

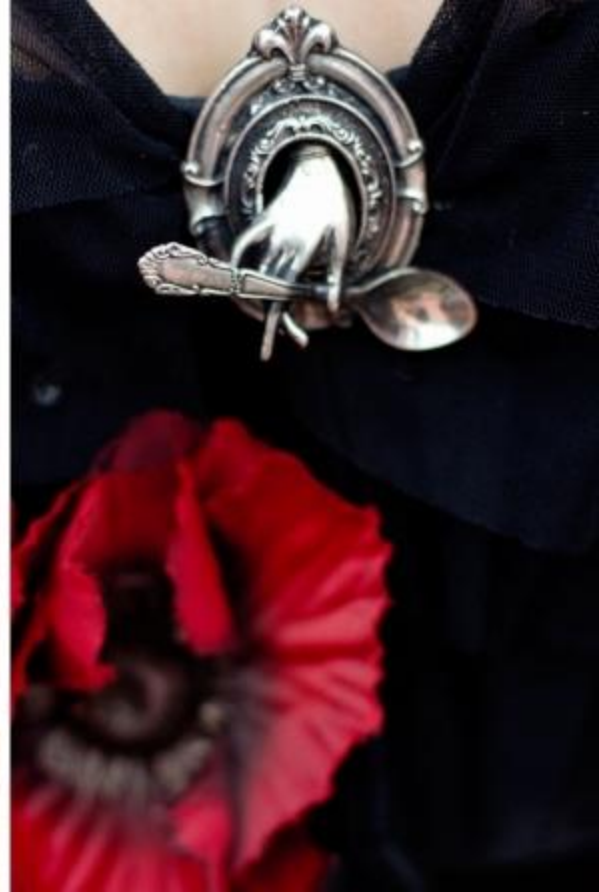
Toronto Standard - September 7th, 2012

Uniform Project: Buskers The weird wardrobes of a Silver Elvis, Human Oddity, and Snake Oil Pedlar

BY: Sarah Blais

Down near the St. Lawrence market, near the end of August, is an annual event with a variety of different performers: **Buskerfest**. If you didn't get a chance to make it down this year, it's definitely worth checking out next. Photographer Sarah Blais biked to the festival and met with four performers that gave her the inside scoop on what they wear to work in this anniversary edition of *The Uniform Project*.





Next up, Sarah was pulled into the Mental Floss Sideshow, where she met Dr. Charlotte Tann (Snake Oil Pedlar) and Professor Archibald Floss (Carnival Impresario & Human Oddity) aka Karl & Lesley. The married couple have been working together in their Neo-Victorian (not to be mistaken for steam punk) side show for 6 years. Even their wedding was carnival themed, where Karl rocked a blazer and top hat (in photo) down the aisle. Their uniforms are quite odd (like their show), with a variety of trinkets pinned on including Karl's parasitic twin that is attached to his hat, and barely alive. Lesley makes some of her costumes, and rocks rare vintage finds like her original Edwardian top hat, and her original Danny Pollak brooch (a spoonful of sugar...). Karl's oddities include a Japanese war metal, the moon pin (a gift from his mother), an original 70's piece of art he inherited from his grandmother, a pocket watch, walking stick, and a Dick Turpin rally club pin. The couple perform throughout southern Ontario, and continue to collect Neo-Victorian styled pieces for their uniform.