### **(1) Hip-Hop**

The beginning of my music journey was all hip-hop.

I started with Eminem - When I'm Gone and this evolved with my friend Sherman into a deep knowledge of the modern hip-hop scene of my high school years (2009 - 2012).

This section is not relevant to the narrative but here is a list reminiscing on hype artists of the time that since blew up or no longer make music.

* Big Sean - Supa Dupa
* **XV - She Go, I Go**
* The Dean's List - Dear Professor
* Aer - Wonderin' Why
* G-Eazy - Marilyn
* OCD Moosh & Twist - Hold It Down
* Dylan Owen - Book Report
* Tyler, the Creator - Yonkers

Wale, Mac Miller, Chiddy Bang, Huey Mack, Shad, Hoodie Allen, Timeflies, Logic, etc.

This was the prime time of music groups: Young Money, OFWGKTA, GOOD Music,

During this time, my primary genre was intensely **lyrical** rappers -- what might be known as conscious rappers.

You might be familiar with the following legendary songs or artists:

* Immortal Technique - Dance With The Devil
* **Knowmads - River Runs Deep**
* Atmosphere - Yesterday
* J Cole - Show Me Something
* Lupe Fiasco - Hurt Me Soul

### **(2) Seattle Hip-Hop**

This led to knowledge of the Seattle hip-hop scene: Macklemore, Knowmads, Grieves, etc.

At the forefront for me was **Blue Scholars** and **Common Market**.

* Blue Scholars - No Rest For The Weary
* Common Market - Tobacco Road

Blue Scholars is a group that consists of Geo and Sabzi.

Common Market is a group that consists of Scion and Sabzi.

Yup, **Sabzi** is the DJ who produces the instrumentals and is ½ of Blue Scholars and ½ of Common Market.

Blue Scholars and Common Market stopped making music. Blue Scholars - The Decisive Moment brought me hope for a revival but little did I know that Sabzi would arguably create something better on his next project.

### **(3) Made In Heights**

Sabzi went on to work with Kelsey and create Made In Heights. While we had other downtempo female singers with alternative beats

* Kitty Pryde - Okay Cupid
* Kilo Kish - Goldmine

I believe Made In Heights led the popularization of softer, pop, smooth, yet alternative acoustics / vocal edits

* Made In Heights - Skylark Interbang?!
* Made In Heights - Holla Mears

(2013-2014?)

I went to college and was on top of the music scene because of my involvement with my college radio station where I ran a DJ timeslot. I also had a friend named Dylan who was on top of culture via Tumblr and introduced me to many of these amazing artists, many of who are successful to this day and I'm still a fan of.

This was a prime time for my style of music and my music discovery -- slow, indie, electronic, smooth.

* Shura - Touch
* Wet - You're the Best
* **BANKS - Brain**
* Alina Baraz & Galantis - Drift
* Rhye - Open
* The 1975 - Robbers
* Glass Animals - Black Mambo
* **Honne - Warm On A Cold Night**
* Kitty - Marijuana
* FKA Twigs - Two Weeks
* Spooky Black - Without You

I remember eagerly awaiting Oh Wonder, who were releasing a song on the first of every month on Soundcloud. I remember on Facebook they posted how they were freaking out about how they went to a house party and they heard Body Gold come on the playlist. I remember asking for my friend's laptop at our New Year's Party to check out their newly released song. I remember the controversy when The Rain came out and how different it was from their other songs.

Many of these artists grew up to be huge. I think I have good taste. (Not to mention how lofi and hyperpop have now blossomed into mainstream!)

Made In Heightsreleases *Without My Enemy What Would I Do* (2015)

Murakami was their most popular song by far and yet my favorite was Pirouette for its soft style and the lyrics. I'm proud to see that it's now their most listened-to song.

### **(4) Current Fallout**

Unfortunately there is significant drama within Made In Heights between Kelsey and Sabzi. Specifically Sabzi has ended the Made In Heights project in 2016 and the feeling is not mutual for Kelsey.

Kelsey's solo projects have been unsuccessful and it's difficult to go from amazing success and adoration to relative obscurity. She has filed lawsuits against Sabzi in an attempt to remove and solely control all Made In Heights music and distribution. Best of luck to Sabzi for the legal fight and many thanks for putting the music available for free download online.

If you're looking for more Made In Heights there are many good music artists these days.

The artists listed above along with **Zoology**, Skullcrusher, Blankts, Mallrat, and Hope Tala are favorites of similar style but admittedly they are more chilled jazz r&b style instead of the more electronic based Oh Wonder and Made In Heights.

More electronic would be Flight Facilities, ODESZA, Sound Remedy, and other remix artists.

However, perhaps the only two close songs which I've found which bring back MIH memories are

* [Hundred Waters - Particle](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PEkng2Un5n8)
* [sakehands - LUCK](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S3TMXpjUw4k)

I highly recommend them.