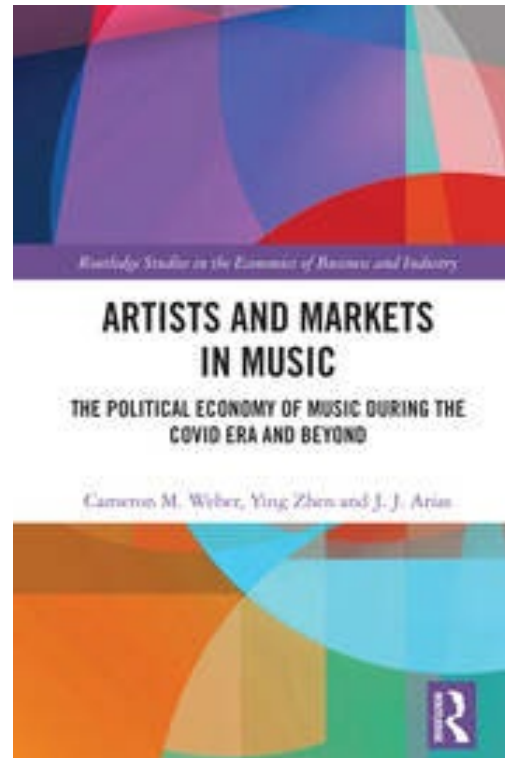


Artistic Values and a Socioeconomic Production Function for Music

“Musicians are an exceptionally mobile and elusive population”

- Pew Research Center
2004



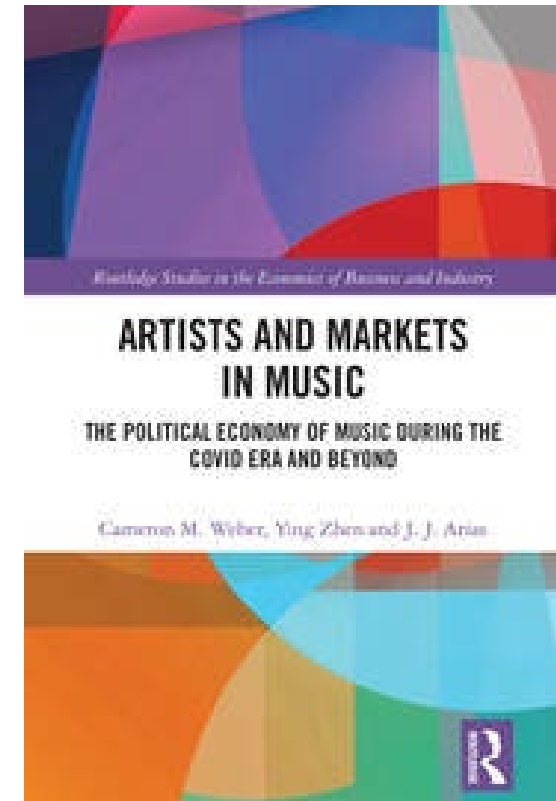
Presentation by
Cameron M. Weber
Independent Scholar
April 22, 2024

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Snowball method on survey monkey, open January to September 2022

Self-definition of musical artist (musician)

Questions more ordinal than cardinal



Artistic Values and a Socioeconomic Production Function for Music

What is the proposed production function for music?

$$Q = f (K, L, \mathbf{S}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{D})$$

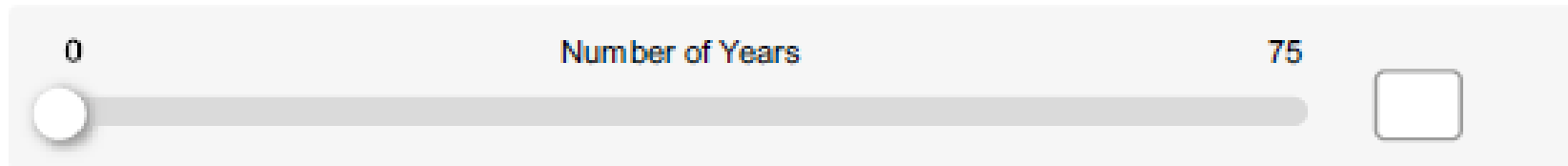
Samuel Cameron (2015, 2016) and Shaikh (2018)

How are values uncovered in our research?

Copy of Cultural Economics Musician's Survey

1. How long have you considered yourself a musician?

0 Number of Years 75



2. Do you think formal education is important in the success of a musical artist?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extremely important | <input type="checkbox"/> Very important |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat important | <input type="checkbox"/> Not so important |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all important | |

Serendipity
Authenticity
Copyright protection
Gender identity
Entrepreneurship
English language ability

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16. Do you use stimulants (tea, coffee, marijuana, wine, liquor, etc.) as part of the creative process?
- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> A great deal | <input type="radio"/> A little |
| <input type="radio"/> A lot | <input type="radio"/> None at all |
| <input type="radio"/> A moderate amount | |

Note: We did not find any correlation between level of drug use and length of time as a musician.

