matthew Patrick (MatPat)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MatPat) to guest star on [GTLive](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GTLive) on YouTube. David Garibaldi created several paintings which were given to lucky raffle winners watching the stream.

Jazz Clubs

### \*\*\* Artist David Garibaldi has been wowing Sacramento crowds for years with his full-throttle live performances. But now this one-time graffiti-loving troublemaker is going global with the world’s largest entertainment company. Meet the man who’s putting the “dope” in Dopey.

By Mark Kreidler

Garibaldi in his West Sacramento art studio

Photo By Max Whittaker

DDavid Garibaldi prowls the stage in front of a huge black canvas, the bright lights making his shaved head glisten. When the bass-and-drum beat kicks in, he thrusts forward, a paintbrush gripped in each hand. Sometimes delicately, sometimes violently, he strokes the canvas. A swash of blue here. A slash of white there. After about half a minute, he steps back and stares at the still indistinct image, swinging his arms side to side to the music’s rhythm, his dark T-shirt rippling across his rangy frame. The crowd’s murmur builds. A moment later, he stalks in again, first bending down to stab his brushes into containers of paint at the foot of the canvas, then uncoiling upward and attacking once more. A portrait starts to emerge. There’s part of a face in profile topped by a shock of dark hair. Who is it? Kanye West? Jimi Hendrix? Elvis?

During a typical 45-minute show, Garibaldi may paint all three, plus one or two more—Marilyn Monroe, Bob Marley or another of the more than 100 celebs whose visage he can create in a fast and furious five or six minutes, taking time between each portrait to chat up the audience. It’s a hypnotic and physical display, Jackson Pollock meets hip-hop. Which is to say, there isn’t a whole lot about what he does that screams... Disney.

Garibaldi paints Kanye West during a performance for the Special Olympics in June 2008 at UC Berkeley. (Photo by Molly McClure)

But here’s the thing: After watching one of Garibaldi’s shows in Las Vegas in 2007, execs from Disney Fine Art, one of the entertainment company’s farthest-reaching attempts at serious art, tapped the Sacramento painter turned international pop-culture sensation to take part in the program. They have commissioned him to paint Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and other famous Disney characters in his singularly kinetic style, making him one of only 26 artists worldwide to be chosen for the venture.

“They’re really introducing me to a whole new audience,” says the 26-year-old Garibaldi, who lives in Elk Grove with his wife, Joy, a few miles from the Vintage Park home where he grew up. “And at the same time, they’re introducing their audience to me.” As part of that ongoing introduction, Garibaldi will paint three Disney characters during a June 13 show at Stage Nine art gallery in Old Sacramento.

The Disney deal marks just the latest success for a rock-and-roll performance painter whose fusion of creativity and commerce has ignited a suddenly soaring career. He has coveted agreements with the estates of Presley, Hendrix and Marley to sell his posters and portraits of those late music icons in exchange for royalty fees. He’s had face time on MTV. Then there’s his L.A.-based clothing line (he came to a recent interview wearing a Garibaldi “Obama Quest” T-shirt). He’s also opened for Snoop Dogg and performed with Tommy Lee, and last year he dropped by the Playboy Mansion, where Hugh Hefner sat for a portrait. All of that in addition to a tour of Canada with the world-renowned Blue Man Group that began last fall and resumes in October.

So it’s a rock-star life?

“Without the egos,” Garibaldi says with a soft laugh, sipping iced tea at Temple coffee house downtown, not far from his studio loft in West Sacramento. On a typical non-touring day, he arrives at the studio by 10 a.m. and spends several hours tending to business matters with Joy, who he speaks of as his muse, manager and strongest supporter. Then he heads upstairs to sketch or paint, sometimes staying as late as 10 p.m., driven by a passion that, in a kind of happy accident, has also made him a global brand, with art auction sites like The Collection Shop selling his originals for as much as $17,000. “People would probably laugh about it,” he says, “but to this day, I don’t have a business plan.”

