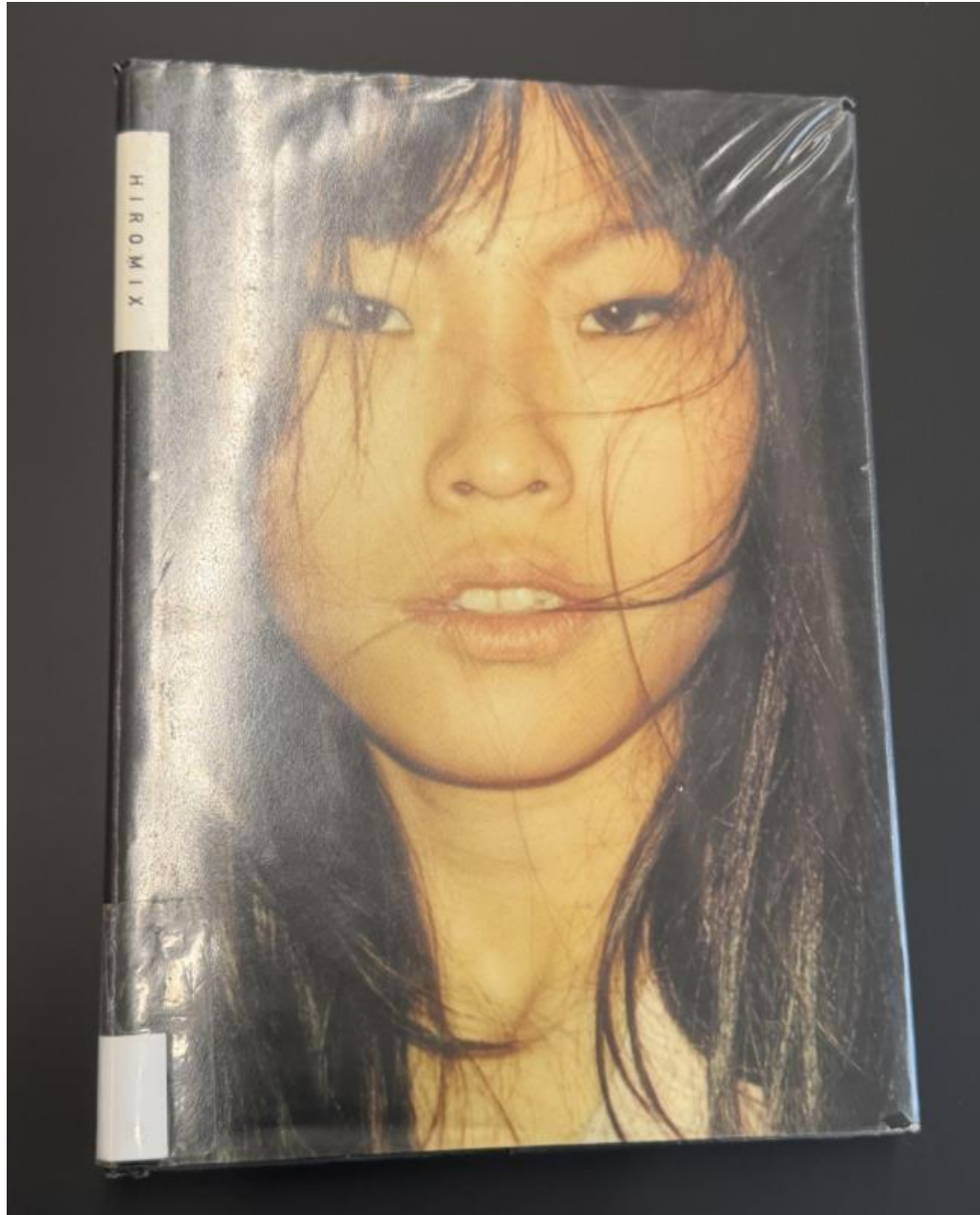


Visual diary 2
Seren Davies



Hiromix shows a change in photography where the images felt more personal and like a diary instead of trying to objectively document reality.

The photobook feels like we are experiencing the life of the photographer than just looking at some images.

The work breaks away from the usual rules of photography.

The images feel quick, casual and personal with some images in the book often looking unplanned or imperfect.

