

Professional Development Portfolio

James Henry John Owen

JAMES OWEN

FILMMAKER & PHOTOGRAPHER



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Experience

Divine Creations

August 2019 - Present

I own a video production business that's developing to work with commercial clients. I've produced a few promotional videos for businesses in the local area and I hope to keep up working with businesses in the community. The brands I've worked with locally are Scarlets, Carmarthenshire County Council, Evolution Kickboxing Academy & most recently Ticketsolve. I love making films & I like to incorporate that into my commercial work through testimonials etc.

Avanti Media

November, December 2018

I completed a week of work experience for a welsh production company, Avanti Media. They produce broadcast tv programs for S4C. I had the chance to experience a few areas within a live studio recording. I had my own tv credit for operating the camera, as well as photographing production stills. The company liked my photos so much, that they're now used to promote their tv series "Jonathan"

Short Films

September 2016 - Present

I've worked on a number of short films. From collaborating with local filmmakers to producing my own short films. Broadside Films are a small local production company that hires a crew to work on their ongoing projects. I've also made a few short films myself through college as well as with my church. The more I keep making, there more excited I get about making the next. I was blessed to have one of my shorts screened at an event during the Celtic Media Festival. Also, I won an IntoFilm competition for my short film Runaway for "Film of the Month".

Education

Ysgol Gyfun Y Strade

September 2018- July 2021

Currently studying BA Filmmaking at UWTSO, Carmarthen. The course offers the balance of building my filmmaking techniques as well as improving my entrepreneurial skills, allowing me the freedom to work confidently as an independent freelancer in today's industry.

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September 2016 - June 2018

Studied an Extended BTEC Diploma in Creative Digital Media Production. Improved my abilities in editing, shooting, pre-production planning, post audio & writing.

UWTSO - Carmarthen

September 2007 - July 2013

Attained 11 GCSE's those including Maths, Science, Welsh (first language) and English. Also achieved a bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh award.

Personal Profile

I'm a hard working creative who specialises in photography & video production. I'm a fluent Welsh speaker who's developed & honed my craft through years of self taught freelance work. Over the last few years of working part time, I've finally established my business as a private limited company. My goal is to expand my business and to continue learning more about video production.

As well as a passion for media, I've learnt all my skills from volunteering at church. I'm a teachable person who's constantly reflecting on my work. I've proven that my skill as a filmmaker has helped the community. From producing multiple shortfilms, my work has contributed to thousands of pounds through fundraising campaigns.

Skills

- Photography
- Video Production
- Sound Recording
- Sound Design
- Video Editing
- Mixing
- Graphic Design

Software

- Final Cut Pro X
- Logic Pro X
- Premiere Pro
- After Effects
- Lightroom
- Photoshop
- InDesign

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Mike Harris
Director
Canolfan S4C Yr Egin
College Road
Carmarthenshire
SA31 3EG

17th October 2019

Dear Mike,

I'm writing to you to apply for an unpaid placement opportunity as part of my BA Filmmaking degree. I first heard about Optimwm through James Harries, a freelancer you frequently work with. Please find my CV attached for consideration.

I'm a hardworking individual who is self-taught in photography & video production. I'm currently in my second year at UWTSD, Carmarthen studying BA Filmmaking. I've spent the last few years teaching myself photography at church. This skill slowly developed and then learnt about video & sound. With all of my skills collectively, I've successfully produced commercial films for local businesses as well as making short films.

I love the work you've been doing with James Harries, especially the Egin Promotional content. I can see on your website you offer a lot more than just promotional video work. I'd be interested in working on commercial filming opportunities. Primarily to learn planning, pre-production as well as sales & marketing. I use my own initiative when it comes to media so I can help you with any day to day tasks like filming, editing or assisting.

I'd very much like to work with you and I'm looking forward to partnering with your business. I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

James Owen



Learning Outcomes

For my work placement, I've made an agreement with Mike Harries from Optimwm Productions. He's more than happy to have me get work experience from his business. I approached him at his office in Yr Egin as well as called him.

He was interested in my previous experience and already has jobs in mind I can help him with from sound to editing etc. unfortunately for the proposed placement dates, Mike couldn't commit to half term. But, with Brett's permission I can liaise with Mike and work around mine and his schedule to get the full benefit of a 40 hour work placement.

Employability

I believe Optimwm is the perfect company to do my work placement. With previous experience in video production, I already have an idea of what I can bring to his team. I can edit, record & mix audio, film & assist with cameras.

I've done previous work experience with both Tinopolis & Avanti Media, which are both Welsh production companies for broadcast. I've learned some of the skills & qualities required within a fast-paced TV environment and I'm looking forward to adding Commercial Video Production to my toolkit.

Having already established my business, I'm looking at learning the business side of Mike's company. How I can apply marketing & sales to not only grow my business, but to meet the expectation of my future clients. I believe I've got some of those business skills to successfully run a business, I just need to improve on my filming skills to back it up.

I hope to learn further production skills whilst on placement and see how Optimwm work out in the field. From pre-production planning to the final edit that's delivered. It's a great opportunity to see how other creatives work and to apply some of their best practices to my own working methods. Things like getting to know the client, project management, use of deadlines & the filming side of things. Do Optimwm use any video kit or cameras I haven't use before? That's always worth learning about.

I'll be reflecting after placement to see how much I've gained from the work experience. I can look at what skills I've used well and maybe highlight a key strength within the day to jobs I'll be doing for Mike. Maybe I'll discover a hidden passion for editing commercial video, or maybe I'll be excellent in recording sound. I won't find out until my placement dates. As well as reflecting on the opportunity, I'm hoping to assess my weaknesses and to further develop those skills to improve my filmmaking toolkit.

Web Presence

Website: <https://divine.cymru>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jhjowen/>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/divine.cymru>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/divine_cymru

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/jhjowen>