Hello, Tel Aviv!

Another year, another 40-odd songs from every corner of the continent (and beyond...) Yes, it’s Eurovision time once again – so here is your annual Popbitch guide to all of the greatest, gaudiest and god-awful gems that this year’s contest has to offer.

The First Half...............3–19
Culture Club samples! Euro lounge lizards! Fake Cockney accents from the Czech Republic! A lot of this year’s favourites are getting an early start this time around, so you’ll want to be watching the contest from the top...

The Second Half.............20–34
Wobbling opera ghosts! Fiery leather-fetishists! Norwegian grumble rapping! No, you’re not just drunk. The competition takes a very strange lurch around the halfway point, which is when all the weird and wonderful stuff jumps out...

The Stats.....................35–43
Diagrams, facts, information, theory. You want to impress your mates with absolutely useless knowledge about which sorts of things win? We’ve got everything you need...

The Ones We Left Behind.....44–60
A lot of the competition’s most ambitious and noteworthy entries tend to fall at the first hurdle at Eurovision, so if you missed the semi-finals but want to see what batshittery the losers got up to, it’s all still here for you...
First Half Songs #1-13
Pt.1: At A Glance

Unusually for Eurovision, a load of this year’s big favourites have been drawn up in the first half. That means there’s a lot of very polished performances to kick things off – but the first half doesn’t traditionally tend to breed winners, so we could be in for a shock...

# | Country | Which One Is That?
--- | --- | ---
1 | Malta | The inadvertant Culture Club sample will cause a few heads to turn
2 | Albania | You do you, Albania. You do you.
3 | Czech Rep. | A fun indie bop w/ spoken word hook and Early Learning Centre staging
4 | Germany | Two vocalists doing screechy battle with one another over a toy piano
5 | Russia | Sergey’s back with more ambitious visuals and some sullen moody beats
6 | Denmark | The ‘quirky girl’ message of love
7 | San Marino | 70s-sounding Euro lounge lizardry
8 | N. Macedonia | A lady and a piano trying to tug at your heartstrings
9 | Sweden | Dependable as ever, this has real echoes of Austria’s entry last year
10 | Slovenia | This year’s worthy hipster choice
11 | Cyprus | They found a formula with Fuego and they’re really sticking to it
12 | Netherlands | Earnest, haunting song about a dead mate – the bookies’ favourite
13 | Greece | A big-lunged banger
Here’s a little fact that will make you want to scream until you taste blood. Culture Club’s *Karma Chameleon* (from which this song lifts a very distinctive vocal hook) was released in 1983. Michela was born in 2001. Meaning that *Karma Chameleon* is twice as old as she is...

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**Malta**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Michela</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Chameleon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>Bb minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>98bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Four (inc. two Swedes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Zara Larsson x Rizzle Kicks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>Joss Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reality TV</td>
<td>First winner of <em>X Factor Malta</em> (2019)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weird Lyrics</td>
<td>“The grass is always greener / When you love me deeper, darlin’ / I can be your jungle”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Albania

We’ll say this for Albania. They might not always have the strongest entries.

That’s it. That’s all we’ll say.

Artist Jonida Maliqi
Song Ktheju Tokës
Language Albanian
Key Eb minor
Key Change No
Tempo 116bpm
Songwriters Two

Sounds Like Fuck knows
Looks Like Albania’s answer to the Cock Destroyers
Reality TV Top Fest (2005)
Top Fest – with her friend Tuna (2006)

Other Notes We cannot imagine who on earth would feel moved to pick up their phone and lend this song their vote, so this is almost certainly doomed to be left behind.

That said, the British public has a decent track record of putting its weight behind lost causes – so maybe we’ll rally round?
Czech Republic
Hey, hey, we’re the Mockneys!
And people say we Mockney around!

Artists: Lake Malawi
Song: Friend Of A Friend
Language: English
Key: D minor
Key Change: No
Tempo: 106bpm
Songwriters: Three (inc. lead singer Albert)
Sounds Like: Van She
Looks Like: Uniqlo models
Other Notes: The band claim they took the inspiration for their name from the Bon Iver song Calgary because he mentions a lake in it – even though Lake Malawi is 15,000km away from most of Calgary’s major bodies of water.

If you’re curious about the relative mineral contents of Lake Malawi’s water vs Calgary’s primary reservoirs, then the Calgary Aquarium Society has you covered.
Laurita from S!sters first made her name as a child star, singing a rewritten version of Alcazar’s *Crying At The Discotheque* – all about how mad she is that her dad makes her brush her teeth and play with cuddly toys when what she really wants to do is *disco dance with Rambo*...

