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Issue

Walter O'Brien

THE REAL SCORPION

Modern Day Renaissance Man

"Putting the Art in Smart"

Renaissance Man

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) is irrefutably regarded as the quintessential Renaissance man. Living in a time in history when cultural change experienced an explosion of exponential growth in the areas of science, art, and philosophy, da Vinci rose to become what is known as a polymath or "Universal Man". Beyond his insatiable desire and ability to learn, design and create; what set da Vinci apart from many of his contemporaries



was his ability to follow through and implement whatever his curious mind could dream up. Be it aviation, architecture, painting, music, engineering, mathematics, science, philosophy and a host of other fields, his discipline and tenacity led to many significant contributions to the world which left an indelible mark on history.

While that is impressive enough, there is so much more to being a multidisciplinary trendsetter. A true Renaissance Man is a visionary - someone who is capable of taking on any discipline and creating a meaningful impact on society. He is an inventor, a problem-solver, a humanitarian, a warrior, a leader, an artist, a mentor, and a patron, all rolled into one. A person with a keen intelligence, sharp wit and a unique perspective on life that inspires others.

In addition to da Vinci, Lorenzo de Medici (1449-1492) of the famed Medici family bankers who was da Vinci's patron and Leon Battista Alberti (1404-1472) who was famously quoted as saying, "A man can do all things if he will", are also shining examples of the characteristics that embody what a Renaissance Man is all about. But these men are few and far between - or are they?

When considering our modern age, the historically rich tradition of noblemen studying to become brilliant in a number of disparate fields has, for the most part, become altogether extinct. Nowhere else do we see this more than in traditional business models, where for the sake of politics, contracts and profit margins, specialization has become the status quo. Like many, I believed the efficiency of such a linear approach to business would, in the long run, pay off for society.

A few years ago, my son and I heard about the new CBS hit TV show "Scorpion", which was inspired by the case files of a real-life genius. We were both pleasantly surprised that he had the

same name as the character on the show and found press headlines that had dubbed him the next Bill Gates or Elon Musk, and some even described him as a real-life Professor X. While it is generally a rare occasion that my son and I would agree on a TV show, we discovered something entirely new - something that we both could get excited about. It caught both of our interests and opened our minds up to the idea of human potentiality, and what can be accomplished through the pooling of diverse talents and skillsets. To say my curiosity had been piqued is an understatement. Being a collector and dealer of international fine art and surrounded by influential and creative entrepreneurs who have something valuable to contribute to society, I saw a unique correlation. I thought to myself, "I'm witnessing a rebirthing AND collision of art, culture, science, technology, and entrepreneurship". Naturally, I wondered who was the mastermind behind this modern-day expression the "Universal Man"? So, I went about my search to connect with the Real Scorpion - Walter O'Brien.

After meeting and interviewing Walter O'Brien, I have come to learn that there are entirely new ways to look at business in this rapidly changing 21st century. In fact, O'Brien's business models are turning some strongly entrenched ideas regarding collaboration/team dynamics, outsourcing for problem-solving, finding inspiration and the future of technology and AI, on their heads. The man is a true visionary and, as I have further learned in my research of him, he is also an inventor, a problem solver, a humanitarian, a warrior, a leader, an artist, and a patron. Sound familiar? As someone who appreciates the culturally rich diversity of what the Renaissance did for humanity 500 years ago, O'Brien has proven to be a modern-day Renaissance Man, a 21st century Leonardo da Vinci whose talent and art has directly transformed industries, saved lives, inspired millions of youth, defended countries and progressed science and human and AI evolution.

In just a few decades, he has impacted the world in a profound manner. Instead of resting on his laurels, Walter O'Brien has moved outside the traditional roles of business and technology, and transformed himself into an innovative artist. As a result; he has put the art into smart in many various ways. Primarily through the Art of Inspiration, Problem Solving, Invention, Philanthropy, Risk, and Execution.