Business plan or no, his ability to straddle two worlds as far apart as Playboy and Disney serves as a riposte to any critic who might dismiss Garibaldi’s act as a mere party trick. Indeed, Noka Aldoroty, director of Disney Fine Art—which is part of Southern California-based Collectors Editions, the line’s exclusive global publisher—regards Garibaldi and the man behind Mickey Mouse as kindred spirits. “Walt Disney once said, ‘I don’t pretend to know anything about art. I make pictures for entertainment,’ ” says Aldoroty, whose firm ships Garibaldi’s Disney works—which fetch anywhere from $500 for a signed print to $6,000 for an original—t

Garibaldi in front of his portrait of Walt Disney with Walt’s nephew Roy E. Disney (middle) & Collectors Editions CEO Michael Young in Burbank in February 2009 (Courtesy of David Garibaldi)

o galleries around the world. “David Garibaldi certainly knows a thing or two about art, and obviously so did Walt Disney, despite his modesty. But also like Walt, David makes pictures that above all have the ability to entertain.”

In a sense, Garibaldi’s work for Disney brings him full circle artistically while taking him farther away from a not-so-distant past that, as he tells young audiences when performing for them, veered into delinquency. Growing up in Vintage Park—dad owned a small popcorn company before going to work for Jelly Belly, mom still runs a hair salon in Elk Grove—he drew Disney characters and dreamed of working as an animator. But by the time he reached his teens, his creative pursuits had turned less innocent. He ran with a graffiti-scrawling crowd, defacing property across South Sacramento and falling into a pattern of slack behavior that delayed his graduation from Sheldon High School.

“I was definitely a follower at that time, going along with other people,” Garibaldi recalls. He found his own path when Shawn Sullivan, an animation instructor at the school, urged him to apply his talent to less destructive ends. “Sullivan said, ‘Look, you’re doing the graffiti thing, but I want to show you how to bring your paintings to life.’ ” From his mentor, young David learned about detail, color, shading, highlight—and the virtue of practice. Garibaldi began to devote long hours to drawing and painting, and a few years later, at age 20, he decided to give himself to his craft, poverty be damned.

“When I first started teaching myself how to paint six and a half years ago, I made a conscious decision to live my life as if there were no second chances,” he says. “My car was repossessed. I was about to get evicted from my apartment. I was malnourished.”

True to the starving artist parable, his first sale was actually a barter to keep a roof over his head. The owner-manager of his apartment complex at 26th and N streets generously offered to give him two months’ rent credit in exchange for Garibaldi painting an aquarium mural on the building’s facade. The image remains, an early public work of a local kid gone global. “It’s kind of become this landmark in midtown,” Garibaldi notes with pride.

Around the same time, he started performing live late-night painting sessions at Fox & Goose, working with an ensemble that included a drummer, bass player and DJ. When the DJ bought one of his finished pieces—for $100, which was $200 less than the asking price—Garibaldi began to consider himself a professional artist. Soon after, he discovered the work of Denny Dent, an Oakland-born speed-painter who rose to fame in the ’80s by engaging his audience while creating portraits of rock stars. Garibaldi saw his destiny come into sharp focus.

Garibaldi’s Street Mouse painting for Disney Fine Art (Courtesy of Disney Fine Art/Collectors Editions)

The concept of putting brush to canvas before a live audience has been around as long as art itself. But in “Rhythm and Hue,” Garibaldi’s title for his public shows, he delivers a performance as much as he creates art, melding color and light, sight and sound. In less time than it takes most audience members to dress for his show, he completes full-blown, 6-foot-tall portraits of just about any pop icon you can name: Carlos Santana, Albert Einstein, Martin Luther King Jr., Tina Turner—on and on. He paints some pieces upside-down, the image’s identity only becoming clear when he finishes and flips the portrait around with a toreador’s flourish, a moment that invariably elicits wild cheering. Between the hip-hop and rock music pulsing in the background and his Kanye-like stage presence, he says, “It’s really like going to a painting concert.”

His show obviously caught the attention of Disney, and his upcoming appearance at Stage Nine marks one of his first as a member of the company’s Fine Art program. In February, he performed at the Walt Disney Studios in Burbank for an audience that included Roy E. Disney, nephew of the late Walt; Garibaldi painted a portrait of the uncle as an homage.

“David has such energy and enthusiasm, and he’s totally unique in his style,” says Troy Carlson, owner of Stage Nine, which is one of only two Disney Fine Art galleries in Northern California. Adds Aldoroty, “He has that rare combination of the creative Disney sensibility and a skill to inspire people.”

Garibaldi has raised more than $400,000 for various charities, with a goal of reaching $1 million by the time he hits 30. But there’s another reason he keeps returning to the stage even as his studio work nets five-figure sums: He wants to steer high school students and younger kids clear of the bad choices he made earlier in life. “What we’re talking about is a bunch of things that don’t cost a lot of money—some cans of paint and a canvas, things of little or no value,” Garibaldi says. “I used those things to turn my life around.”

