



Talent: Learned or Predetermined

Is Talent something that we obtain or are we born with it?

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/Music and Recording News Articles/ - LOS ANGELES, CA, June 19, 2008 -- Talent. There's a word you hear everyday. Your friend tells you about the great dancer they saw on TV last night, the amazing singer they saw in concert, or the brilliant business man who makes millions. They're all so 'talented,' your friend tells you, and you both sit and dream of how great it would be if you only had an inkling of the talent they had.

We hear the word from the time we are in elementary school. Whether it's directed toward us or a friend, we know the word very well. By definition talent is an exceptional ability in a specific skill. "For most of us talent is just some mystical unexplained phenomena. We think it is a special quality or trait that was impregnated into us at the time of conception," says, Michael Maresca a Professional Vocal Technique Instructor in Los Angeles. " I've seen people come and go that were 'talented' when they were younger, but now that they're older, what's happened? Therefore, I don't think that talent is something we just have. I believe being 'talented' is a status that can be gained or lost, but for many people that I've come across, talent becomes an excuse."

Is it an excuse? Maresca finds that most of the time it is. It is common thought that the only reason an individual can reach such a high level of success is because they are talented. "The excuse is making yourself believe that you can't achieve their level of greatness because you don't possess the unseen power of 'talent.' Thereby relieving you of any blame for not being as great as you could really be."

Whether he is right or wrong, it does make you think twice about the word 'talent.' Could I be deemed 'talented?' According to Michael Maresca with the right tools and heart you can get your 'talent.' So next time you take a look at the rockstar on the stage, the great dancer, or the brilliant mind at the top of the corporate ladder, just remember that it could be you.