The Art of Inspiration

In 2014 the CBS TV show Scorpion debuted to 26 million viewers in the US and for the last four years, it has inspired kids like my own in over 180 countries to grow up to be problem solvers, engineers, and scientists. It teaches them that being smart is cool and that there is a place for anyone who feels like they never fit in. Many other kids who once felt that they weren't that smart because they are more-right brained and endowed with emotional intelligence (EQ) or people skills are excited to learn that they are just as clever and important as left-brained intellectual intelligence (IQ) who traditionally excel scholastically.

The TV show opens showing O'Brien at 13 being detained by US authorities after getting caught having stolen the space shuttle blueprints by hacking into NASA. It turns out that O'Brien is a prodigy with an IQ of 197, the 5th highest in the world. In comparison, Einstein had an estimated IQ of 160. Fast forward thirty years in that government relationship, and we find Walter O'Brien (aka "Scorpion") is the billionaire founder of ScorpionComputerServices.com, a global think tank of geniuses for hire that solves problems and defends governments, countries, corporations, and individuals. And just as depicted in the show, O'Brien, a citizen of Ireland at the time, was certified by U.S. Department of Homeland Security as being of National Interest to the US and they granted him an Extraordinary Abilities Visa EB1-1 so he could live in the US and assist the US Government.

While the TV show was inspired by the true stories from the real company's characters and missions, and that, of course, was by design, what many may not have seen at the time of the show's creation, was just how much of an impact and inspiration O'Brien's story would prove to be for kids around the world.

This burst of inspiration has led to reports from kids around the globe relating how O'Brien's saga has helped them to deal with bullies and increase their personal image in a positive way, even helping kids successfully overcome suicide as a solution to their problems. As mentioned earlier, it was my son's interest in the show that helped pique my curiosity. In fact, during the past year, my son has competed in the Junior Olympics and often cites Walter O'Brien as being a mentor from afar that has helped contribute to his success. When I asked my son what specifically resonated with him about Walter O'Brien's life, he said it is Walter's work ethic, tenacity and vision have helped him make the seemingly impossible, possible. My son's girlfriend who is slated to study international business and medicine in college next year said she looks up to Walter O'Brien as an inspirational genius, not just because of his high IQ, but for how he began his journey - it took boldness and guts to be different. She states, "it takes a lot of willpower to shed the labels that society and other kids try to place on you. I see Walter O'Brien as someone who is fearless and not satisfied with the status quo. I know that if I am to become successful, I must cultivate the courage to forge my way using my unique talents and abilities. Watching Scorpion and looking to Walter O'Brien as an inspiration has helped me dream bigger." O'Brien shared with me some of the heartbreaking videos kids have sent him where the show's messages on the importance of emotional intelligence (EQ), that being smart is cool and that there is a place for everyone who never fit in resonated with them and helped them understand and reduce school bullying, improve relationships and often conquer issues of depression and suicide.

The Art of Problem Solving

Today, O'Brien and the Scorpion team provides "intelligence on demand" as a service for ANY funded problem, think of it like a "rent-a-brain" service for your life. I've been fortunate to get a rare behind-the-scenes look at how it works which I am delighted to share with you here. For a moment, close your eyes and think of every challenge in your life as its own separate project. Some of these projects may fall within the area of your core competency and skills so not only are you confident that you can solve them, but you actually enjoy it. Then there are the rest of the problems, the ones you are not so confident in, ones that require research and contacts and planning along with common sense and thoughtful execution. Perhaps it would be nice to have the option to rent some extra intelligence, contacts, and experience to handle these less enjoyable projects. This was the



concept that O'Brien invented over a decade ago, what if all the benefits of thoughtful process and engineering could be offered to the general public to help people who may have challenges larger than they can handle by themselves?

