

Code of ethics for street performers

Article 3 of the Italian Constitution argues that "it is the duty of the Republic to remove those obstacles of an economic or social nature which constrain the freedom and equality of citizens, thereby impeding the full development of the human person ...", Article 4 "...Every citizen has the duty, according to personal potential and individual choice, to perform an activity or a function that contributes to the material or spiritual progress of society", Article 9 "The Republic promotes the development of culture ...", Article 21 "Anyone has the right to freely express their thoughts in speech, writing, or any other form of communication ...", Article 33 underlines that "The Republic guarantees the freedom of the arts and sciences, which may be freely taught".

The City of Torino supports and encourages busking as it considers it a social, educational and cultural value, which is entrenched in the spirit of the Italian Constitution. The street performer is thereby valued. The street artist is one who carries out, for free or for gratuities, artistic activities ranging from musical performances, street theatre, street art to performing arts, characterised by their live nature. The artist is aware of his social, educational and cultural role.

Definition

Busking is understood as any form of art which uses public spaces or spaces open to the public and that is characterised by independence, spontaneity and the absence of any form of contractual relationship and/or retribution, accepting as sole form of retribution, one which is made voluntarily by the public.

Street Performance is understood as any performance which occurs in public spaces or spaces open to the public and in which, the organiser and the artist commit to respect terms of agreement set by both parties.

Codes of conduct

The artist who chooses to exercise his art performs independently, with no contractual ties and does not receive a fixed income from a private or public entity. The artist performs in open spaces, on the streets, squares and spaces open to the public and accepts that appreciation for his performance is given either by applause and/or criticisms or any gratuity which the public may wish to make.

Specifically the artist:

1. Is considerate and respectful when performing his art.
2. Is cordial and respectful towards residents of the hosting city, not disturbing them with excessive noise or by obstructing the passage.
3. Does not damage or spoil the space in which he performs.
4. Does not beg for money, does not cause a public nuisance and respects the laws regulating busking in the hosting city. If confronted with unjust or unfair treatment, the busker addresses the appropriate entities.
5. Helps law enforcement in the understanding of rules regulating busking by always carrying a copy of the law.
6. Is respectful and cordial towards other artists met in the street, helping and advising them, if necessary, to understand rules and regulations of busking. The artist respects the spaces and time slots allocated for performances thereby facilitating turnovers on the same spaces.
7. Is aware that the responsibility of his actions is individual but that incorrect behaviour on his part, especially over a long period of time, can be harmful to others.

The present code of ethics was approved and taken on by the City of Torino with the Town Council's resolution n. 201800443/050 of February 6 2018.