

## Evaluation

Multimedia Link: <https://youtu.be/FRDOICTLz-g?si=sDyJFVrZUodlbe0w>

My project 'Vestiges' has been a tremendous success in allowing me to delve into the themes of memory, grief, and absence, to create an impactful portfolio and multimedia piece that capture a personal and imitate practice. Through this body of work, I have explored the emotional weight objects can carry and investigated the significant physical traces can hold, this strengthened the narrative of my project, creating a more meaningful piece. Creating the portfolio was the starting point of this project, as I wanted to establish a solid foundation with a final photographic series before moving on to the video work.

I found that the process of creating my portfolio helped me to think more intentionally how images can highlight a narrative and display certain themes. For this series of images, I wanted to explore the emotional connection between grief and the objects left behind, so arranging the images in a meaningful order was especially important. My aim was to guide the viewers through a quiet space of reflection allowing them to explore the narrative on the themes of loss, memory, and emotional presence. Furthermore, another aspect of this project that benefited my overall process of work was research. Collecting a range of information was important for the success of this project. I was able to shape the direction of my portfolio work the more I delved into the information around memory, mourning rituals, and material culture. The more knowledge I had on this subject, the more photoshoots idea I was able to create, allowing me the freedom to explore this project and the meaningful foundations around it. For future projects, I plan to research those chosen project thoroughly from the start to help generate stronger concepts and impactful photoshoots. One of the main parts of feedback I received during tutorials was about the repetition of certain objects within the images. It was suggested that some photographs felt too similar to one another. So, I was advised to add more variety within my project and the objects I use. While I did not have time for a full reshoot, I was able to find additional images from the same photoshoot that offered a wider range in terms of the objects and angles. These new images helped diversify the series of images for. Therefore, improving the overall flow of the portfolio and making my work more engaging to viewers.

In the future, I would develop this project by creating a shrine around the famous yew tree in Wales. This is a place that has very deep historical and emotional significance, with connections to religion and culture. Creating a shrine around the yew tree would add a deeper layer to my work, whereby it explores aspects of death and immortality that is linked within objects.

In terms of the multimedia piece, I chose to interview two subjects with a range of photo-like still clips of their selected objects. This allowed me to bring a deeper emotional aspect to the themes of memory, grief, and presence. The process of the video shoot was a smooth success because of the large amount of planning constructed beforehand. By only interviewing two people rather than three or four I was able to create a more intimate and personal connection to the themes while also highlighting a variety of narratives. I found that allowing the subjects to speak freely created a more authentic emotional response. By asking questions towards the

end, I ensured that I covered all necessary aspects of their narrative. One challenge I faced when editing the video clips was condensing the interviews into a 4-minute video, as I wanted to maintain the narratives emotional depth without making the video too long. Furthermore, I found using Premiere Pro took some time to learn, although once I had become more familiar with the way in which it operates, I found it to be a quite simple and effective for editing the outcome.

Overall, this project has been a valuable learning experience. Through both the portfolio and multimedia piece, I was able to explore the complex relationship between memory, grief, and objects. Conducting the portfolio work before the multimedia allowed me to explore initial ideas visually before delving deeper into the specifics with the multimedia piece. This process allowed me to maintain a sense of clarity and confidence every step of the way.