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**Germany**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>S!sters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Sister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>C Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>72bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Four</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sounds Like** A lead balloon  
**Looks Like** Daphne and Celeste gone straight

**Reality TV**

- **Carlotta**: *Das Supertalent* (2009)  
- Runner-up on *The Voice Kids Germany* (2014)  
- **Laurita**: *Kiddy Contest* (2002)  
- Fourth place in *Star Search*

**Weird Lyrics**  
"*Tired of competing / I tried to hold you under / But honey you kept breathing*"

**Other Notes**  
Germany has come dead last twice in the last five years, so you’d hope they’d be more careful than to risk a hat-trick like this.
Russia

Back to claim what he clearly feels was rightly his, Sergey lost the throne in 2016 to a Ukrainian song about Stalinist war crimes. Having set an extremely high bar with the staging of his previous entry, he’s going to need to pull out something pretty special this year...

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Artist: Sergey Lazarev  
Song: Scream  
Language: English  
Key: G minor  
Key Change: No  
Tempo: 62bpm  
Time Sig: 6/8  
Songwriters: Two  
Sounds Like: Ultravox  
Looks Like: Jeremy Renner  
Other Notes: Like Sergey’s previous entry, this too was written by Eurovision stalwarts Dimitris Kontopoulos and Philipp Kirkorov.

Among others, Kontopoulos has been behind three Top Three songs (Shady Lady, 2008; Hold Me 2013; You Are The Only One, 2016). Kirkorov co-wrote all of those too – but he also represented Russia himself in 1995.
Denmark

There’s always one touchy-feely number about how we all ought to love one another and not let our differences divide us – but if this twee shit is the sort of thing we can expect as a reward then, quite honestly, Leonara can stuff it up her hoop.

// Artist: Leonara  
Song: Love Is Forever  
Language: English / French / Danish / German  
Key: Db Major  
Key Change: No  
Tempo: 136bpm  
Songwriters: Three

Sounds Like: Zooey Deschanel  
Looks Like: A Grazia columnist

Other Notes: Singing in another language is an easy way to hoover up votes from other countries. Using English is the most common tactic, but by adding French and German you get potential bonus bumps from France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany and Austria.

San Marino

We knew San Marino had a tiny population (approx. 33,000; roughly the same as Bridlington) but we didn’t realise they had so few available acts on hand. Still, better to see Serhat again than getting Valentina Monetta for the fifty millionth time...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Serhat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Say Na Na Na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>C# minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>118bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Charles Aznavour x Pet Shop Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>Gianluca Viali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weird Lyrics</td>
<td>“Don’t forget my number, call me anytime / I will always tell you life is beautiful and fine”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>Serhat is a qualified dentist, who broke into showbiz as the host of the Turkish version of Jeopardy – a quiz show called Riziko.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
North Macedonia

Making their debut as North Macedonia this year, the formerly Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia now has a chance to wipe the slate clean. As FYROM, they had a very rough decade – only qualifying for the final once in the last 11 years. So the rebrand seems to be working.

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Artist Tamara Todevska
Song Proud
Language English
Key F minor
Key Change Yes
Tempo 92bpm
Songwriters Five
Sounds Like Celine Dion
Looks Like Someone who does the makeover slot on This Morning
Other Notes Tamara is another of the five acts returning to Eurovision for another shot at the crown.

She first appeared as a backing vocalist at the 2004 contest (singing on Life by Toše Proeski) then appeared as an artist in her own right as part of the band Tamara, Vrčak and Adrijan (Let Me Love You, 2008).

She was the Tamara. Obviously.
**Sweden**

Not content with being masters of the modern contest, Swedes are now doubling up their workloads just to keep things interesting for themselves. For not only did John Lundvik write this song (which is one of the bookmakers’ favourites) he also wrote the UK’s. (Which isn’t...)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>John Lundvik</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Too Late For Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>C Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>105bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Sam Smith with something to smile about</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>Alex Oxlade Chamberlain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>From the looks of his CV, John Lundvik appears to be the Gary Barlow of Scandinavia.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not only was he roped in to write a song for a [Swedish royal wedding in 2010](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/olympics/9568353), he was called on to write the official song for [Sweden’s Olympic Team in 2016](https://www.bbc.com/sport/olympics/olympic-games/35256151), as well as multiple entries for Melodifestivalen and songs for TV and film.
It’s not often that Eurovision tosses out a song that could happily sit on the soundtrack to an indie movie about a millennial’s quarter-life crisis, grappling with an estranged parent’s secret addiction to prescription pain-killers – but Slovenia have made a decent fist of it.

