



# Beyond Attendance The True Value of Performing Arts Presentation

Pacific Contact April 4, 2013

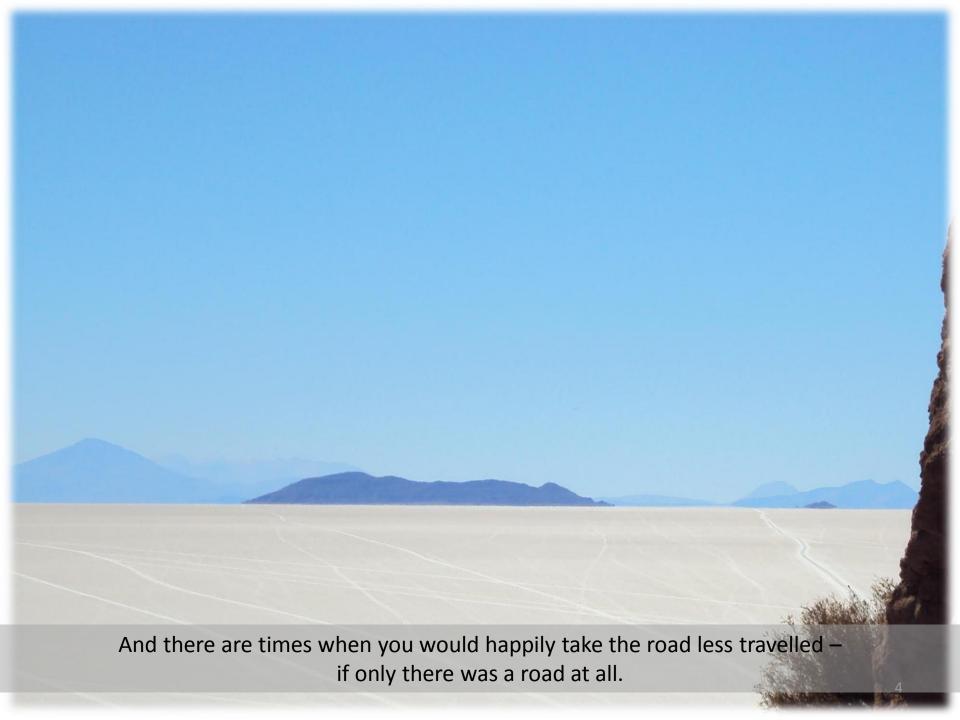
**Inga Petri** 



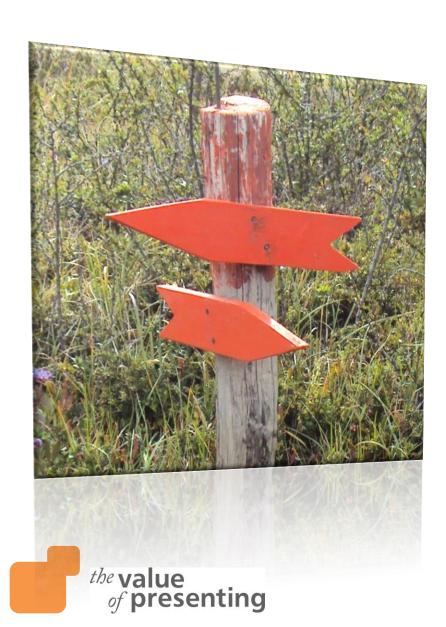












How can we navigate uncertain circumstances where the accepted sign posts may no longer be relevant?



### **Outcomes: Draw a fresh canvas**

# 1. Expand understanding

- Effective communications
- What business you are in
- Opportunities for leadership
- 2. Consider differences between attracting a market and serving a community
- 3. Operational and strategic implications of fundamental (external) forces of change

