

Tuthill Teams with Grammy-Nominated Shadowyze

By Bobby Talman

Guest Columnist

Grammy-nominated Shadowyze, a Native American rapper who has won four Native American Music Awards, has teamed up with composer/music producer/filmmaker Oliver Tuthill to help re-establish his significance as a world class rap artist. Shadowyze, whose real name is Shawn Enfinger, lives in Belize, Central America, but plans to start touring again throughout the United States after he and Tuthill get their first single released.

First up is a song about Shake-

speare's *Hamlet*, titled "To Be or Not to Be," in which Tuthill wrote the music and lyrics. Rap producer Evil G/Marcus Allen, who was a co-producer on three-time Grammy-winning rapper Ludacris' *Battle of the Sexes* album, produced the single. Tuthill served as co-producer.

Actress/singer Tara Walker from Portland performs the female vocals on the song. Tuthill asked her to participate after hearing her sing on the set of their last film.

"She's got an amazing voice," Tuthill said, adding that Shadowyze loved her vocals. "She will be working with us on our future releases."

Tuthill has performed and recorded with a number of famous rock groups such as Styx, Steppenwolf and John Mayall, and he plans on penning a series of rap songs about historical figures for Shadowyze.

"Rap grew on me," Tuthill said. "In the '80s some of my younger friends were always coming over with the newest rap song and I found I liked it."

Said Shadowyze, "I wanted to work with Oliver because of his desire to educate people about important issues of world history and culture. We plan to release numerous songs that will tell stories about important people

and events to those who may not be inclined to read a book, but can learn a lot from a song."

Tuthill writes and then records each song at Audio Logic Studios in Seattle with owner/engineer Jay Kenney, then sends the song to Shadowyze in Belize, who does his vocals in a studio deep within the Central American jungles. That version is sent to his producer in Florida, who puts the rap beats and sounds on the song. It then goes back to Tuthill in Seattle, who puts on Walker's vocals and does the final mix at Audio Logic.

"To Be or Not to Be" is scheduled for release sometime in early 2011 on Tuthill's Blue Pony Trail record label.

Bobby Talman covers the hip hop scene for several online music sites. He is based in Los Angeles.

"I WANTED TO WORK WITH OLIVER BECAUSE OF HIS DESIRE TO EDUCATE PEOPLE ABOUT IMPORTANT ISSUES."

- SHADOWYZE