Walter O'Brien created ConciergeUp.com as a service powered by the Scorpion think tank, a team of multidisciplinary, top-oftheir-game, professional and out-of-the-box thinkers who will work with you to solve any funded problem over \$10k. By applying state-of-the-art, efficient, and elegant solutions tailored specifically to each customer, they are able to generate cuttingedge results. The problems they can solve range from fixing major issues in your business, handling delicate family crises, inspiring kids and parents to work collaboratively together, to researching a financial, medical or legal issue. They have helped entrepreneurs write bestselling books and focus on their core competency to do everything from developing new products and growing companies to resolving real estate zoning and tenant issues. ConciergeUp.com has been used to help diagnose medical mysteries, create viral social media campaigns and even choose winning racehorses based on their DNA. When I got the full rundown of what ConiergeUp.com is capable of, "out-ofthe-box" doesn't begin to capture what's possible.





O'Brien donates his time to speak at schools, mentor kids and startup companies, host the largest of university Hackathon's and is on the board of Starbase Indiana a DOD sponsored STEM program recognized by the Whitehouse

The Art of Invention

The Art of Problem Solving, in essence, rose from O'Brien's ability to innovate. What got him there were the countless hours he dedicated to perfecting his craft. After honing his computer skills at an early age, O'Brien was the national coding champion for 3 years for high-speed problem solving and also placed 6th representing his country of Ireland in the Olympics in Informatics. He graduated with honors as a scientist in Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence (AI) from Sussex University in England. All of that hard work led to his having created over 177 intellectual properties to date. As an internationally recognized expert in the practical application of AI, his inventions have won the award for Most Innovative Product in aerospace and defense; and his company Scorpion has won the award for Most Innovative Company. Recognition for his inventions has garnered O'Brien keynote speaking appearances at the National Defense Industry Assoc, MENSA's Annual Gathering, the Institute for electrical engineering (IEEE), MIT's EmTech conference and C-Suite Quarterly where he won the Visionary of the year award.

The Art of Philanthropy

O'Brien's philosophy is that happiness is the result of living a purposeful life and that within themselves, self-actualization and growth is ultimately the purpose of life. He defines that sense of purpose as using his gifts and skills to do the most good for society within his lifetime. But before being overly charitable, one shouldn't overextend their efforts while still

being a charity themselves, in other words as O'Brien summarizes it "be selfish until you can be significant". To conceptualize, think of the flight attendants' instructions you hear on every flight...you must put the oxygen mask on yourself before helping others.

The results of this Renaissance man's philosophy on the greater good, has been widespread. Last year, O'Brien was the youngest ever recipient of the Unite4:Good Foundation's ICON Humanitarian Lifetime Achievement Award. O'Brien was also recognized by the Fort Wayne Base Community Council for saving countless lives and awarded a member's Combat Infantry Badge and Battle Dress Uniform from Operation Desert Storm. This year live on stage, CineFest awarded him another Humanitarian Award for his decade of donated time and expertise to advise, provide intelligence to, protect the identities of and execution of anti-kidnapping and anti-human trafficking missions. For decades now, O'Brien has invented and applied his own Artificial Intelligence engines to protect US war fighters in Afghanistan and he has personally applied Artificial Intelligence to the US Navy's command and control system "Agile", as well as "Aegis" the US Ballistic Missile Defense System. This year the US Army's Public Affairs Office authorized a press release that O'Brien had recently deployed his AI Engine ScenGen to the US Army's Drone Fleet. O'Brien has likewise received multiple commendations from the Mayor's office and most recently for his contribution to World Peace. He also provided the seed funding for TaxiWatch, a suicide prevention program that has saved almost 200 lives to date.



The Real Scorpion - A Modern Day Renaissance Man

WALTER O'BRIEN

"Putting the <u>Art</u> in Smart"

Written by Heather Bednarczyk, Featured Writer and International Purveyor of Fine Art

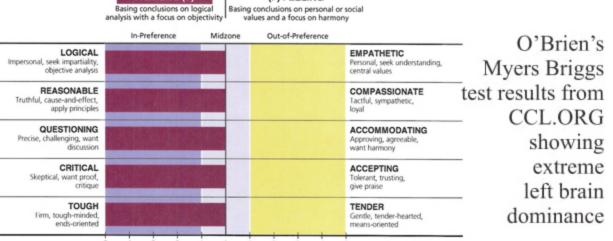






From a young age O'Brien considered cars to be 4D functional art that you can see, feel, hear and sometimes smell.