Slovenia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Zala Kralj &amp; Gašper Šantl</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Sebi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Slovene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>G minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>108bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Two (Zala and Gašper themselves)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Rhye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>A brother and sister art collective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>Although this song was a prime candidate to get lost in among all the spectacle of the first semi, there is regularly a lot of love for an earnest indie boy-girl duo at Eurovision. So we reckon it squeaked through the semis – but is likely to be make very few ripples on the Saturday.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Cyprus

The dark horse of last year’s contest, Cyprus snatched a second place finish in 2018 with fan favourite *Fuego*. It looks like they’re aiming for a repeat performance in 2019 by sending a sunbleached carbon copy of it. Which, without trace of irony, they’ve called... *Replay.*

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| **Artist** | Tamta |
| **Song** | Replay |
| **Language** | English |
| **Key** | B minor |
| **Key Change** | No |
| **Tempo** | 102bpm |
| **Songwriters** | Five *(inc. one Swede)* |
| **Sounds Like** | Sia x Rihanna |
| **Looks Like** | Ellie Goulding |
| | Judge on *X Factor Georgia, X Factor Greece* |

**Weird Lyrics**

At one point it sounds like she’s saying she’s “shitting her body” – but the actual lyric is *Them sheets need my body.*

**Other Notes**

Tamta is Georgian-Greek. It’s always handy, from a tactical standpoint, to send an artist with ties to a different country as you are well-poised to soak up their 12 points.
The Netherlands

You might think that a song written about the untimely death of a friend is a bit miserable to win a Saturday night singing contest, but if a trip-hop song about the ethnic cleansing of 200,000 Crimean Tatars can do it, then this really has no excuse not to walk it...

Artist Duncan Laurence
Song Arcade
Language English
Key A minor
Key Change No
Tempo 72bpm
Time Sig Verses 6/4; Choruses 4/4
Songwriters Three
Sounds Like James Blake
Looks Like Aaron Ramsey
Reality TV Series 5 of The Voice Of Holland (2014)
Other Notes The bookies’ favourite by some margin, it’s been causing the press room in Tel Aviv to fall into a rapt silence in rehearsals. If it does win though, it’ll make for a wildly anticlimactic end to the show. A mournful ditty about a dead friend as the credits roll, when the crowd should be waving flags and glitter cannons are meant to be bursting?
Greece

Remember David Sneddon? The cute little spiky haired Scottish kid off of Fame Academy? Well, when he’s not busy writing songs for Lana Del Rey, Nicole Scherzinger and Olly Murs, he’s busy helping the Greeks get better placings in Eurovision than the Brits. Cheers, pal!

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**Artist**  Katerine Duska  
**Song**  Better Love  
**Language**  English  
**Key**  Eb Major  
**Key Change**  No  
**Tempo**  88bpm  
**Songwriters**  Four  
**Sounds Like**  Florence Welch  
**Looks Like**  Marina Diamandis  
**Other Notes**  Canadian-Greek Katerine is really keen to let it be known that she has proper indie credentials. Something she’s attempted to demonstrate by doing a John Lewis ad/Live Lounge-style version of the Arctic Monkeys’ Do I Wanna Know?
Hungry for more?

To give you a true taste of Europe this Eurovision, Pasta Evangelists will deliver delicious boxes of artisan, Italian pasta direct to your door. Popbitch readers can get three exquisite dishes from just £11 with this exclusive offer.

Tap here and use this code at checkout: EUROVISION
Second Half Songs #14–26
Pt. 2: At A Glance

This is where the real business begins. The voices get weird, the costumes get fancy, the lights and pyros start in earnest. Just make sure you pace yourself throughout because you won’t want to crash out before you reach the end of this...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Which One Is That?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>Don’t hurry back from the interval; you’re not going to miss much</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Huge ‘bald bloke from Aqua’ vibes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>U.K.</td>
<td>Also written by Sweden’s entrant, this is the B-side to their A-side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>Leather-clad BDSM electro-glitch growlers; perverted and brilliant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Could have been a ditched Katy Perry demo from 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Strong Radio 1/Spotify playlist pop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>Slightly static robot laser heart surgery show with a high pitch jam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>A genderfluid empowerment anthem in the vague mould of Conchita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>A prominent underdog; genuinely a good track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>If you need a loo break, go now; her voice will carry well enough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Slick stuff from a Swiss Liam Payne; definite contender for a Top 5 finish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Sydney opera/house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>A welcome final blast of sunshine, colour and energy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Israel

Hosting the Eurovision Song Contest gives countries a chance to showcase their nation’s culture, music and personality to the wider world. So it’s a bold choice for Israel from here, taking this prestigious opportunity to make themselves look absolutely boring as fuck.

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**Artist**
Kobi Marimi

**Song**
Home

**Language**
English

**Key**
G minor

**Key Change**
No

**Tempo**
60bpm

**Songwriters**
Two

**Sounds Like**
Russell Watson

**Looks Like**
If CJ de Mooi had been cast as Freddie Mercury in *Bohemian Rhapsody*

**Reality TV**
*Rising Star* (2019)

**Weird Lyrics**
“Nothing comes as easy as it goes / I can hug the water when it snows”

**Other Notes**
Kobi is already making his excuses, saying: “I could win, I could be last place... For me it’s not a competition. I’ll win if I know that I did my best...”

Oh, aye?
Norway

It’s always nice when countries attempt to fold in a little nod to their own folk traditions and indigenous cultures. However, getting a bald bloke to growl some lines of Sami over the uptempo pop beat gives KEiiNO a weird, potentially unintended *Barbie Girl* energy.

