QUEERING MUSEUMS: QUEER LEADERSHIP IN THE GLAM SECTOR

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MANAGER, CENTRE OF DEMOCRACY

@_MUSEUMGUY #NLS9KEY2
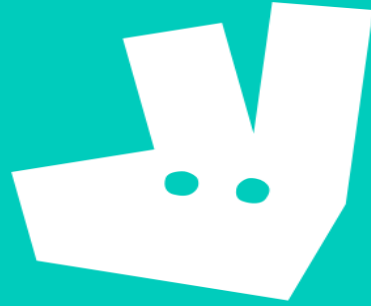
WHAT IS DISRUPTION?

To disrupt is:

- to prevent something, especially a system, process, or event, from continuing as usual or as expected

- to change the traditional way that an industry operates, especially in a new and effective way

DISRUPTIVE LEADERSHIP

"... breaking the mould is something that all of us have to do in the 21st Century."

Steven Scheeler, Former Facebook CEO for Australia & New Zealand

QUEER LEADERSHIP

To queer (a verb) is:

- to make strange

- to challenge

- to trouble

STORY TIME

"we have no [insert identity category here] objects."

WHAT IS A QUEER OBJECT?

Owned by a queer person?

Made by a queer person?

Created for a queer event?

QUEER OBJECTS

Same-sex couple's wedding outfits a good fit for museum to mark marriage milestone

ABC Radio Brisbane   By Jessica Hinchliffe
Posted 2 May 2019, 6:30am

PHOTO: Craig and Luke Burns still have plenty of other items to cherish from their big day. (ABC Radio Brisbane: Jessica Hinchliffe)

The outfits worn by the first same-sex couple from Queensland to tie the knot after the passage of the marriage equality bill are being preserved for posterity.

RELATED STORY: Couples across Australia marry minutes after same-sex marriage becomes legal

Craig and Luke Burns have donated their suits, bowties, photos and other memorabilia from their wedding day to the Queensland Museum.

WHAT ABOUT US?

QUEERING THE MUSEUM

"we must not allow the absence of collections to excuse museums from fulfilling a social justice function" (2016)
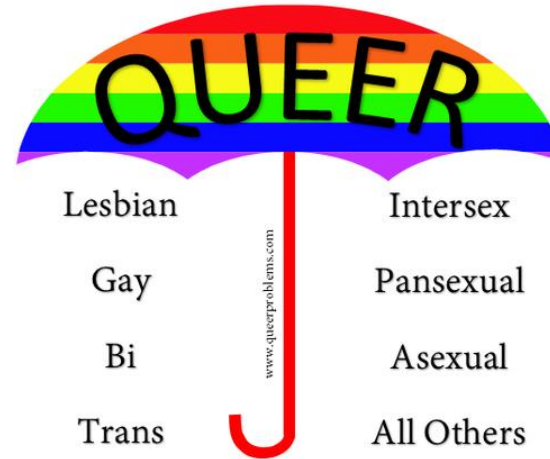
David Fleming, Former Head of Museums Association (UK)

QUEERING THE MUSEUM

JUXTAPOSITION

1 + 1 =

READING AGAINST THE GRAIN

LAVENDER MARRIAGE

"Lavender Marriage: a slang term used to describe a male female marriage-of-convenience in which one or both the partners are homosexual. Lavender Marriages were employed by well-known gays and lesbians in previous decades to conceal their sexual identity from the public.

Beard: gay slang for a person, usually female, who is in a male female relationship primarily to conceal the other person's homosexuality."

