

The Man Behind the Mic

By Adel Faraj

Imran Al Aradi started his music career as a hobby — little did he know that it would become his ultimate passion and ambition for the future.

Many of you might know Imran Al Aradi, but everyone knows him as the charismatic DJ Imran from Radio Bahrain. However, filling the local airwaves with his voice, and choice of music, is only a side job for Imran.

During the day he works for Batelco as a... take a deep breath... information communications technology (ICT) sales manager. His job isn't an easy one either. "Convincing corporations and businesses to buy communications technology hardware and software isn't the type of occupation where you can go knock on someone's door and expect to sell ten a day!" he says.

He was also a martial arts teacher at the Zen-Do kickboxing centre, which he did while he was in university; he graduated in 2006 from AMA University with a degree in business informatics.

He first started working for 2Connect telecommunications, and then moved on to his current job at Batelco. Although he has established himself in the telecoms industry, Imran hopes that this will give him time to build his own career in entertainment.

"I've always loved the entertainment business, and I used to DJ at parties for friends as favours because I love doing it." He also did some MC jobs for events such as staff parties and various international expos that were held here in Bahrain.

Imran has been a DJ since he was 18 but his ambition was to become a professional DJ for Radio Bahrain. Since 2001 Imran had thought about a job as a DJ at the station, but between university and boosting people's self confidence through kick boxing there just wasn't an opportunity to look into it. "I really wanted to be a DJ on Radio Bahrain, but I just didn't have any time."

However, opportunity knocked on his door in 2006, when he was listening to the radio and heard the station's call to all would-be DJs to send their demo tapes in, and that's exactly what he did. "Soon after I got the phone call telling me I got the job, and it was an amazing feeling!" And now you can catch him on 96.5 FM in the evenings.

Imran's passion for music doesn't stop there; he's also quite the musician. Naturally for someone who loves music so much it's only natural for them to play a musical instrument — in Imran's case he can play five! He's been playing the guitar, bass guitar, piano and drums for a while now, but recently he started learning the Oud, which is a traditional Arabic instrument.



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Recently he started his own radio production business in which he produces radio advertisements for companies from scratch. He also does voice editing, voice overs and creates theme songs for people and firms.

Imran has big plans for the future, which isn't a big surprise because when you speak to him you realise that you are talking to a man who is friendly, hard working, ambitious, and, most importantly, loves his job. "I hope that one day I will have my own group of companies that will relate to entertainment, business development and real estate."

