

Blooming Love

The piece is about the forbidden romance between an interracial couple, and their love facing judgement by one of their fathers and his racist views. The key message is that love struggles to overcome prejudice. It is inspired by the love shown in the Dawn Raids struggling in a world of racism.

My group used the Dawn Raids play for inspiration to extract key ideas from the story. We used these to workshop ideas through freeze frames. An example was the theme of love and family, so I had the idea to create one with a wedding. I felt this was a good way to show love quickly but I realised it was overused so I offered the idea to start the piece with a proposal instead, which can still express the love shown between two of the characters, which is essential to the piece.



Early wedding concept (left)



Proposal in final piece (right)

My group decided we needed a scene before the proposal to frame the piece, so we added a classic meet-cute moment where my character picks up a dropped flower to hand back to his love interest and the love at first sight is clear. I thought we could use sound and lighting to support this, such as a pink spotlight and a cliché love song. A pink spotlight would have been difficult to execute however so it was changed to lights on the side which still worked. I pitched the idea for the flower to become a recurring motif, at the start, middle and end of the piece to represent the “blooming” love. We tried to work this into many parts of the piece, but it would be overused so we reigned it back to only appear three times



Each repetition
of the flower
motif

We decided to further our piece using the drama components. Our use of space specifically with transitions wasn't good, so we had to refine our transitions by having members stay on stage and move into other background roles, so we weren't going on and off stage. This cleans up the wait time for the audience and makes the piece seamless. We considered the use of time in our piece, as it features the full lifetime of a relationship which wouldn't have an impact if it was short lived. We decided to make the relationship long-term and initially conveyed this in three separate scenes showing the love. However, this took too much time and worsened the pace of the piece, so I suggested a montage to quickly speed through the relationship. This montage also features the use of song, dance, and narration.



Montage sequence with dance and song, (red) is narrating.
Example of characters (green) moving to the background for transitions

Wednesday 23rd August

How have YOU used creative strategies to overcome blocks or obstacles so far, for example, in group dynamics regardless of the outcome.

When I notice an argument start to form I try to change the subject to diffuse the situation. If I feel I am getting heated I try to step back so nothing starts. When some people were absent I got some members of other groups to step in so we could continue to practice.

Thursday 24th August

Whanaungatanga is about forming and maintaining relationships and strengthening ties between kin and communities.

In what way have you conveyed whanaungatanga (kinship) with your group and the piece this week?

I have accepted others ideas and collaborated with the group. We all collectively input mini ideas into a scene/interaction to make it better and we all have fun doing it together.

Evidence of reflection over time, supporting ideas in voice recording