BLUE SWIMMERS

'One of us had a gym teacher in high school called Mrs Stone. We got thinking about stone butches, women who sometimes passed as men who made love to other women but did not want to be touched themselves. We can only imagine the dangerous tour of which the sign warns. We wondered about the risks that women who crossed the boundaries of sexual and gender respectability might have taken'.
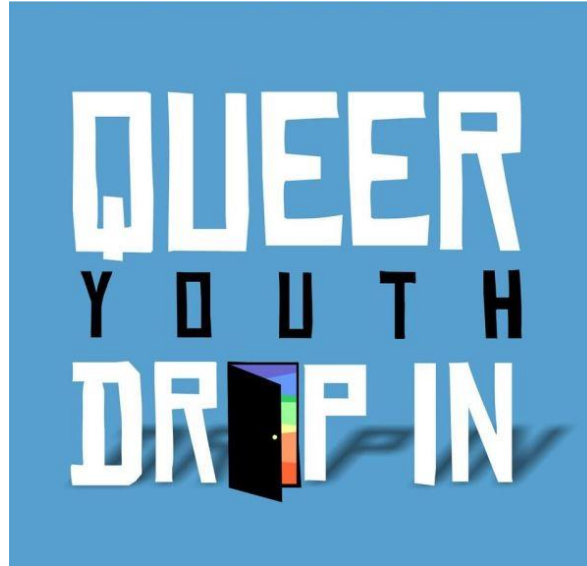
QUEERING THE MUSEUM

COLLABORATION

THE FORUM

FEAST QUEER YOUTH DROP IN

OUT AT THE MUSEUM

FINDING ACCEPTANCE

I realised I wasn't straight when puberty hit, but I didn't think it was strange.

My mum says 'love is love'.

Then I realised I wasn't comfortable with my gender.

When I came out as trans, most of my friends abandoned me.

I didn't know where to go or what to do. It was like I was stumbling along the side of a road.

I told a friend I was trans while we were eating lunch.

She just said 'that's cool' and kept eating.

Then she asked, 'do you want to go back to class?'

I said 'Yeah'.

For everyone else it had been a huge drama.

I couldn't believe it.

That was a huge step on this journey!

Another big step was when I went to the Queer Youth Drop In. I started to like myself again.

I realised I was home.

COLLABORATION

COLLABORATION = CRITICAL ENGAGMENT WITH OWN PRACTICE

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S HISTORY FESTIVAL

RAINBOW HISTORY

RAINBOW HISTORY

The History Festival is once again focusing a spotlight on stories of South Australia's LGBTIQ past, so come out and let your colours shine.

Cloth and Paper: Queer Materialities
Fri 17 May, Adelaide, Page 21

Daring to be Different
1 May-24 Nov, Adelaide, Page 22

Gert by Sea: The Bay Gay History Walk
Sun 5 May, Glenelg, Page 38

History of the People, by the People, for the People
Wed 15 May, Adelaide, Page 18

Queer Time and Place
Thu 2, 9 & 16 May, Adelaide, Page 21

Screening of 'It's Not Just Me'
Fri 10 May, Adelaide, Page 21

The Love That Dared Not Celebrate its Name!
Thu 30 May, Adelaide, Page 23

2017

- Gay May Day: Queer History Walk

- Gay May Day: The Uranian Society Remembers Ian Purcell AM

- Queer Lives: Activism & The Arts

- Film screening: Screaming Queens The Riot at Compton Cafeteria

2018

- I Am an Activist series:

- 45 Years of Pride in Adelaide,

- A History of Transgender Activism in the 1990s

- SAPPHO's Sprouts: Remembering the 70s Lesbian Movement,

- Queer Style: Naming, Changing, Reclaiming

- Trivia BootCAMP

- When We Were Criminals!

- Queer Style(s): Then and Now

- Reluctant Queen/Compulsive Collector: The David Roche Collection

- Screening of 'Suited'

2019

- Cloth and Paper: Queer Materialities

- Daring to be Different

- Gert by Sea: The Bay Gay History Walk

- History of the People, by the People, for the People

- Queer Time and Place

- Screening of 'It's Not Just Me'

- The Love That Dared Not Celebrate its Name!

DISRUPT/QUEER

DEFINITIONS

To disrupt is:

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- to change the traditional way that an industry operates, especially in a new and effective way

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BE BRAVE

BE QUEER