---

Artist: KEiiNO  
Song: *Spirit In The Sky*  
Language: English / Northern Sami  
Key: D minor  
Key Change: No  
Tempo: 122bpm  
Songwriters: Six  

Sounds Like:  
Bridge: Carly Rae Jepsen  
Chorus: Aqua  

Looks Like: A bad Cardigans tribute  

Reality TV:  
Fred-René (the one singing in Sami) was on *Norway’s Got Talent* (2008)  
Alexandra was on *Norwegian Idol* (2016)  

Other Notes:  
As well as singing in Sami, Fred-René has also taken a seat on the Sami Parliament of Norway, serving in various positions between 2013-17.  

The style of singing in Sami is called *joik*. 

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United Kingdom

Listen. We’re sure Michael Rice is a nice lad. People who have bumped into him have told us he’s very sweet. But until Britain quells its bonk–on the sorts of songs that even Simon Cowell has stopped giving his X Factor finalists as prizes, we will continue to fail at this.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Michael Rice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Bigger Than Us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>C Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>82bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Four</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>A Center Parcs ad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>The lovechild of Chris Maloney and Sam Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reality TV</td>
<td>Winner of Series 1 of All Together Now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>Our big problem this year isn’t Brexit. It’s that the Swedes have given us a slightly less good version of the same song that they’ve entered themselves. We’ve got a better spot in the running order – but if people do want to vote for a big, whooshy song with a choir and a key change, then they’ll probably be voting for Sweden.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Iceland

Some of the more conservative countries in the contest lost their collective shit when a bearded lady won in 2014, lamenting that Eurovision had become a “hotbed of sodomy”. What will they make of electropunk BDSM growlers Hatari? No idea – but we can’t wait to find out.

---

Artist: Hatari

Song: Hatrið mun sigra

Language: Icelandic

Key: E minor

Key Change: Yes (One semitone)

Tempo: 110bpm

Songwriters: Three

Sounds Like: Marilyn Manson goes electro

Looks Like: Sexually deviant Mortal Kombat characters

 Weird Lyrics: The official translation of the opening lines: “Debauchery unconstrained! / Hangover uncontained!”

Other Notes: The lad in the spiky mask (on top of the cage, bashing it with a huge cotton bud) is the son of Iceland’s ambassador to the UK.

The children of Iceland have really taken to Hatari, making their own costumes, forming tribute acts and singing at school concerts.
Estonia

The well-established cheat in Eurovision is to hire a Swede to write your song but Estonia’s decided to go one further. They’ve hired a Swede to come and perform it too. Born in Österåker and discovered in Stockholm by Estonia’s Simon Cowell, Victor is a massive ringer...

// 生验encer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Victor Crone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Storm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>D Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>128bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Eurovision poison; the worst tempo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Three</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sounds Like A wet tribute to Avicii

Looks Like A sketchy nightclub owner in Hollyoaks

Other Notes Although the UK’s entry last year (also called Storm) would suggest the opposite, inclement weather is actually a fairly strong topic to sing about. Songs that feature rain, thunder, lightning and storms in the lyrics consistently come in the Top Three:

- **Heroes** (1st)
- **You’re The Only One** (3rd)
- **Calm After The Storm** (2nd)
- **Hard Rock Hallelujah** (1st)
Belarus

After years of trying — and failing — to represent her home nation in the reliably unwatchable noncefest that is Junior Eurovision, Zena has finally won the Belarusian nomination for the adult competition. (And can probably still count on the nonce vote too...)

After years of trying — and failing — to represent her home nation in the reliably unwatchable noncefest that is Junior Eurovision, Zena has finally won the Belarusian nomination for the adult competition. (And can probably still count on the nonce vote too...)

---

Artist | ZENA
Song | Like It
Language | English
Key | G minor
Key Change | No
Tempo | 105bpm
Songwriters | Three
Sounds Like | Dua Lipa
Looks Like | Chloe Madeley
Reality TV | Third place of series 10 of Fabrika Zvyozd
Weird Lyrics | “Put your favourite sneakers on / And show your emotions on the floor / Add hashtag to find ya”
Other Notes | If you’re into Russian-dubbed versions of Pixar movies then you’ll have heard Zena before. She’s the voice of Moana in Moana in Russia.
Azerbaijan

After Robin Bengtsson got away with switching out all of his “fuckin’ beautiful”s for “freakin’ beautiful”s in his 2016 entry I Can’t Go On, he started something of a trend. Now all the hunky, thinly bearded men at Eurovision want to half-swear on the telly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Chingiz</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Truth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>G# minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>101bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Six</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Jungle (the band, not the genre)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>Buff Mac from It’s Always Sunny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>This is also written by Joacim Persson and Borislav Milanov, who co-wrote Malta’s entry this year (plus a bunch of other great tunes in the last five years, including hits like Poli Genova’s If Love Was A Crime, and sorely overlooked bangers like Jana Burčeska’s Dance Alone).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
France

It was only a matter of time before YouTubers got their foot in the door at Eurovision, but at least the French gave theirs a half-decent song. It’s not outside the realms of possibility that the UK would choose to send LadBaby in 2020 with another parody song about pasties.