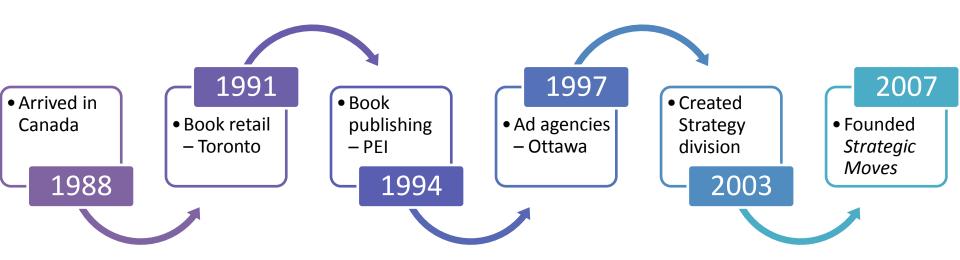






### **About me:**

### Working at the cross roads of strategy, research and marketing





### Value of Presenting (2011-2013)

Literature and History
23 workshops - 1,000+
Survey of 288 presenters
Survey of 1,031 Canadians
45 interviews

### Clients in culture include

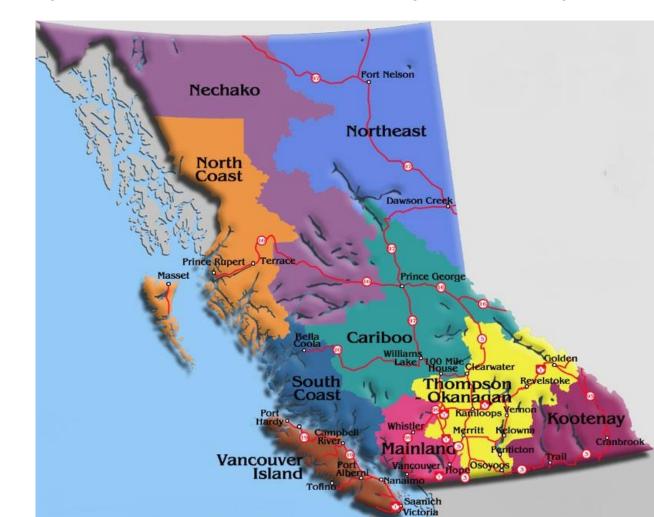
National Arts Centre
Magnetic North Theatre Festival
Culture Days Ontario
Storytellers of Canada
Ottawa Storytellers
Canadian War Museum
Canadian Geographic
MASC
Canada Dance Festival





### Your turn

- 1. Your Name
- 2. Organization / Location
- 3. Hope to get out of today OR a favourite audience development activity







**Communicating effectively** 

# **FIRST THINGS FIRST**





# What does putting a price on art mean?

- Performing arts are essential to individuals' and communities' health, well-being, quality of life = public good.
- Ticket price means we restrict access = lesser public good.
- Marketing
  - Understand purchase decision cycle
  - Brand management
  - Business model





# What comes to mind when you hear...

# apple







- An apple a day keeps the doctor away
- Forbidden fruit
- Wilhelm Tell
- Isaac Newton
- Gwyneth Paltrow/Chris Martin









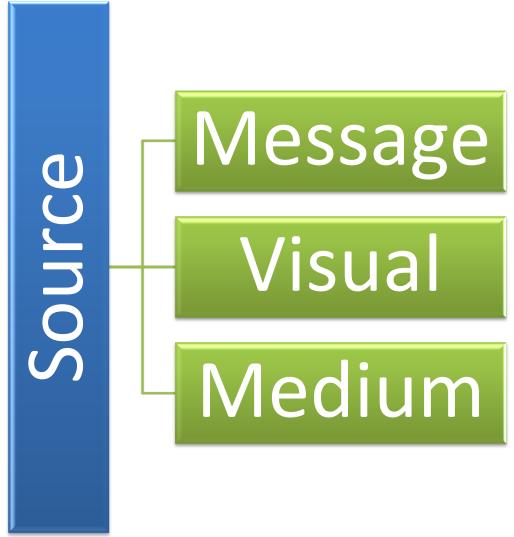


What do you associate with Apple today?





