

Feb. 18, 2018

It has been some little bit of time since I posted a typecast; that is, broadcast on the blog via true ink. Rest assured, I have not been resting on my laurels, hell, I don't even know where I left them last. Probably somewhere near my misplaced mechanical pencils.

I finally got around to watching the movie **CALIFORNIA TYPEWRITER**. I enjoyed it, in installments. It brought to mind an idea for you to consider. What are the aspects that most draw us to typewriters as individuals. I came up with five areas to consider. I suppose the fair way to analyze this observation is to rate by percentage what your own particular allures are. Consider thus:

**MECHANICS**/feel of mechanics, enjoyment of repair

**MUSIC**/sound of action, rhythm

**WRITING**/finished product on paper

**HISTORY**/design, innovation, culture

**ART**/visual aesthetic

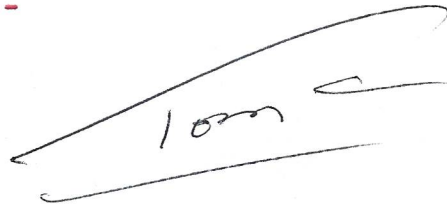
I did not include art created by the destruction of a typewriter. I suppose if you create art on a page using a typewriter, you would score that under writing.

Assuming you enjoyed all 5 categories equally, you would score each for yourself at 20%. Going through this mind exercise, I have discovered that for myself, those scores will shift day by day (or moment to moment) depending on my mood for that time. In general though, I will tend to score **MUSIC** and **WRITING** a bit higher most often, with history next, then art and mechanics. The rhythm of the work and the work produced give me the greatest pleasure overall.

When I first began collecting typewriters I spent a bit of time trying to convince myself that I would be very happy performing repairs. Over the years I have found that it's not the case. I felt at first that this was a flaw, that I should feel guilty about it. Wrong. At the end of the day, it is a highly efficient tool that just happens to be quite sexy and inspiring. I'm pleased there are other enthusiasts out there that really love digging into the mechanics and bring them back to full life.

What about you? Where do you fall on the spectrum? Love to hear your two cents on the subject.

- TH -

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom', enclosed within a large, sweeping, hand-drawn oval or loop.