---

Artist: Bilal Hassani  
Song: Roi  
Language: French / English  
Key: F# minor  
Key Change: No  
Tempo: 70bpm  
Songwriters: Three

Sounds Like: Conchita Wurst  
Looks Like: Shangela  
Reality TV: The Voice Kids in France (2015)

Other Notes: The song was co-written with the band Madame Monsieur, who you may remember as France’s entry last year with Mercy.

Bilal’s wigs each have their own names. The one that’s getting an outing on stage at Eurovision is called... “Eurovision” (or “Vivi” for short).
Miles cooler than any Eurovision entry has any right to be, Mahmood has caused some tedious controversy among certain shitbag elements of Italian society who think the song is not “Italian enough” to represent them. Yeah, well, too bad. Go and cry to Il Volo or something.

---

**Artist**  Mahmood  
**Song**  Soldi  
**Language**  Italian / Arabic  
**Key**  Eb minor  
**Key Change**  No  
**Tempo**  95bpm  
**Songwriters**  Three  

**Sounds Like**  Drake  
**Looks Like**  Zayn Malik on skag  

**Reality TV**  Series Six of *The X Factor* (2012) – making him the Joe McElderry of Italy  

**Other Notes**  This is the fourth time Arabic has been heard in the lyrics of a Eurovision Song Contest. The first was in 1980 (*Morocco’s one and only entry, Bitagat Hub*), then Israel in 2009 (*There Must Be Another Way*) and Denmark in 2012 (*Should Have Known Better*)
Serbia

The joy of Eurovision is that it’s like a buffet. Want to try some Serbian adult-orientated waltz-rock, but don’t want to risk a full plate of it? Here, Nevena offers you a three minute morsel to sample, which you can either choose to savour – or spit discreetly into your napkin...

---

Artist Nevena Božović
Song Kruna
Language Serbian / English
Key Ab minor
Key Change No
Time Sig 6/8
Tempo 53bpm
Songwriters One
Sounds Like Balkan power ballad
Looks Like A model in a Luc Besson film
Reality TV Runner-up on series two of Prvi Glas Grbije
Other Notes Nevena isn’t new to Eurovision, as she was previously a member of the girl band Moje 3 (Ljubav Je Svuda in 2013).

More interesting though was her turn in Junior Eurovision, in 2007.
Any handsome young singer/dancer is bound to snap up a decent chunk of the teenage girl vote – but Luca’s early training as a bricklayer and later work as an underwear model means that he’s probably got another very important bloc of Eurovision voters sewn up too.

Artist Luca Hänni
Song She Got Me
Language English
Key B minor
Key Change No
Tempo 97bpm
Songwriters Five (inc. two Swedes)

Sounds Like Liam Payne
Looks Like Liam Payne

Reality TV Deutschland Sucht Den Superstar (2012)
Dance Dance Dance (2017)

Weird Lyrics "When she poured out a little spice / Got the whole place on a vibe"

Other Notes If you aren’t convinced by his moves, his looks or his gratuitous underwear shots, Luca is also an ambassador for children who suffer from the rare skin disorder epidermolysis bullosa.
Australia

Given the worldwide success of the musical *Wicked*, it was only a matter of time before someone tried a *twee, theatrical poperetta thing about a lack of gravity* at Eurovision. The staging is catching everyone’s attention - and it’s been crawling up the bookies’ markets too.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Kate Miller-Heidke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Zero Gravity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>Eb minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>132bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Three (inc. Kate herself)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Katherine Jenkins doing a bank advert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>Kaley Cuoco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>An opera singer in a huge, lighty-up, blue dress. Wherever did they get the idea...?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Spain

It’s very easy to rag on Spain for sending songs like this year after year – but in a contest where so many entries sound like generic Top 40 leisure centre radio pop, Miki actually provides a very welcome blast of energy and colour to the proceedings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Miki</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>La Venda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>C minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>148bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>A World Cup single</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>A young Michael Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>Miki is also the vocalist of the Spanish cover band Dalton Bang. They seem like fun.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A special treat for you... enjoy!

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There’s a common misconception about Eurovision songs all being happy, smiley, glitz and glitter. A look back at the last few years shows that you’re actually much better served entering a song in a moody minor key – and steering well clear of major ones.
Everyone claims to love a key change. Everyone sticks “KEY CHANGE!!!” on their office Eurovision bingo cards – but do we actually like them? From the looks of things, we haven’t seen a single winner over the last decade attempt one. Could it be that their day is done...?
A Need For Speed

The tempo is the heartbeat of a song; the rhythm to which it works. In a competition where you have a strict three-minute upper limit to adhere to, choosing your tempo is therefore a critical decision. And there are a couple you need to avoid: 128bpm and 85bpm.
You might think that Eurovision lyrics are just a bunch of nonsense platitudes strung together in somebody’s second language without much thought. Often, you’d be right. But there are a few patterns that have emerged with the winners...