# What creates a communication?







# What creates a communication?

Message
iPod
Welcome to the
digital music
revolution

### Visual

Iconic imagery
White earphones
Vibrant colours

Medium

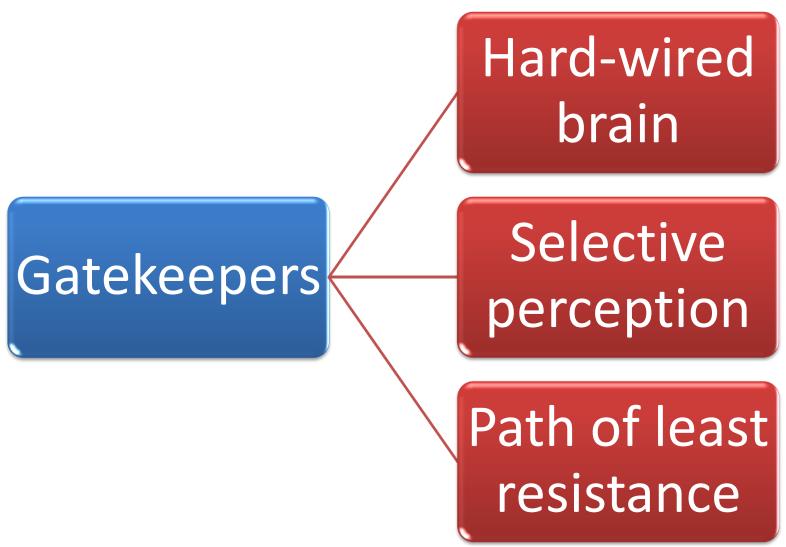
TV ads: chart topping bands

Posters: value proposition





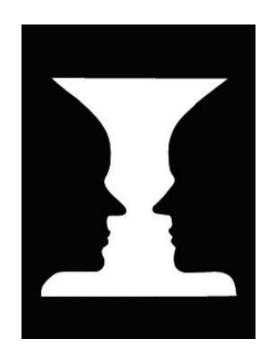
# What gets in the way of communication?

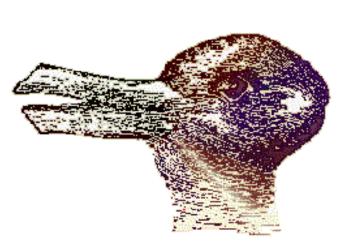






# What do you see?







**Different people see different things:** What the human eye sees is interpreted by the brain in ways that varies from person to person.

Our brain selects and interprets stimuli

- It's hard wired
- Follows the path of least resistance
- Relates new info to known categories; first impressions are important





# Can you read this?

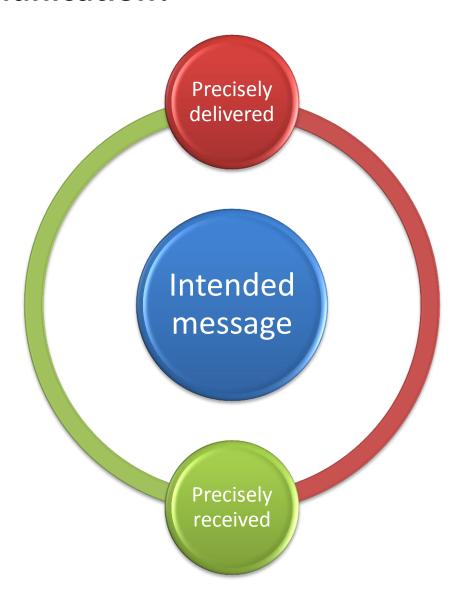
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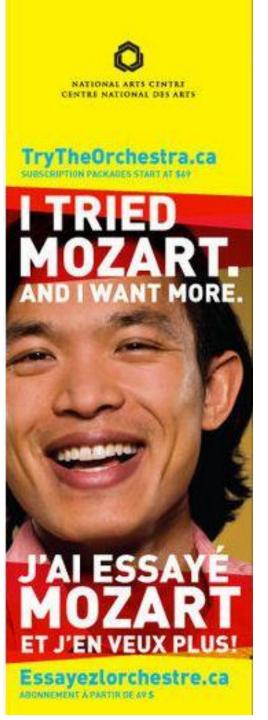


### What is a successful communication?

A communication is successful when it is precisely delivered and the audience precisely receives the intended message.









