

Task 2 – Proposal

December 1st 2015

Chosen song:

Reflection by Christina Aguilera, as it represents the concept of personal expression, and the loss of identity at this age. It was also used in the movie, Mulan, which represents the disadvantage of women in society and how they are often looked down upon in many cultures. In this context, the song also expresses the female protagonist battling her cultural expression and stereotypes. The song is relatable to me in both contexts of personal and cultural expression at this age, as it is very difficult to find yourself and be the truest form of who you wish to be, as well as in the aspect of cultural expression, as in much of the Middle East, men are often seen as superior to women, and in the Syrian Civil War, women are often discouraged from participating, however it was at one point of normal fashion to dress up as a man to fight, as the main character in Mulan did, so as a Syrian, this topic is very close to my heart. Now equality is slowly spreading in the country. Also, I am involved in the Model United Nations conference in my school which I am very passionate about, and for which the theme is *‘Women and Development: Investing in our future’*, so this is also a form of my personal expression, as it is definitive of who I am and what I am passionate about, and choosing a song with underlyings of female empowerment reflects this expression.

December 17 2015

Artistic Intention

My song, *‘Reflection’*, greatly created a strong and solid artistic statement for me and allowed me to plan my project effectively. I have chosen this song because it refers to my personal expression, as it portrays the loss and confusion felt at the age of adolescence, when teenagers are trying to find themselves and figure out who they are. My intention with this song, however, is not only to portray my emotions and thoughts at my current age, but also to include an aspect of my nationality, which will be portrayed by adding in the Oud in the background to reflect the Arabic culture.

With the global context being *‘Personal and Cultural Expression’*, and the Statement of Inquiry saying *‘Personal and Cultural Expression is expressed through stories’*, my vision for my piece is to reach out and connect with my target audience of teenagers, and to transmit my story of having many influences and not knowing which road to take by performing a Western-style piece, from a Chinese-inspired movie, with Oud overlappings to show Arabic culture. My aim is to express an aesthetically pleasing piece inclusive of a blend of cultural stimuli.