A Way With Words

Nighttime
Tonight / Moon
Stars / Starlight

Religious Imagery
God / Prayer
Heaven / Saints
Crucifixion

Ocular Imagery
Eyes / See

Cardiac Imagery
Heart

Royalty Imagery
King / Queen / Jokers

Inflammatory Imagery
Fire / Flame

Bad Weather Imagery
Storm / Rain
Thunder

Flying Imagery
Wings / Angels
It’s all very well knowing what to sing, but what should be left unsaid? There’s a number of classic keyword traps that the novice Eurovision songwriter can fall into. So what words should you be avoiding if you don’t want to come dead last?

**Facial Hair, Moustache**

- Daytime
- Sunshine / Sunlight
- Sunny / Bright
- Day / Morning

**Emotions**

- Crying
- Tears

**Metaphysical**

- Metaphysical
- Soul

**Physical**

- Extremities
- Hands / Feet
- Perambulation
- Running / Walking / Standing

**Miscellaneous**

- Birth
- Baby / New Day
- Born /
The Winning Combo

Up to six people can take to the stage per entry – either as singers, dancers, musicians or a combination of all three. How do winners use those bodies best?

- Singing-dancing women are the key to winning.
- Women on stage should always be singing.
- Men do their most successful work when dancing.
- Female musicians should dress as monsters for best results.
- You don’t want many instruments on stage.
- Alexander Rybak was close.
- If a male musician can dance, he should.
The more people you have on your stage, the more likely it is that someone will cock something up and kill your chances. So as well as making sure your backing performers are doing all the right things, you need to also make sure they aren’t doing anything terrible...

Multitasking is helpful; losers don’t even try

Backing singers should be used sparingly (if at all)

Female dancers need to sing

No-one even tried the triple

Ideally, musicians should be kept offstage

Male dancer-musicians helped at least one win
Luck Of The Draw

Most crucial of all though is where you get placed in the running order. What should you be aiming for?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Half</th>
<th>Second Half</th>
<th>The Stats</th>
<th>The Rest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| 1 | 2008 | 2001<sup>(a)</sup> |
| 2 | 2004 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | 2007 | 2001<sup>(b)</sup> ✓ 2003 |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | 2006 | |
| 8 | 2018 | |
| 9 | |
| 11 | ✓ 2014 ✓ 2017 | |
| 12 | 2012 | 2010 |
| 13 | 2011 | |
| 15 | 2003 | |
| 16 | 2017 | |
| 17 | ✓ 2012 ✓ 2007 ✓ 2006 ✓ 2005 | |
| 18 | ✓ 2013 | |
| 19 | ✓ 2011 ✓ 2005 | |
| 20 | ✓ 2009 ✓ 2001 | |
| 21 | ✓ 2016 | |
| 22 | ✓ 2010 | |
| 23 | ✓ 2002 ✓ 2018 | |
| 24 | ✓ 2009 ✓ 2008 | |
| 25 | | |
| 26 | ✓ 2013 | |
The Ones We Left Behind
Montenegro

Why is it always such a crap shoot with Montenegro? Some years they give us amazing gay disco stompers with full ponytail choreography. Other years it’s rapping dubstep astronauts with wailing alien cyborg ladies. This year? It’s... well. This.

---

Artist: D mol
Song: Heaven
Language: English
Key: D Major
Key Change: Yes (One semitone)
Tempo: 92bpm
Songwriters: Two

Sounds Like: S Club 7
Looks Like: A Level students on results day

Other Notes: “D mol” is Montenegrin for “D minor” – one of the most successful keys in recent Eurovision history. Of the 24 commonly used keys in Western pop, D minor has won three times in the last 12 years (Serbia’s Molitva; Norway’s Fairytale; Austria’s Rise Like A Phoenix) – six times more than random chance would suggest.

Sadly, D minor the band appear to have written their song in D major instead. Oops.
Finland

It’s been twenty years since Darude released *Sandstorm*: a song that’s taken on [a whole new lease of life in the meme age](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10TyC8TVmRo). Now he’s this year’s Eurovision heritage act, stepping into the inglorious shoes of Blue (11th), Bonnie Tyler (19th) and Engelbert Humperdinck (25th).

Want to see someone playing *Sandstorm* on the potato? [Here you go...](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10TyC8TVmRo)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Darude ft. Sebastian Rejman</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Look Away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>B minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>126bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Martin Garrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>The last two decades have passed his chin by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>The star-producer/studio-vocalist combo is becoming a fairly standard set-up at Eurovision. Norway had mid-table success with JOWST’s <em>Grab The Moment</em> in 2017, but Gromee’s <em>Light Me Up</em> prevented Poland from qualifying in 2018.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Image of Darude ft. Sebastian Rejman]
Poland

Tulia got their big break after they recorded a cover of Depeche Mode’s *Enjoy The Silence* that was picked up and promoted by Depeche Mode themselves. Gahan and co are clearly more charitable than us. We’d have had our lawyers send out a cease and desist before the chorus...