# What business are they in?

**Apple** 

Nokia

Google





# What business are you in?

**Small groups** 

- 1. In a word or two what business are you in?
- 2. Therefore, what is your competition?





# **Break**







# **Proposed performing arts competitive landscape**

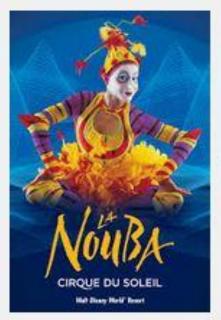
COMPETITORS	Industry Value Proposition	Arts – Competitive Positioning	
Home entertainment	Great stories, high quality in comfort of own home and sound system. Anytime entertainment.	Live action, real stories, your home away from home. Awesome acoustics.	
Movie theatres	Great stories, star-powered, escape to the movies, big sound, big screen, pop culture	Real stories – live action Connect with the stars Co-create dance	
Spectator sports	Entertainment, action, tribal connection, heroes, victory. Community engagement.	Up close and personal with the stars.  Backstage tours, encounters, participation.  Artist as hero – Audience as hero.	
Spas	Pamper yourself. Wellness, stress reduction, spiritual connection, body connection	Escape to the theatre/symphony. Refresh your mind, body and spirit. Rejuvenate your senses.	
Restaurants	Friends. Food. Social. In crowd.	Socialize. Social capital. Vibrant and energetic. Arts vibe.	
Video games, Xbox, WII	Action. Heroes. Play. Relaxation.	Amazing sound, real stories, live action.  Be in the middle of the scene.	



