



Project Evaluation

My project started with this found image. I considered the theme of lost objects – I don't know where the objects in this image might be now (landfill? Charity shop?), and I don't know who these two people were that owned them. To explore this theme, I began taking photographs in car boot sales and charity shops. There was a significance to these objects as they exist in a state of limbo, having been discarded and are awaiting repossession or to be thrown away again.

Some photographers I took influence from include Keith Arnatt, whose *Pictures from a Rubbish Tip* transform the ugly scenes of a landfill into something akin to Renaissance landscape paintings. Motoyuki Daifu's *Project Family* documents his cluttered family home, often finding amusing juxtapositions amongst the mess of belongings and rubbish. Zoe Leonard creates typologies of different objects in her *Analogues* series. Although each of these photographers produce very different work in an aesthetic sense, they all use objects to reflect on the people that own and discard them.

As I had difficulties shooting at car boot sales and charity shops, I began collecting items and shooting them at home. At this point I also switched to using film – the purpose of this being to create a lengthy darkroom process using bleaches to slightly deteriorate the prints. This effect reflects how many of the objects in the photographs have faded out of popular use and memory.

The act of darkroom processing also links back to the found image as it can be considered a kind of lost ritual. In the found image the people are having afternoon tea. Nowadays people don't own tea sets because the act of "having tea" is not carried out as it was – people make a cup and go back to what they were doing. There are many examples of lost rituals which can be symbolised by the objects which are involved. For instance- I have

used lots of CDs and DVDs – certainly, lesser used objects today, although they also reflect the act of listening to an album and collecting albums and films. I think darkroom photography very much ties in with this.

In my portfolio I decided to include both digital and analogue outcomes. I felt this was important as I used both mediums simultaneously, and although I chose to exhibit the black and white analogue images, I still consider the digital colour images as final outcomes. I presented the photographs against washed out crops from images which didn't make the final selection. Without completely overpowering the final outcomes I wanted the backdrop to add to the cluttered and messy aesthetic.

For the multimedia piece I included images from throughout the project. They are continually blending from one to the other – this fading look links back to the idea of lost objects. I chose to use Lou Reed's *Metal Machine Music* for the audio as its industrial sounds remind me of what you might hear at a landfill or reclamation yard. The sounds of metal scraping together and being destroyed reflects on material waste and ties into the themes of my project well.

Link to Multi Media Outcome: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5XkdOhasH4>