O'Brien with Ironman Robert Downey Jr. and Batman Michael Keaton on the red carpet for the premiere of Spiderman Homecoming, on which he is credited as Tech Advisor



The Art of Risk

O'Brien's brain works entirely on Logic, the above image shows that his Myers Briggs test by CCL.ORG shows him as off the charts in every category on the left side (logic) side of the brain while zero feelings on the right side of the brain. This allows him to see the world with a level of clarity that most of us can't because ours is clouded by emotion. O'Brien's art here is that in an instant, he can convert anything into a complex math algorithm, visualize it in multiple dimensions, think of all the possible scenario outcomes, assign a probability to them and then make the correct judgment call. For many people, that would be hard to stomach and considered too risky, but O'Brien has a photographic memory for solutions that date all the way back to when he was a kid. The downside of this extreme leftbrain dominance is that he has to use his abundance of IQ to simulate EQ in real time. So, like a creative actor, O'Brien must don a mask so that he can have somewhat "normal" interactions with others.

This superpower for visualizing problems from every angle, powers his ability to reduce human error, detect software bugs and identify single points of failure for Scorpion's clients. Many of these clients have mission-critical systems we all depend on such as our electrical smart grid, credit card, and banking processes, the stock market, train and air traffic controls, national defense, special operations weapons and mission planning. This knack has also landed O'Brien as an expert witness in federal court cases. Scorpion even develops the kinds of intelligent surveillance image recognition technology that was used to identify the Boston Bombers as behaving suspiciously compared to the rest of the crowd.

The Art of Execution

Ultimately with a combination of his ability to transform himself into a relentless machine for the greater good and no fear for what his imagination might dream up, O'Brien has figured out how he can now offer to others the ability to execute any task and solve any challenge. This article only covers the tip of the

iceberg of this Scorpion Universe that I'm still discovering. For example, I just learned that O'Brien also owns Scorpion Studios and works as a Tech Advisor for TV and movie projects. In fact, you'll notice his name popping up in the credits of "Spider-Man: Homecoming" which in less than 3 months crossed the \$874 million mark at the worldwide box office to become the highest grossing superhero movie of 2017.

Throughout history, most individuals feared or were intimidated by and shied away from brilliantly innovative and enigmatic individuals such as O'Brien. Too often, they were labeled, "ahead of their time", "too extreme" or "unapproachable". I am grateful I am not one of those people. Instead, I was inspired and feel as if I discovered O'Brien just in time. Being a student of art and history and having come to appreciate just how influential traditional artists have been in helping humanity retool its beliefs, dreams, and aspirations; I have come to learn that O'Brien and the team and EQ/IQ culture of problem-solving he has cultivated in ScorpionComputerServices.com should inspire all of us to balance our logic and emotion. As he puts it "I created a place people can take problems they can't solve by themselves".

O'Brien's sincere desire to be of service and the humble interest he has taken in kids, philanthropy and the mission at Scorpion to help businesses and individuals thoughtfully navigate and circumvent the challenging obstacles they face enables companies and individuals to reach their full potential. I am convinced that like the Renaissance Men of time ago - O'Brien will leave a legacy for companies and people everywhere to emulate.

Spending some time with Walter O'Brien has made me, along with a myriad of others, better people. In this fractured world where greed and narcissism seem to win, it's refreshing to know that individuals like O'Brien exist. Having the uncanny ability to balance integrity, economic voracity and entrepreneurship in an incubator for smart people to thrive within may make the Scorpion think tank itself O'Brien's greatest masterpiece. The only question that remains is whether you the reader are willing to engage and find out for yourself.