### Cirque du Soleil

Case study in reinventing the circus; creating entirely new category

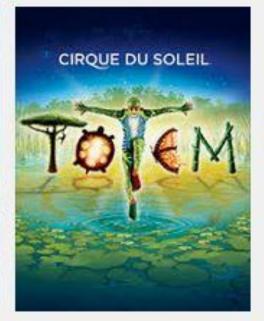
Built a powerful brand

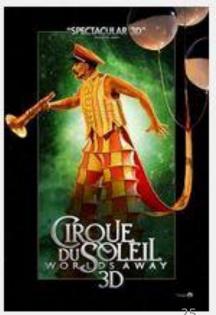


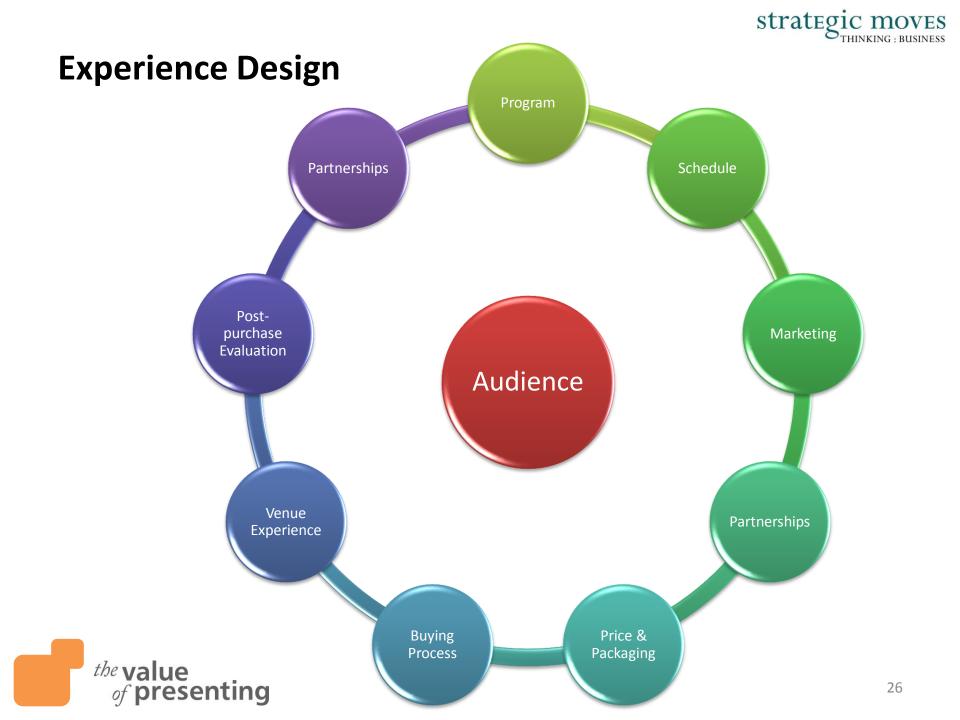






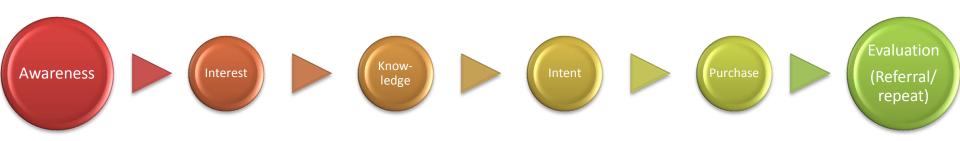








# Message construction and audience decision making



- Most marketing is focuses on awareness or closing the sale.
- Not enough attention on moving people from awareness to purchase.
- Few in arts focus on post-show evaluation, still.





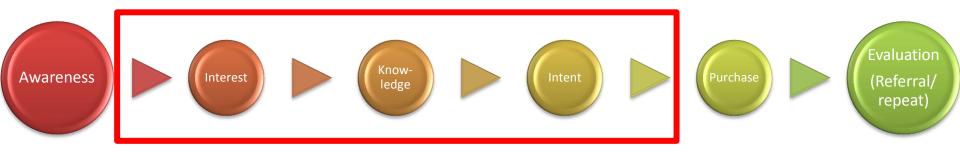
# **Decision-making dynamics**

- What makes a performance memorable is not necessarily why people buy it in the first place
  - Enough Familiarity needed to make buying decision
  - Some Discovery and Surprise needed to make it memorable, ie build brand/repeat purchase
- The more "experimental", "different" or "unfamiliar", the more the audience wants to be assured about quality and worthiness of experience.
- On the surface, audience is largely driven by "entertainment", "enjoyment", "relaxation", and "stimulation."



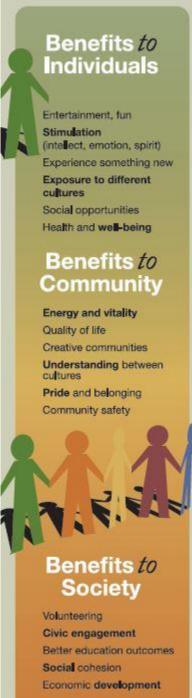


# Create familiarity through touch points for the less known



- Credible recommendation
- Tell their Story
- Multiple exposures longer lead times (much more online)
- Create a street presence (e.g. media stunts)
- Audience wants to become engaged with artist (emotional, intellectual)
- Appeal and quality of performance
- Easy to attend; affordable
- Sampling ("show me")

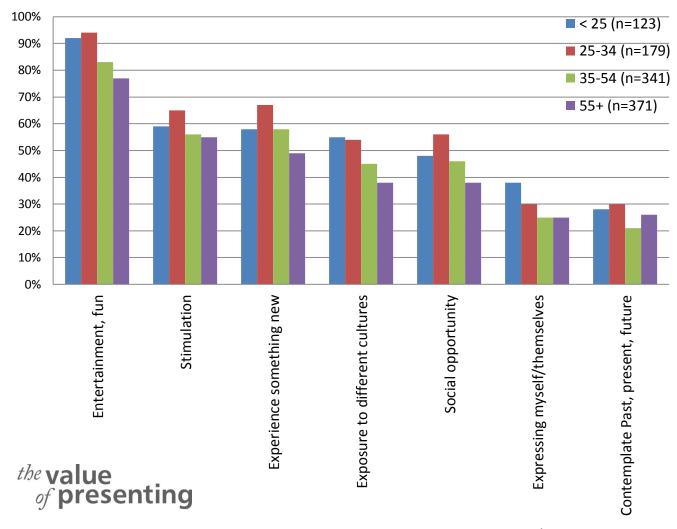






# Leverage benefits Canadians identify

### Personal main benefits from attending



Source: Value of Presenting-Survey of the General Public, 2012 (EKOS/CAPACOA)