![Polish women](image)

---

**Artist** Tulia  
**Song** *Fire Of Love (Pali Sie)*  
**Language** Polish / English  
**Key** C# minor  
**Key Change** No  
**Tempo** 96bpm  
**Songwriters** Four (But not a single one of the bandmembers)  
**Sounds Like** t.A.t.U  
**Looks Like** The granddaughters of those mad Russian grannies from 2012  
**Other Notes** Last time Poland sent women in traditional dress to perform at Eurovision it was those buxom milkmaids who tit-wanked their churns. This one’s got a bit of grot for the lads and dads too, as the song climaxes with the girls screaming “*Love me now! Love me now! Harder and harder...*”  

(FYI: That shout-singing technique is known as *śpiewokrzyk* – or ‘white voice’.)
Armenia

Dependable workhorses of the contest, Armenia have put in an impressive performance since they debuted in 2006 (and have yet to properly embarrass themselves the way that some of the old guard continually do) but never quite do enough to clinch it. This year? No different.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Srbuk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Walking Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>F minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>130bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Tori Amos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>A pre-fame Gaga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weird Lyrics</td>
<td>“Are you from those / Who will swallow down / The pain, disgrace?”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>The lyrics for this were written by Garik Papoyan, the co-writer of Armenia’s most successful song in a decade, Aram MP3’s dubstep ballad <em>Not Alone</em>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ireland

Sarah McTernan tried to enter Eurovision last year as San Marino’s entry. Sadly, it didn’t work out for her – but, seeing as the Sanmarinese selection process is usually a gigantic fucking scam, it probably worked out for the best.

Sarah McTernan

Song 22

Language English

Key C Major

Key Change No

Tempo 125bpm

Songwriters Three

Sounds Like Eliza Doolittle

Looks Like Jack Whitehall in drag

Reality TV Came third in The Voice Of Ireland (2015)

Other Notes The staging of this song looks like a diner designed by Cath Kidson – which means its going to be an absolute slam dunk with the sorts of people who call it “Eurovizh”.

the stats

First Half

Second Half

The Rest
Moldova

Pouring cold water on the reputation they were building for being fun, goofy and good – with entries like Sunstroke Project’s Hey Mamma in 2017 and DoReDos’s My Lucky Day in 2018 – Moldova is trying to be a little more serious this year. It’s not a great look on them.

Artist Anna Odobescu
Song Stay
Language English
Key C minor
Key Change Yes
Tempo 78bpm
Songwriters Four
Sounds Like Tina Arena
Looks Like A Real Housewife Of Cheshire
Reality TV Auditioned for The Voice Russia (2017)
Other Notes If you want some idea of how popular this one is, Moldova’s post-rehearsal press conference was supposedly so sparsely attended that organisers had to drag passing punters in to ask her questions.

Also: if you recognise Anna’s sand artist, that’s because Ukraine used THE EXACT SAME WOMAN in 2011...
Latvia

Waistcoats. Flatcaps. Double basses and floppy hats. This shuffly little folk-pop number sounds like it has been precision engineered to appeal to the Radio 2 listener. Expect to see them at a Hendrick’s-sponsored, artisanal farmers’ market festival near you soon...

![Image](image_url)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Carousel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>That Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>G minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>93bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Katie Melua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>The opening slot on a Glastonbury stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weird Lyrics</td>
<td>&quot;I travelled through the time / It felt for me like doing a crime&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>Sabine (the singer) and Marcis (the guitarist) have been writing and performing for years and years now. If you want to hear their portfolio – including their jazzy version of Just The Two Of Us – knock yourself out...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Romania

Sorry, Ester, but if you’re going to invoke Earth, Wind & Fire’s deathless classic by rhyming “remember” with “September” then you need to bring a song that absolutely slaps. What, you thought no-one would notice? Come on, lass. Wise up.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Artist</strong></th>
<th>Ester Peony</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Song</strong></td>
<td>On A Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language</strong></td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key</strong></td>
<td>C minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key Change</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time Sig</strong></td>
<td>6/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tempo</strong></td>
<td>72bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Songwriters</strong></td>
<td>Three (inc. Ester herself)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sounds Like</strong></td>
<td>There’s some little melodic fragment in there from Kiss From A Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Looks Like</strong></td>
<td>Angela from The Office (US)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Notes</strong></td>
<td>There’s a really badly applied production effect in the first few bars of this song that sounds (presumably deliberately) like a cable came loose during the recording. It’s meant to sound like that though, so don’t start bashing your TV set with a slipper or anything.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Austria

PÆNDA’s real name is Gabriela Horn. Why she’s chosen to give herself a stage name that looks like a cross between ‘paedo’ and ‘panda’ we couldn’t tell you. Maybe it means something nicer in her native tongue?