Once, he was a kid who dreamed of working for Disney. Now, his own urban take on Mickey Mouse, titled Street Mouse, sketched and painted in West Sacramento, hangs in galleries across the globe. Maybe it’s a small world after all.

\*\*\*

**Name:** David Garibaldi  
**School:** Sheldon High School  
**Location:** Elk Grove Unified School District  
**CTA:** Animation Pathway  
**Status:** Professional Artist and Performance Painter

[David Garibaldi](http://garibalditv.com) is a performance artist with a calling. Garibaldi dances on a drop cloth while two DJs and drummer play hip-hop music. Compact and energetic, he grabs paintbrushes as he moves. Holding one in each hand, he starts making brush strokes on a life-size canvas board. As he dances, a portrait slowly emerges before your eyes: Martin Luther King Jr., Jimi Hendrix, Madeleine Albright. He calls the piece "Rhythm and Hue." He frequently performs at schools. And during the show, he tells the students his story.

Top of Form

### Get the best of Edutopia in your inbox each week.

Email

Bottom of Form

Garibaldi was failing in high school; he was more interested in painting graffiti late at night in rail yards and back alleys. That was true until his junior year: "That’s when I walked into the classroom of . . . " He pauses dramatically, then finishes: "Mr. Sullivan." Shawn Sullivan teaches the animation pathway program at Sheldon High School, in Elk Grove, California. Sullivan was blunt with the young man. "You can get paid to do this, or you will pay for doing it." A switch clicked on in Garibaldi's head.

Over the next few years, Garibaldi learned animation, taught himself formal painting, and began creating his hip-hop performance show. He’s toured with the Blue Man Group, performed during halftime at sporting events, and took his act to Europe. This year, a documentary about his work, titled [Walking Dreams](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=86TK2MgjuWU), premiered. Wherever he goes, Garibaldi makes time to meet with students and urges them to stay in school. "Art changed my life, and now I know it can change other lives."

\*\*\*  
**1. What inspired you to move from tagging to more socially acceptable art? (Your website says a high school animation teacher, but what specifically did that teacher do to change your path?)**

I was always just a creative person, and when I was younger, graffiti was the creative outlet presented to me.  When I was presented with art in high school, I just saw it as another way to create.  Luckily I had an amazing teacher that encouraged me to not change who I was but just change how I was doing it.  So it was more about continuing to create rather than just doing something that was socially acceptable.

**2. Who/what has been the biggest impact on your life?**

My parents probably had the biggest impact on my life because of how much I learned from them growing up.  My dad was a business man and entrepreneur, and my mom is a hair stylist who has owned her hair salon for more than 20 years.  They were both creative and tenacious people.  I observed how they continually created and grew in each step of their life. I applied those to being a creative entrepreneur myself and to always grow and never give up.

**3. Where is the most amazing place your art has taken you?**

I’ve been all over the world from china, Australia, several countries in Europe and still one of the most amazing places I’ve been was the Ryman Auditorium in Nasheville, TN.  The Ryman is a country and rock and roll Mecca and I was invited to do a performance there.  It was probably the first of its kind in that venue.  I loved Madison Square Garden, but the Ryman felt like we were breaking ground for my art form.  
**4. What accomplishment are you most proud of?**

I set a goal when I was 25 years old to raise $1 million for charity through my art by the time I turned 30.  It was more than just doing good.  It was about using my gift to create as a platform to benefit and inspire people.  So when we met that goal before I turned 30, it was a huge accomplishment.

**5. If you weren’t doing this, what would you want to be doing?**

I would probably be a teacher.  I love guiding and inspiring. I’ve had some great teachers and mentors in my life and would love to do that.  Plus I have a better chance being a teacher than a stand up comic.

**6. Is there anyone’s portrait you WOULDN’T attempt? If so, why?**

I’ve actually attempted Marilyn Monroe, but after a few tries I learned a very important thing.  Some beauty just can’t be recreated.  She has a face that if it’s not right on, it doesn’t even look like her.  So I don’t paint her portrait because I feel like my style of art doesn’t fit her beauty. Maybe one day.

**7. What message do you have for young artists?**

First, love making art no matter what.  Not for money, not for fame, not to impress anyone, just make art.  In the event you get to do it as a profession, and the pressure of responsibility is added, you will still just love making art.  Art is also a journey of growth, so be up for it before you attempt it.

