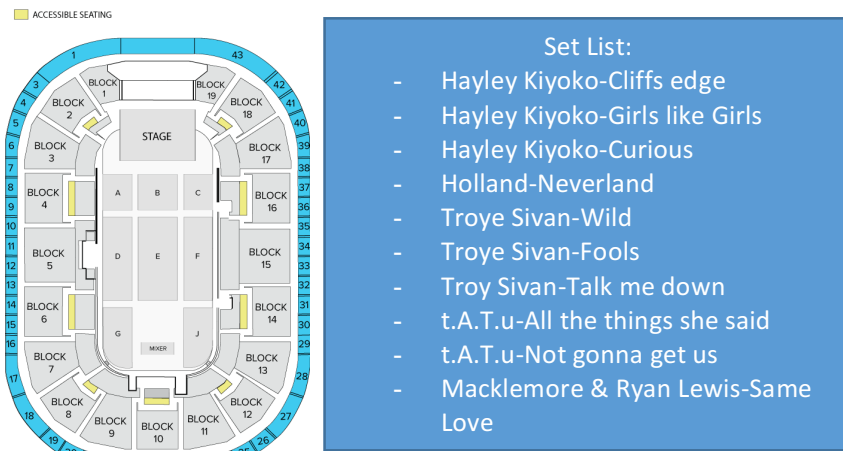


I have chosen to create an imaginary music concert instead of an exhibition because I feel like I would be able to connect to the musical artists and the songs more than artists and their art work. For this concept I have chosen the topic of the LGBT community and different views on it, as well as how those views connect to modern and past society.

The concert will be held at the Nottingham Motorpoint Arena, the reason I chose this as the venue was because I am familiar with the layout of the arena and the size of it I think will make it a good place to hold the concert. The name of the concert is *Rainbow Pride*, I thought this was an acceptable name



because the gay flag is a rainbow and gay pride is the term used to raise awareness; the concert would be held on 13th March 2019 the reason for the date *13 March* is because that's the date that gay marriage was legalized in the UK *13 March 2013*.

The artists I have chosen for this concert are Hayley Kiyoko, Holland, Troye Sivan, t.A.T.u and Macklemore & Ryan Lewis; the reason I chose these five artists in particular is that they are all a part of the LGBT community or have sang songs regarding it. To me these five artists I feel either talk more about views on the subject or their backstory shows the progression society views LGBT people.

The first artist I looked at was Hayley Kiyoko; I chose three songs by her because they fitted perfectly with each other and show of her different yet similar style. Kiyoko is famous for writing her own songs which are very often talking about Lesbians, in the past Lesbians were often stereotyped as *low-life societal discards and pathetic imitators of heterosexuality* meaning they were seen as more masculine and buff rather than feminine and lady-like, however, I feel like Kiyoko uses her songs and her videos to show that these stereotypes are wrong and lesbians aren't all tomboys and un feminine. Kiyoko also talks about the stereotypical idea that boys like girls and girls like boys but also *girls like girls like boys do, nothing new* with this she is saying that gays and lesbians have been around for a while now why are people pretending it something new that hasn't been seen before.



The second artist I looked at was a Kpop Idol named Holland, in 2018 Holland released his first song and became Kpop's first openly gay Icon. Being Gay in Korea is still a sensitive topic, even now it is sort of okay to be able to show off your sexuality freely in South Korea but *separate social enclaves. This strategy avoids significant public backlash and government oppression. However, the situation leaves them without legal protection, social acceptance or significant public space for expressing their sexual identity.* This basically means that gay people could still get abused for being gay and the legal system could see that as okay. Holland currently only has one song *Neverland*, the song was written by Holland and talks about what it was like to be gay and how it felt for him *too many eyes I don't give up fuck it....I wonder, I'm strange or who is strange.* Holland talks about that he doesn't know where he's going but if his partner would join him on this journey to Neverland it doesn't matter about anyone else's opinions.