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>PÆNDA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Limits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>C Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>65bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Kate Bush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>Sheridan Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>Darude released his own remix of this song last weekend. Sadly for the pair of them, it’s miles more interesting than either of their respective entires. Maybe something to consider for 2020 though...?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Croatia

If you watched Eurovision in 2017, there’s no way you’ll have forgotten the big Croatian lad who sang a bilingual pop/opera duet with himself, dressed in a half tuxedo/half leather jacket. It may not surprise you to learn that he also had a hand in writing this one too...

Artist: Roko
Song: The Dream
Language: English/Croatian
Key: F minor
Key Change: Yes (One semitone)
Tempo: 113bpm
Songwriters: Three
Sounds Like: Michael Ball x Muse
Looks Like: A young Warwick Davis
Reality TV: Croatia’s Got Talent (2011)
Winner of Pinkove Zvezdice (2017)
Runner up of Zvezdice (2018)
Weird Lyrics: “I have a dream/
A dream as beautiful as it is extreme”
Other Notes: There seems to be a minor bromance blossoming between Roko and Michael Rice. The two have been on Instagram recording amateur a cappella mash-ups.
Lithuania

As is common for acts these days, Jurij got his start at Eurovision doing backing vocals for another act. In Jurij’s case, he got to sing some of the best Eurovision lyrics of this century: “Because of my shoes / I’m wearing today / One is called love / The other is pain”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Jurij Veklenko</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td>Run With The Lions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>C Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>80bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>A Darius Danesh comeback single</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>Lithuanian James McAvoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reality TV</td>
<td>Lithuania’s Got Talent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Voice Of Lithuania (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>This is an extremely deep cut, but if you remember the Lithuanian national selection process in 2017 you’ll no doubt have seen the drag entry Lolita Zero singing the song Get Frighten. Well, Jurij was the one actually singing the main vocal. Lolita was lip syncing to him.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hungary

One of five returning acts this year, Joci Pápai was a surprising Top Ten success in 2017 with *Origo*. And while it’s certainly possible that the Eurovision audience is crying out for more Hungarian language Romani folk-pop, we’re not sure this will hit the spot.

---

**Artist**  Joci Pápai

**Song**  *Az én Apám*

**Language**  Hungarian

**Key**  Eb minor

**Key Change**  No

**Tempo**  96bpm

**Songwriters**  Two  *(inc. Joci himself)*

**Sounds Like**  Joci Pápai

**Looks Like**  Chabuddy G

**Other Notes**  Since he was last at Eurovision, Joci has been showing his funnier side on Hungary’s *Your Face Sounds Familiar* – as Boy George
Belgium

Over the last decade, the Belgians have had patchy form with their entries. Oscillating between failing to qualify from the semis and comfortably hitting the Top Five with songs like *Rhythm Inside* and *City Lights*, they didn’t qualify last year. So this year is probably good?

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Eliot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song</td>
<td><em>Wake Up</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key</td>
<td>G minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Change</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>145bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songwriters</td>
<td>Two (inc. Eliot himself)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td>Bastille</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td>Simon from <em>The Inbetweeners</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reality TV</td>
<td>Series 7 of <em>The Voice Belgique</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Notes</td>
<td>Eliot’s co-writer on this also wrote <em>Blanche’s City Lights</em> – which came fourth in the contest in 2017.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Georgia

You know how you get those bearded, serious sorts who go on televised talent shows like *The X Factor* to show off their chops and wank on about ‘real music’? Your Matt Cardles, your James Arthurs etc...? Well, this is what they look like in Georgia.

**Artist**

Oto Nemsadze

**Song**

*Keep On Going*

**Language**

Georgian / Abkhaz

**Key**

B minor

**Key Change**

No

**Tempo**

120bpm

**Songwriters**

Two

**Sounds Like**

Chris Cornell in a *Lord Of The Rings* musical

**Looks Like**

The lead singer from *The Commitments*

**Reality TV**

Winner of *Geostar* (2010)

Runner up of *The Voice Of Ukraine* (2013)

Winner of *Georgian Idol* (2019)

**Other Notes**

This is the first time Abkhaz has appeared in Eurovision. It’s the 71st language to be heard in the competition so far – behind Japanese, Udmurt, Antillean Creole and Mühlviertlerisch.
Portugal

Fuck knows what we did to them in Lisbon last year, but Portugal clearly isn’t in a hurry to host the competition again...

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Artist: Conan Osiris  
Song: Telemóveis  
Language: Portuguese  
Key: E minor  
Key Change: No  
Tempo: 123bpm  
Songwriters: One  

Sounds Like: An interpretative dance show written to teach kids about the dangers of online radicalisation  
Looks Like: James Franco in Spring Breakers  
Weird Lyric: One line of the official translation reads: “Snitchery never gave birth to anyone”  
Other Notes: When he was doing promo for this, Conan sang a version of it on the Portuguese equivalent of Good Morning Britain where he and his guitarist started singing, on air, “The clitoris is the only part of a woman’s body that was designed to give pleasure.”
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