Contemporary Documentary Practice (ADAA4009)

BA Documentary Photography and Visual Activism

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The Poetic Image

Evaluation

Regarding this collection, as it is my first set of photos submitted - I feel as if I thought too much about the material provided alongside the brief and it clouded the work and made it very context based.

Whilst analysing T.S Elliot's work I was indulging in many of his themes in 'Wasteland' at once and trying to produce work that had similar connotations to the themes and different references in the material.

the representation of the female form in this collection was intended to represent a wide range of ideas and concepts to really make the audience think about the sequence of images and what they represent. While the female form can be problematic when used to objectify and sexualize women, it can also be a powerful tool for exploring themes related to beauty, gender, and identity and for challenging societal norms and stereotypes.

in this collection, fruit can be used to represent a wide range of ideas and concepts, including abundance, fertility, temptation, sin, the fleeting nature of beauty and the passage of time, and contemporary issues related to consumption, waste, and environmental issues. It can be used to evoke emotions and convey powerful messages and meaning. This is the intention throughout the collection; that the messages behind the images are completely up to the individual viewing the work.

Depending on the individual viewing the work and their different lived experiences there are many different interpretations to this collection.

The Mischievous Image

Evaluation

This collection is called 'Desire Lines'

The term "desire lines" typically refers to the paths that people naturally create by walking in a given area, rather than following the established paths or roads that have been planned and built by authorities. While desire lines can be seen as a sign of people's creativity and self-determination, they can also be seen as "mischievous" in certain situations.

One way in which desire lines can be considered "mischievous" is when they are created on private property without the owner's permission. This can cause damage to lawns, gardens, and other landscaping, and can also create liability issues for the property owner.

Another way in which desire lines can be considered "mischievous" is when they are created on public property, such as parks and green spaces, and they cause damage to the natural environment. For example, if desire lines are created in sensitive ecosystems, such as wetlands, they can disrupt the natural flow of water and harm plant and animal life.

Additionally, when desire lines are created in urban areas they can disrupt the traffic flow, and by doing so, they can also cause traffic accidents, specially in areas with high traffic volume and also it can be a source of conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles.

Finally, desire lines can also be considered "mischievous" in situations where they create a sense of anarchy or disregard for authority. This can be the case if people create desire lines in areas where they are not allowed, such as sensitive archaeological sites or historic landmarks, or in areas where they can be dangerous, such as near cliffs or bodies of water.

In summary, while desire lines can be seen as a sign of people's creativity and self-determination, in certain situations they can also be considered "mischievous" if they cause damage to private or public property, disrupt traffic, or put people in danger. Additionally they can also be seen as disruptive to the aesthetic and functionality of spaces if they are not managed properly.

The Cinematic Image

Evaluation

I named this collection 'Women don't owe you pretty', in reference to the empowering best-seller by Florence Given.

The phrase "women don't owe you pretty" is often used as a feminist slogan, and it is meant to challenge the idea that women are primarily responsible for presenting themselves in an attractive way for the benefit of men. The phrase is asserting that women are not obliged to look a certain way, style their hair or wear makeup, in order to please or be attractive for men.

The idea behind this phrase is that women should be free to present themselves however they choose, without feeling pressure to conform to a narrow standard of beauty. It also highlights the idea that people should not be judged based on their appearance and should not be objectified.

It is also pointing out that the expectation that women should always look pretty, polished and presentable, is often a result of societal pressure and that it can contribute to body shaming and perpetuates the idea that women's worth is based on their physical appearance.

This phrase is a reminder that the way a woman looks, and the way she chooses to present herself, is not something that should be used to evaluate her worth as a person, and that she should be free to express herself in any way she chooses without feeling pressured to conform to societal standards.

It also emphasizes the idea that women's worth is not determined by their physical appearance, and that they should not be judged based on how they look, but rather on their intelligence, talent, and character.
The codes and conventions behind this collection are referencing vulnerability and the effects beauty standards have on young women in the 21st century.