# **Listening to Canadians: language matters**

having performing arts presentation in the	As a performing arts presenter, what do you consider the top 3 benefits of your organization	
community are? (Up to 3)	to your community? (Up to 3)	
Canadians	Presenters	

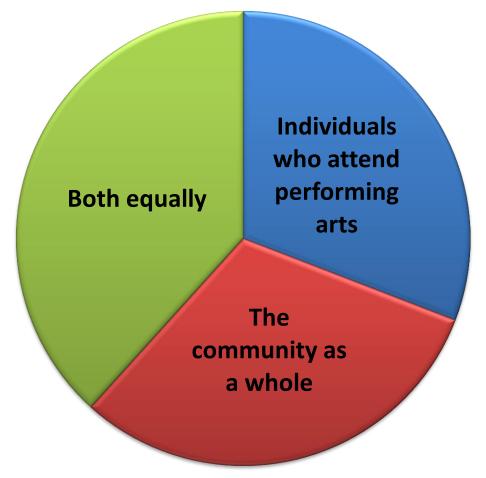
community are: (Op to 3)		to your community: (op to 3)	
	Canadians (N = 1,031)		Presenters (N=288)
Brings energy and vitality to community	42%	Stronger sense of community identity or community belonging	76%
Improved quality of life and well-being of residents	38%	More creative community	52%
More creative community	37%		
Stronger sense of pride in community (22%) + Stronger sense of identity to community (15%)	33%	Improved health and well-being of individuals and families	30%
Greater economic development in community	32%	Better understanding between cultures	29%
Better understanding between cultures	19%	Increased cross-sectoral collaboration (e.g., business, culture, social services)	27%
Increased partnerships between different organizations in the community	12%	Greater economic development	26%
Better ability to attract and keep skilled workers in the community	10%	Higher civic engagement	22%
Raising public issues and generating public discussion in the community	8%		
Greater safety through increased activity at night	4%	Better capacity to attract and retain skilled workers	9%





# **Canadians get it**

### Who benefits from performing arts more?







# **Audience Segmentation Concepts**

### **Markets**

from which you can expect to get significant revenue

### **Communities**

You serve as part of your mission to bring the benefits of performing arts to a wide audience

Build and Sustain Audiences

### **Existing Customers**

Understand **DIFFERENCES** to aid in targeting programs, communications, etc

### **Non-Customers**

Understand **COMMONALITIES** to create new, expanded markets





# **Segments**

### **Small groups**

- 1. In light of this discussion how might you approach your markets and your communities differently?
- 2. What are examples you have of applying this kind of thinking?





# Lunch





### Review so far

## 1. Expand understanding

- Effective communications
- What business you are in
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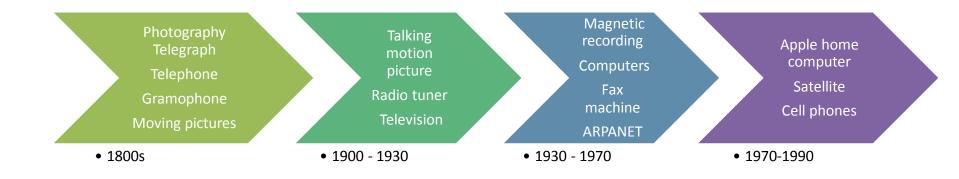