**8. If you had an opportunity to do anything again (or differently) what would it be?**

I would only paint more.  Besides that I wouldn’t change a thing.

**9. Your website describes you as a “high school dropout” – did you ever go back to school and graduate?**

After high school I only worked and tried to get by for about 2 years.  Within that time, I chose to put to use the creativity I had and turn it into a career.  When I started my career it’s been growing, even 11 years later.  I haven’t gone back, but it’s part of my journey, and it’s why I inspire students today to focus on their passions.  Maybe one day I’ll go back.

**10. How do you get your inspiration?**

My inspiration comes from music, movement, color, culture, and more.  So I get the inspiration by either looking for it or letting it find me.

**11. When you are contracted for performances, do you decide what subject you will paint, or do you let the organization who has booked you have some input?**

We work with our clients to come up with images that will connect with the audience.  So they are images that inspire me, but also what will connect with the audience as well.  It’s a balanced collaboration.

**12. Who is your favorite artist?**

Leroy Nieman is my all time favorite.  I love a lot of artists, but something about his subjects and color theory just connects with me.  When I realized I learn something from each painting, I get this hunger to learn more.  Any artist that can inspire that in me, is my favorite.

**13. What’s next for you?**

We are currently working on a new tour for next year, which is a whole new concept show.  It’s a whole new experience.

INTERVIEW:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN7LDGXJeWs>  
  
<https://creativemornings.com/talks/david-garibaldi/2>

<https://youtu.be/GMDd7BM8IvU?list=PLYxIrXkWu99nsOx-0Syw4w_l1GAvk78ra>

<https://www.abc10.com/video/entertainment/television/programs/morning-blend/talking-art-and-inspiration-with-david-garibaldi-and-shawn-sullivan/103-8038469>

<https://garibaldiarts.com/garibaldi-spike-tv-interview-video/>   
  
<https://youtu.be/JU2p2gOaWhI>   
<https://youtu.be/IORck-_4EZY>   
<https://youtu.be/U1GfiPW3gng>  
<https://youtu.be/T3KwpmVHRpw>

QUESTIONS:

REBEL WITH A CAUSE

You make art entertaining -- pop icons, hip-hop, performing in front of huge loud crowds with your Rhythm and Hue process. I’m curious why you turned to performance painting? It’s a lot different than tagging walls surreptitiously in the dark of night!  
Follow-up: I read that it took you about 6.5 years to really hone your skill. Do you have any funny incidents to share during your learning/experimentation phase. *Follow-up:* Is making art accessible important to you?  
  
I’ve read and heard you share a lot about your struggles in your teenage years (your tagging in South Sac, stealing, dropping out of Sheldon High School). What was the turning point to changing your direction?   
*Follow-up:* Do you still keep in touch with Mr. Sullivan?  
*Follow-up*: Your childhood dream was to become an animator: Is your performance style an indirect way of living out your dream career? (You’re literally animating yourself to create your pieces.)   
  
How did the art world first react to your kinetic/pop work?   
*Follow-up:* Is their validation even important to you? Why (not)?  
  
In every video and article about you, you stress that you live with passion and purpose. So, what is your passion? What is your purpose? How did you come to realize these?   
*Follow-up:* Has your passion and purpose evolved over time?  
  
What were some of the lessons learned from your America’s Got Talent experience.   
*Follow-up:* How did you react to this national and international fame? What keeps you grounded?

Your Art Life Tour is almost here. What is the concept and intention for this tour? Is there a special significance for the cities selected? (Sac, Philly, Washington DC, Boston, NYC)  
*Follow-up:* Who will be a part of the tour? Opening? Guest performers? (Again, why were they chosen.)

Your social media accounts reveal so much about yourself and seems like a digital journal. You share inspirational quotes, career ups-and-downs, off-the-cuff thoughts, and a lot of positivity. You’ve chosen to be very transparent. Is this purposeful?  
*Follow-up:* Why is it important for you to be this open and honest with the world?

While you may travel the world, you keep your roots here in the Sacramento area. (We are interviewing in your studio!) What keeps you working/producing here in this city? Is it family? Is it something else?  
*Follow-up:*

**Random Questions:**  
-Jazz and hip-hop music are typically what you listen to when creating your pieces. What makes these genres great soundtracks for when you create?   
  
-When you 25 you set a goal of raising $1M with your work. You’ve surpassed that and now have raised $4.5M! We’re curious, have you set another goal for yourself?

-Is your wife Joy still your manager?