The third artist I looked at was Troye Sivan; I decided to use his *Blue Neighbourhood Trilogy* songs, the reason I chose these three is because the music videos themselves has a story line to them that show a childhood romance between two boys blossom and grow but then turn sour with parental abuse and rejection leaving the two separated, with the final music video set at the abusive fathers funeral where Sivan expresses his feelings to his childhood friend only to be rejected and for him to choose a relationship with a woman instead only to have an implied suicide at the end of the video. Once Sivan released the final video he tweeted a link to a number of helplines for people going through similar things, this means that it seems to be a common thing that is happening, the songs were only released in 2015 which is fairly recent. A study was made using 293 LGBT youths to examine *factors that differentiated youth whose parents knew of the sexual orientation from youth whose parents did not know.* the study showed that the earlier awareness of *same-gender attractions, greater childhood atypicality, and less internalized homophobia* were the characteristics of the first set of youths whose parents were aware of the child's sexual orientation, however, the youths whose parents were aware reported more *past victimization on basis of sexual orientation from parents, yet more current family support and less fear of future parental victimization* this means that once their parents were aware they started getting verbally abused by them because they like someone of the same sex, but their parents are finally becoming more supporting of them.



The fourth artist I looked at was t.A.T.u; a Russian duet group, who became famous around the world for their controversial lesbian school girl music video and many other lesbian concepts which they later revealed that they were only *implying a lesbian concept to drum up publicity*. This makes me question if they were enlightening the subject of LGBT and supporting it or making fun of it, because from the music videos it doesn't appear that they are using LGBT as a joke. However, in the music video for *All the things she said* it does appear that they are showing us public views on the subject, in the video it shows the two members as lesbian school girls who are trapped behind a cage in the rain whilst the public watch and study them from behind that cage as if they were looking at animals in a zoo, I believe this to be a metaphor on how society treated the LGBT community at that time as if it was rare and hardly about. The thing that makes me question whether they were making fun of the LGBT community however, was that in an interview 2014 one of the members Yulia Volkova said she *won't accept a gay son* and went farther on to say *a man has no right to be a fag...two girls together - not the same thing as two men together. It seems to me that lesbians look aesthetically much nicer than two men holding their hands and kissing*. This statement is mainly part of the reason as to way a question if they were using the lesbian concept as a way to make fun of the LGBT community, but she did go on to say that she wasn't against gays and has many *gay friends* and believes being gay is better than being a murderer, thief or drug addict, for me personally I don't like when people say they're not against something and have many friends who are something to do with that something but then say bad things about that thing and belittle it, I find it to be similar to the *I'm not racist, my sister's daughter's boyfriends black but...* I don't feel that saying someone you know who has something to do with to do with what your saying bad things about is not a way to justify nor give your the acceptance or right to say those things. Even though I am still 50/50 on whether I should have included this group in the concert or not I am going to because I still feel that their message in their music videos were important and played a part in acknowledging the LGBT community.



The final artists I looked at are Macklemore & Ryan Lewis, these two artists are not gay and a lot of their songs aren't anything to do with the LGBT, however, they did do one song which goes into depths about how society and religion see's gay people in America and how society treats it *I told my mom, tears rushing down her face she's like "Ben, you've loved girls since before Pre-K"...I guess she had a point, didn't she? a bunch of stereotypes all in my head* the lyrics aren't about Macklemore being gay, which he isn't, but focuses on issues in the LGBT community and the right for same-sex marriage *the right-wing conservatives think it's a decision and you can be cured with some treatment and religion*. As well as talking about marriage equality Macklemore also wrote about how frustrated he was with how the hip hop community perceived homosexuality *If I was gay I would think hip-hop hates me have you read the YouTube comments lately? "man, that's gay" dropped on the daily* with this he talks about how society has become so used to this idea that using the term *that's gay* has become a normal thing and



has become a more popular saying thanks to music and TV & film. Where as some people take this lightly as a joke the term *that's gay* to others is quite offensive but now because its become such a common saying people are brushing over it. *Kids are walking 'round the hallway plagued by a pain in their heart a world so hateful, some would rather die than be who they are* this part takes me back to Sivan and his Blue Neighbourhood Trilogy storyline, where some kids are now too scared to express themselves openly and freely incase they get abused verbally or physically that in the end the would rather not be in a world where they have to hide and kill themselves so that they can now be free from that pain. The chorus of the song expresses how a lot of LGBT people feel about how society, politicians and religion see's them *and I can't change, even if I tried, Even if I wanted to* this says that no matter what people say whether they say it's a sin, a choice they've made, an illness that someone of LGBT can't change who they are.

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