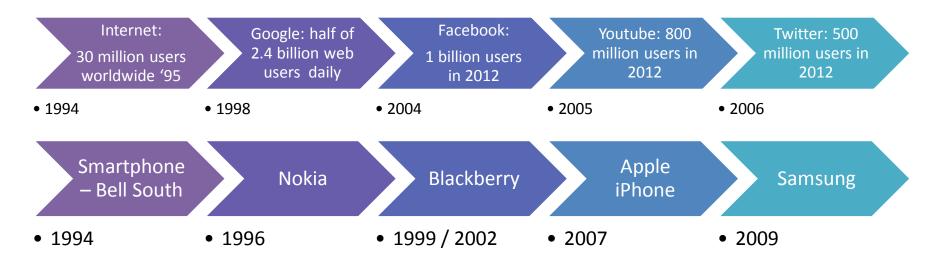
Technology will affect distribution

## **SWITCHING GEARS**



#### **Evolution of Communications Technology**









### Take note of shifting competitive landscape

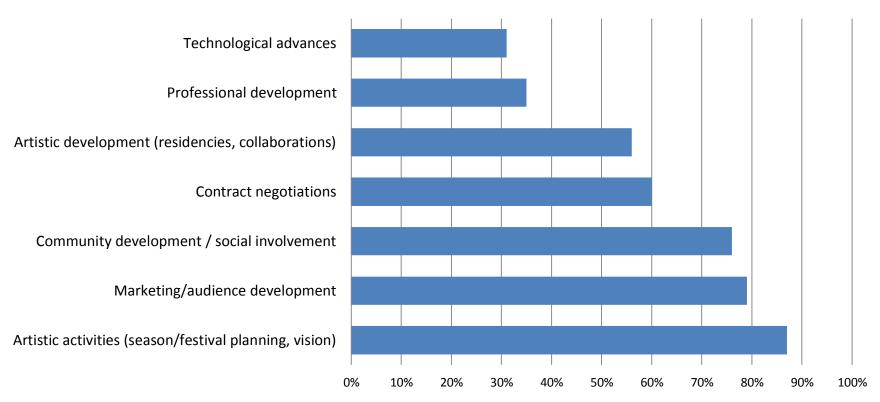
- Google Android
  - Samsung #1 globally now
- Microsoft partners with Nokia
  - #1 globally from 1998-2012





# Presenters are community-minded, fewer worry about technology

#### **High effort dedicated to specific areas (High = 4-5)**







#### 4G LTE concept video shows capacity



http://youtu.be/xQDGH9JzZtA

@ 2:20-3.10

What will this capacity unlock in performing arts?

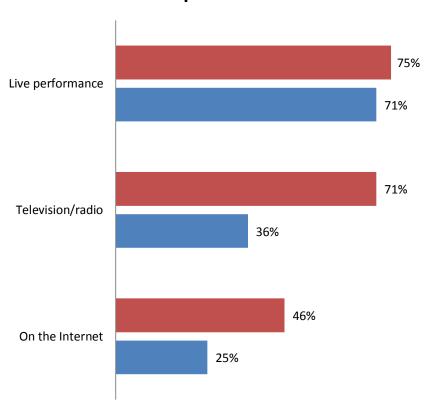




## Media-based viewing augments rather than displaces live performance.

■ Importance = high

Canadians' live attendance, mediabased consumption and its importance



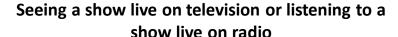
- Under 35 watch less on TV (~62%) and more Internet (~65%)
  - Importance of doing so is lower for TV (23%) and same for internet (23%) as average

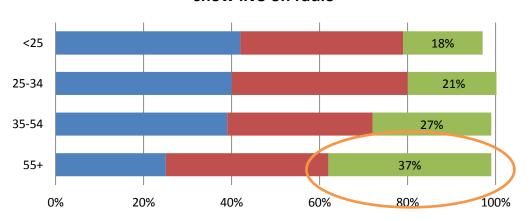


■ Watched/attended within last 12 months

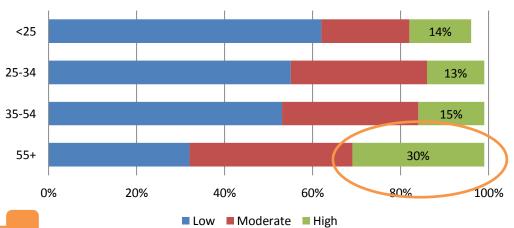


### But, definition of "live" is softening





Seeing a show that was recorded live for you to watch later



Question: How well do each of the following fit your own personal definition of what it means to attend live, professional performing arts?