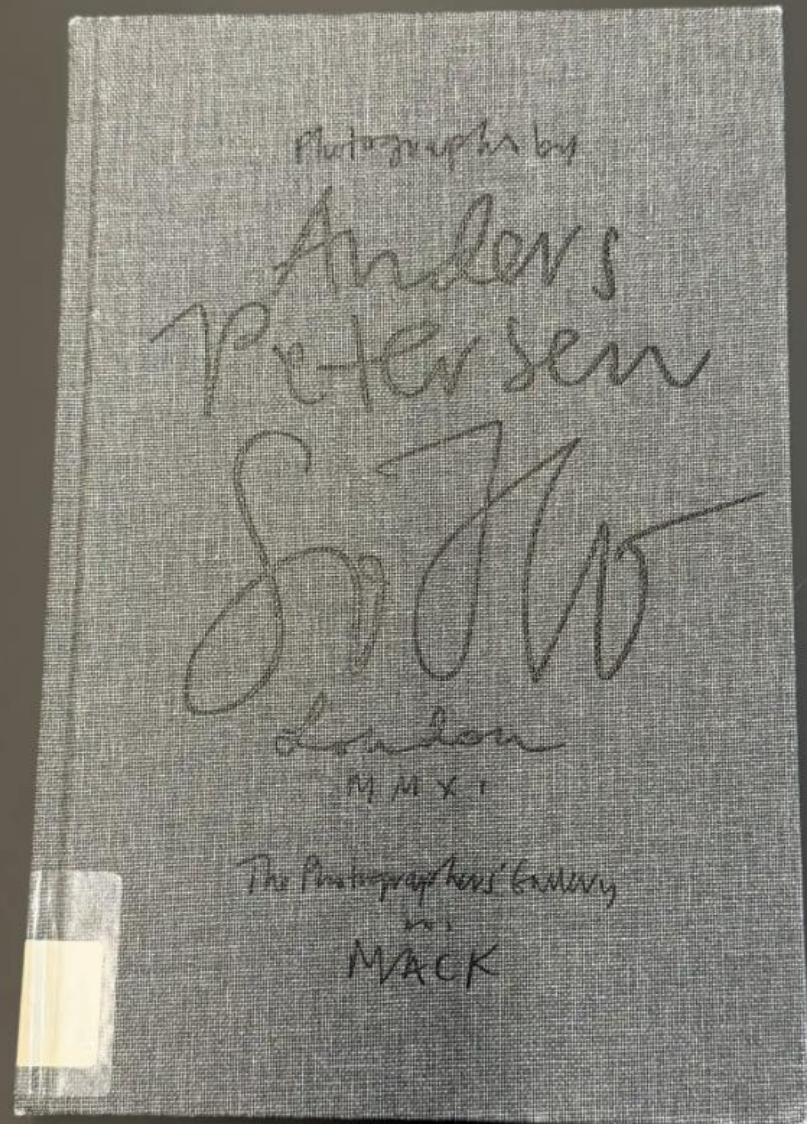
The cover of the book is a close-up portrait of the photographer which gives the book a personal feel to it before even opening the book.

In the photobook the order of the images Instead of telling a clear story, the photos build up in a way, showing small moments from the photographer's everyday life.

The format throughout the photobook helps keep this feeling across all the pages.







SoHo by Anders Petersen makes use of the photobook to capture people and their environment. While his work comes from documentary photography, it is also personal and immersive.

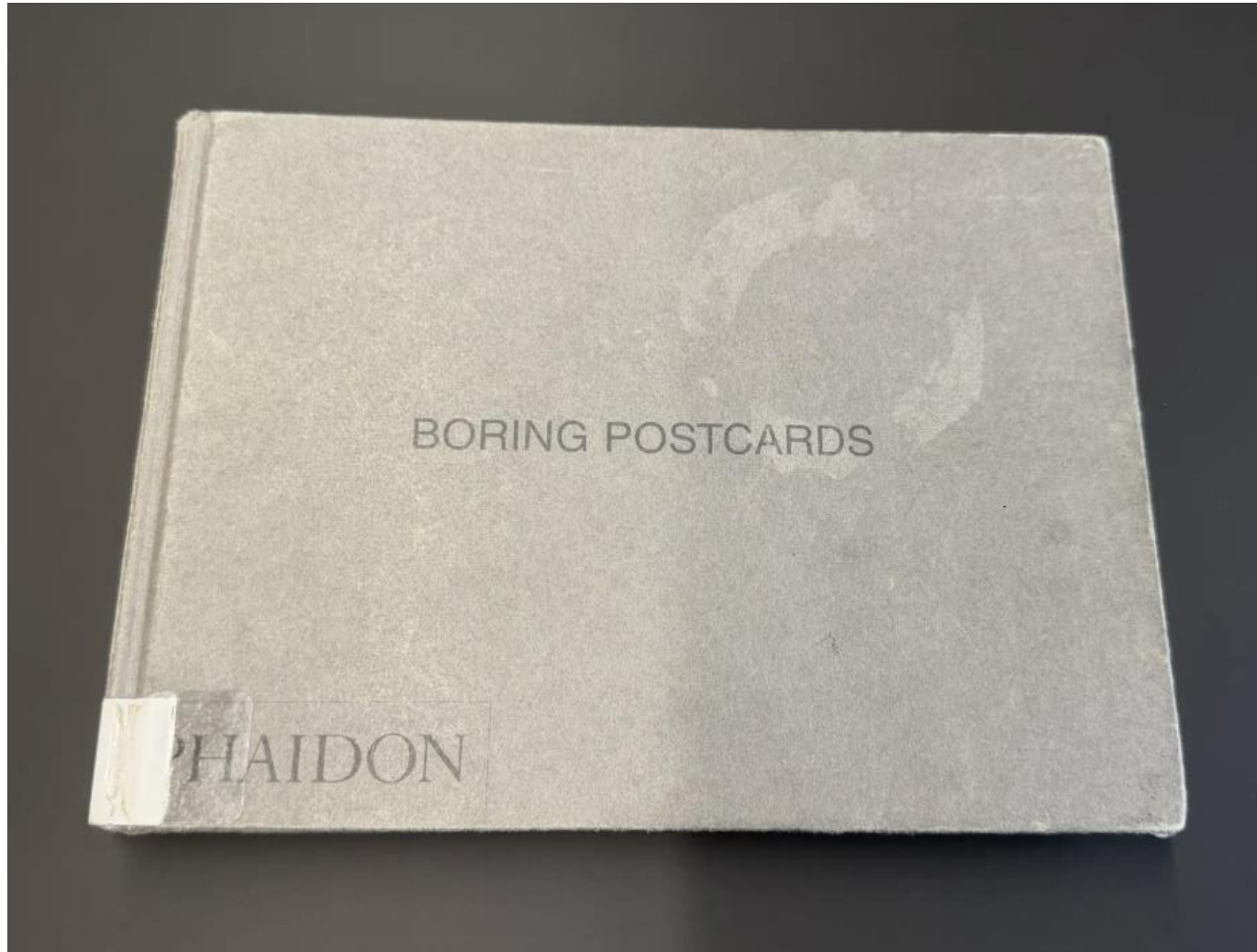
The order of the images in SoHo is strong and carefully planned. The use of high contrast black and white photos creates a powerful mood and emotional depth. Unlike Hiromix, which feels more personal.

