INTRODUCTION TO PUBLISHING

ASSSESSMENTS

1: FILM POSTER (For Digital Media production module) Due 11 May

2: DIGITAL PUBLICATION. 5 PAGES (Relating to video produced in Digital media module) Due may11th

3: REFLECTIVE JOURNAL START ONE! Critical review. 800 words…

5 Pages:

1: Title page/Cover

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REFLECTIVE JOURNAL - CAMF4007: Introduction to publishing

For this module I chose to produce a publication focussed on the career of my friend and associate Nik Turner. Nik's long and colourful career and enduring cult status as a saxophonist, flautist, songwriter and showman is rich and multi-dimensional, yet it has never been summarised in one place, despite several books and biographies in print. Although well known to his faithful followers in UK, Ireland, Europe, Japan, America and Italy, etc., he remains virtually unknown to a broader audience. In this sense he is a true underground artist, having avoided the mainstream music industry since leaving *Hawkwind, (*in 1975) the band that achieved fame and commercial success in that era, including a Number 1 Hit with the single *Silver Machine.* Nik has however continued to perform and record through many and various incarnations and is much loved by his followers. Now aged 78, yet still very active, I feel it is high time to expose his story to a wider public and I had already discussed the idea of producing some publicity material towards this end. In reflection this was an overly ambitious idea, given time restraints and deadlines, since I am beginning as a novice in the field of digital publication. Indeed I have found myself unable as yet to give the project sufficient focus to completely achieve a standard ready for publication. This will remain an ongoing personal project for me. I have yet to achieve a level of mastery with InDesign and other digital media, where the creative process is not impeded by ineptness. I am, by nature, diligent and slow and I struggle to apply myself to more than one thing at a time. I am also, as a long practicing visual artist, reluctant to offer work for critical assessment until I am sufficiently satisfied with my efforts. In this instance and in that respect I have failed to do that within the deadline. Instead I am submitting an unfinished work. I understand and respect that this module is mainly concerned with professional presentation, mastery of required skills and technical efficiency, I have though, as appears to be a habit of mine, become preoccupied with content and purpose somewhat beyond the brief.

I have however undertaken a good deal of research and have gathered material for inclusion in the publication; Historical photographs from an almost 50 year long career; Album artwork from approximately 50 releases; Links to prolific videos already on You Tube , etc. An, as yet, incomplete biography and discography and references to existing publications. Nik has worked and collaborated with some legendary artists including Barney Bubbles who designed some of the most iconic album covers and poster art of the 80s and 90s. A hard act to follow; I have chosen instead to present his art work in its own light and the style of my publication will be somewhat reminiscent of and influenced by the style of that era. Yet I also wish to make a publication that is not 'dated' or overly focussed in the past, since Nik is still very active and his current projects are as potentially exciting and diverse as they ever were. I include links to videos that I have made myself including an extensive interview and an ambitious music video featuring one of Nik's songs, both of which I have made short excerpts from for the Digital Film assessments. The longer versions of which still require further editing and re-shooting in some instances.

I have encountered several problems which continue to demand attention, mostly of a software and

computing nature, compounded by my own ineptness and, to a large extent, a need to thoroughly upgrade my systems and I have taken steps towards that. It has also been difficult for me to spend as much time in college outside of seminars, and thus have access to the Mac suite which would have made this process easier, due to on-going commitments at home. Hopefully I will get organised and upgraded enough to be more efficient over the break, ready for the second year.

This module and the course generally has made me critically aware of where I need to refine my approach to these new (to me) mediums. My previous experience with Photoshop and Logic Pro allows me to feel confident enough that I will, in time, become fully conversant with the new generation of Adobe platforms and other applications as well as photography and filming, given sufficient time and practice with these processes.