#### A look at music industry evolution

- Music is alive and well.
- Fans have unprecedented access to music and musicians; musicians have unprecedented access to fans.
- MuchMusic 1984
  - Music videos
- MP3 compression 1993
- Internet 1994
- Napster 1999 lawsuits, forced into bankruptcy in 2002
- iTunes 2001
- Idol franchise (reality TV) 2002
- Justin Bieber discovered on YouTube 2008





#### Structural changes

- Power in the industry has moved toward online distributors and toward musicians themselves
  - Power of labels has diminished
- Increased musician-fan interaction
  - Social: Youtube, Vimeo, Twitter, Facebook
  - Crowd-funding musicians' recordings
- A music outsider, Apple, has become the largest music vendor in the world
  - 1 billion songs sold: February 2006
  - 10 billion songs sold: February 2010
  - 15 billion songs sold: June 2011
  - October 2012: 29% of all music sales worldwide; 64% of online sales.





#### **Presenters on technology**

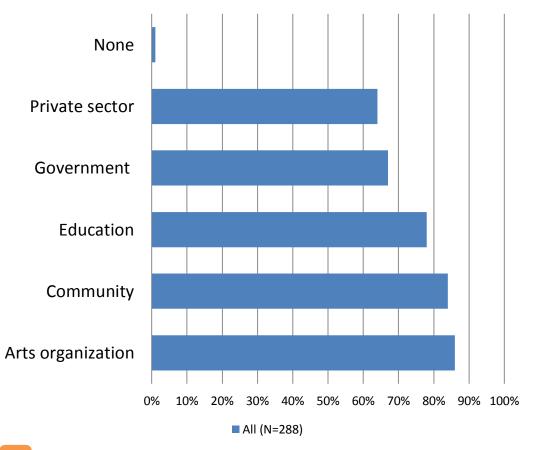
- Current effort on integrating technology in production and communications and as well as future importance of these activities is greater for presenters
  - With higher budgets
  - More paid staff
  - In cities
- Presenters and technical stage staff generally feel
  - Production technologies are well in hand
  - Contemporary and emerging communications technologies can be better used to amplify the live performing arts experience for the audience and community.
- Opportunities re: reaching audiences via media-based channels and challenges re: business models and success factors





#### **Presenters strengths: partnerships**

#### Partnerships in last 3 years



- Intrinsic strength
- Non-arts sectors
  - Social services
  - Immigration/ cultural diversity
  - Health
  - Crime prevention





#### **Discussion**

To what degree is your current presenting business model resilient in light of these changes?

What changes might increase resilience?

Financial Management

Risk Management

Technology

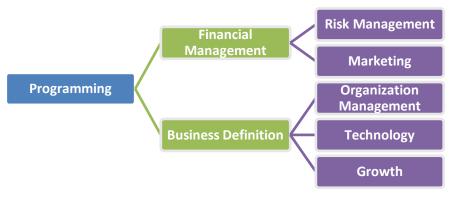
Marketing

Growth

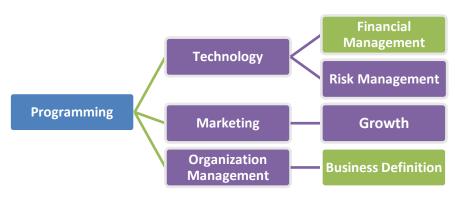
Organization Management

Business Definition

Typical Presenting Organization's Strategic Orientation



2 proposed configuration of organizational strategies













Get in touch

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### **Exemplary marketing**

- Concert Milk
  - http://youtu.be/oM9ZRLXZBR8
- 100 musicians, 50 locations, 1 concert
  - http://youtu.be/0KGG8Hd0xoY
- NAC English Theatre: Metamorphoses
  - Focus on staging videos, stunts, media
  - Engage audience: you might get wet = towel promo
  - CTV coverage and videos
    - http://youtu.be/NbOr15QsOUE
    - http://nac-cna.ca/en/stories/series/creating-metamorphoses

