# Sam Smith Marks 10th Anniversary of Debut Album at Historic NYC Gay Bar



On June 14, 2024, British singer Sam Smith celebrated the 10th anniversary of their debut album "In the Lonely Hour" with a private party at Julius’, the oldest gay bar in New York City, located in Manhattan's West Village. Known for its historical significance pertaining to the LGBTQ+ rights movement—highlighted by the 1966 Sip-In—Julius’ served as the poignant backdrop for the event amidst ongoing Pride celebrations.

Smith, adorned in eye-catching Vivienne Westwood platform boots and a tartan kilt, mingled with fans and friends at the venue, creating a vibrant atmosphere with themed cocktails and a performance by DJ Lady Bunny. A notable highlight of the night was the presence of Alicia Keys, who joined Smith for a midnight duet of "I'm Not the Only One," which captivated the audience that included figures like designers Prabal Gurung and Christian Cowan.

The tavern's historical relevance was underscored throughout the evening, with references to its role in the landmark Sip-In event by the Mattachine Society, an early gay rights group. Helen Buford, the owner of Julius’, emphasized the importance of such celebrations in preserving the legacy of historic gay bars in New York City.