

## **Pop or Similar Music**

*Mint Condition - Jess Arcand*

Dear NCRA/ANREC:

Please accept this submission by CJSW, on behalf of the program Mint Condition hosted by Jess Arcand, for Best Pop or Similar Music.

Jess Arcand has been hosting Mint Condition on the CJSW airwaves since 2019, having showcased a variety of Artists in sub-pop genres such as Hyper, Bubblegum, and Electropop as notable mentions. During its 3 hour time-slot each week, Mint Condition primarily focuses on new weekly releases. This coincides with lending its platform to queer artists and creators who are leading the charge in the local pop music scene here in Mohkinstsis Calgary. Jess Arcand herself, is passionate about creating a safe environment in which underrepresented pop artists are able to voice their art and passions, whilst working with Mint Condition.

Another meaningful aspect to how the program Mint Condition uplifts and presents pop music and artists, is through live on-air sessions, interviews, and mixes. Reaching out to newly discovered talent such as ElyOtto, a rising pop artist whose music first became viral on Tik Tok, and allowing them to have their first interview with CJSW, helped to create a positive and lasting memorable experience. This also opened the door for many other emerging local artists to approach CJSW to have their music showcased on Mint Condition.

Other examples that contribute to this process include a noteworthy live session by Teon Gibbs, who played at Sled Island in 2022. Teon gibbs is a Vancouver Artist who received exposure through the help of Mint Condition, which in turn promoted their talent and music for the local Calgary festival Sled Island.

Jess Arcand and their show Mint Condition boosts morale with being one of the first shows people who are tuned into CJSW hear on their Friday morning commute. Thank you for considering Mint Condition for the award of Best Pop or Similar Music, it's a great way to end the work week and start the weekend.

Christy Thompson,  
Volunteer Coordinator  
The University of Calgary Student Radio Society (CJSW Radio)