This might be due to 1) Survivor selection bias or 2) Use is part of creative process and not an occupational hazard.

Table 5.1 Subjective Importance of Serendipity and Authenticity in the Success of a Musician

	<i>Do you think serendipity plays a role in the success of a musical artist?</i>	<i>Do you think authenticity plays a role in the success of a musical artist?</i>
# of respondents	115	114
Extremely important	17%	22%
Very important	35%	44%
Somewhat important	37%	25%
Not so important	9%	6%
Not at all important	3%	2%

Table 5.2 Subjective Importance of Drugs in the Creative Process of a Musician

	<i>Do use stimulants (tea, coffee, marijuana, wine, liquor, etc.) as part of the creative process?</i>
# of respondents	115
A great deal	9%
A lot	18%
A moderate amount	23%
A little	22%
None at all	22%

Note: Does not refute proposed SAD Production for Music

Table 5.4 Results on Subjective Well-Being During the Covid Era

	<i>Better or Worse</i>	<i>Better or Worse</i>
	<i>Creatively During Covid Era?</i>	<i>Economically During Covid Era?</i>
<i>All Respondents</i>		
Ordinal response (“0” = Better, “100”=Worse) (# of respondents)	52 (115)	56 (115)
Serendipity	<u>56</u> (59)	56 (59)
Authenticity	52 (75)	<u>57</u> (74)
Drugs	<u>49</u> (30)	55 (30)
Entrepreneurship	52 (77)	<u>57</u> (77)
Union	58 (8)	<u>77</u> (8)

Table 5.6 Funding Sources by Practice Value-Type During Covid Era

	<i>All Respondents</i>	<i>Respondents Believing Education is Important to Success</i>	<i>Respondents Believing Entrepreneurship is Important to Success</i>
(# of Respondents)	(32)	(14)	(23)
I have received private grants for the arts during the covid era	50%	60%	60%
I have received government “relief” money during the covid era	57%	<u>86%</u>	57%
I am a member of a music-related labor union	25%	15%	17%

Common result is that art education has little or no effect on artist income but that education leads to more non-art income (Throsby 1994, Alper & Wassall 2006).

Table 5.10 Education and Music and Non-Music Income

	<i>Respondents Declaring that Education is Not</i>	<i>Respondents Declaring that Education Is</i>
	<i>Extremely or Very Important in Success</i>	<i>Extremely or Very Important in Success</i>
# of respondents	93	21
1. Average income	\$55,000	\$38,000
2. Music income only	\$8,000	\$8,000
3. Non-music income (1–2)	\$47,000	\$30,000
% of income which is non- music income (3/1)	86%	79%

Our results show that artists (musicians) who *value* education more earn less both in music and non-music income. Consistent with Bourdieu (1979) on distinction and cultural capital.

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Table 5.3 Creative Optimism and Union Membership

	<i>How much do you agree with this statement, "Good art can come from bad times"?</i>	
	<i>All Respondents</i>	<i>Those who find union membership is extremely or very important for success</i>
# of Respondents	114	8
Strongly agree	38%	38%
Agree	41%	25%
Neither agree nor disagree	17%	25%
Disagree	1%	0%
Strongly disagree	2%	12%

Note: We also find that those valuing labor union membership are less likely to cooperate with other musicians during the covid era and believe that English language ability is more important in the success of a musician.

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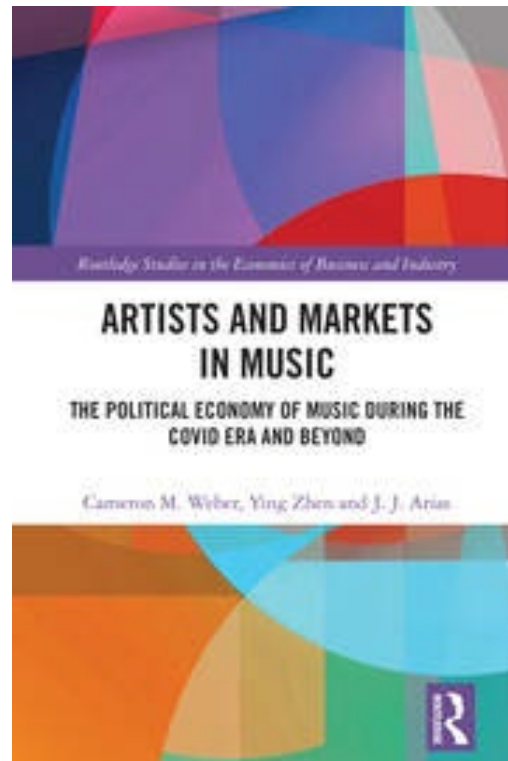
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Thank you