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MONEYMONK Article: Real Musicians Have Day Jobs  
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Hugh was one of those lucky people who worked at a job that used his gifts. He had other talents too; e.g., creating lovely visual art. One day as he finished a new piece, he had a flash that it would make a great cover on the local spirituality/health magazine.

As the vision walked forth, Hugh realized, "Hmmm, I'm going to need a portfolio to present this idea. Maybe even a website". So much for that idea, eh? It could become a full time job, and he already had one.

With the economy in flux, many healers and artists feel the crunch as folks watch spending more closely. Creating alternate streams of income come to mind. So how can creating new income, perhaps additional "day jobs", be an organic, even fun, process?

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Calling All Artists and Healers - Follow your Fun  
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We live in the age when multiple career and job changes can happen in the course of a life. Though it's easy to get comfortable once settled in to a work reality, it behooves us (great word, eh?) to keep our options limber. And to follow our heart.

For artists, healers, and other entrepreneurs, this might mean sitting down and thinking about your clients. What do they really say they want and need from you? What do you really enjoy providing for them?

Sometimes you might see even more deeply what they REALLY need but may not realize. Or how to make a tough process fun and creative.

Other times ideas could involve projects that have been waiting on the back burner. It hasn't happened yet for various reasons - timing, lack of resources, competing responsibilities. Could it be time now to restart this baby?

For Hugh, making art was a vital part of his self expression. It was going to happen with or without payment. Because he wasn't desperate for the money at the time, he could relax about it all. Fact was, he had already been getting commissioned projects.

Calm requests tend to get better responses from the universe than demands coming from the panic zone.

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Synchronicity can Surprise your Heart-based Instincts  
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Fast forward a year later. Hugh has a rather nice portfolio assembled that he's showing to a friend. He points to the one we discussed, mentioning he thought it would make a great cover for so and

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so mag.

His friend excitedly agrees, and notes that she was just about to contact them to review the book she had penned. Her book had been picked up by a major publisher - and yes, it was another passion-inspired project.

So far no word yet on if the art will get to the cover - but the person did note they really liked the art. I'll keep you posted.

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Passion Fuel

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Keeping your passions fed not only invites synchronicity, but it can potentially expand your income. Here're a few thoughts on how to organically farm more authentic work income streams. Let me know if you have any interesting stories - I love this stuff.

^^ Check the closets for any projects that it might be time to complete. Can these contribute to your wallet? Sometimes they don't even need that much more work. And often the completion and connections that result - well they're priceless on other levels.

^^ Investigate any curiosities or volunteer options. Last year I followed an instinct about a job I had always been curious about. I knew it would be challenging, but good training. I volunteered for some weeks until I got too busy. Five months later it led to work that expanded my skills, that I can do anywhere - and the money came at a great time too.

^^ If you need a new or different day job, take some time to strategize about one that you can both enjoy and make the best money at. Career testing, offered at your YWCA/YMCA or local college can be helpful. There is a combination Myers Briggs/Strong Inventory test that can summarize and affirm your interests/skills. (email me if you need more info)

^^ Whimsically brainstorm, maybe with a friend. How can you inject more fun in your life? This increases your aliveness which tends to attract all kinds of goodies. Play with ideas for something that could make money and be a great way to play.

Blessings and smells of pine - oops wait, that's too early ... I'll send those after next Thursday.

Denise Barnes

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The MoneyMonk eZine

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