The images are also different sizes with some covering the whole page and others being smaller while in Hiromix the images are covering the pages throughout the book.

In Petersen's book, the sequence contributes to creating an environment that is coherent yet highly intense. The repetition of recurring elements such as people, rooms, and their actions contributes to evoking a feeling of entrapment, while maintaining coherence.

This shows how the photobook can pull the viewer in, making them feel part of the world rather than just looking at it.





Boring Postcards presents an entirely unique method by utilizing already existing images rather than taking new ones.

The book is about postcards that show ordinary, everyday scenes.

It also questions what makes an image important, who the creator really is, and what makes something interesting to look at.

The title also affects how we see and understand the images in the book.

The cover of the book is designed in a very simple way on purpose to match the plain and quiet feel of the images. This simplicity makes the idea behind the work more important than making the book look fancy.



New Shopping Centre, Exeter City Centre



Carlton Court, Weymouth



New Holiday Camp, Exeter City Centre, Devon



Perris Holiday Village, Camber Sands

Across these three examples, the photobooks are shown as a flexible and powerful way to present work. Each one uses a different approach whether it being personal storytelling, carefully ordered images, or idea based editing to share their message.

But what the photobook do have in common is that the meaning is created by how the images are put together

These examples show that a photobook is not just a book of images, but it shapes how we interpret the images inside it. Whether it's the personal feel of *Hiromix*, the intense atmosphere of *SoHo*, or the idea based approach of *Boring Postcards*, each photobook uses its structure to add more meaning to the images.

For this project, the theme I want to focus on is the marks left behind and how they change over time such as graffiti, old torn posters, buildings or objects.

The goal of this project is to make viewers slow down and pay attention. By highlighting the small, overlooked details. The impact I hope to be able to achieve is to give attention to the little details of everyday places that people often miss and pass by.

I want my work to be able to allow the viewers to be slower and more thoughtful of how time, movement and the human actions that shape the spaces around them. I want to be able to show how marks left behind tells a story of use, neglect and change. I want to show how places can make people reflect on how these marks at places hold memories and how they also change over time.

Presenting my work in a book format is important because it helps me to be able to make the work to be experienced in a more slow and personal way. The book encourages to make the viewer to look more closely and spend time with each of the images. Also, the order of images can show change, repetition, and subtle differences.

My work will stand out because it focuses on the small and easy to miss things instead of things that are important or dramatic. Instead of photographing people I am photographing things that are left behind and signs that show people have been around which give a sense of absence but also the things that slowly change over time which can sometimes make those marks disappear which give the feeling of the presence of the person slowly fading

A photographer who currently inspires my work is Michael Wesely.

The image shows changes in the city as it shows the use of long exposure, which is a recurring thing for the work by Wesely that makes the image interesting to me as it displays many different moments in time, rather than the traditional singular shot such as in the image the buildings, cranes, railway, and the lights display the changes in the city over time.

The images shows the different stages of the construction of the building over time. This image looks to be layered and transparent which makes the building appear to be faint and look a bit ghostly. The lines of light in the image could symbolise the passing of time throughout the days or years.

This work inspires me because it is something quite different from what I would usually expect from photographs of buildings as most photographs of buildings tend to reflect buildings as a completed work however, Wesely's image reflects buildings as always in a state of change.

The main theme of this work is time not only does it show the building but the time passing. Which makes the viewer see how things change slowly over time in ways we don't usually notice. What I also like about this work is that instead of capturing one moment in time it captures many different moments in one image.

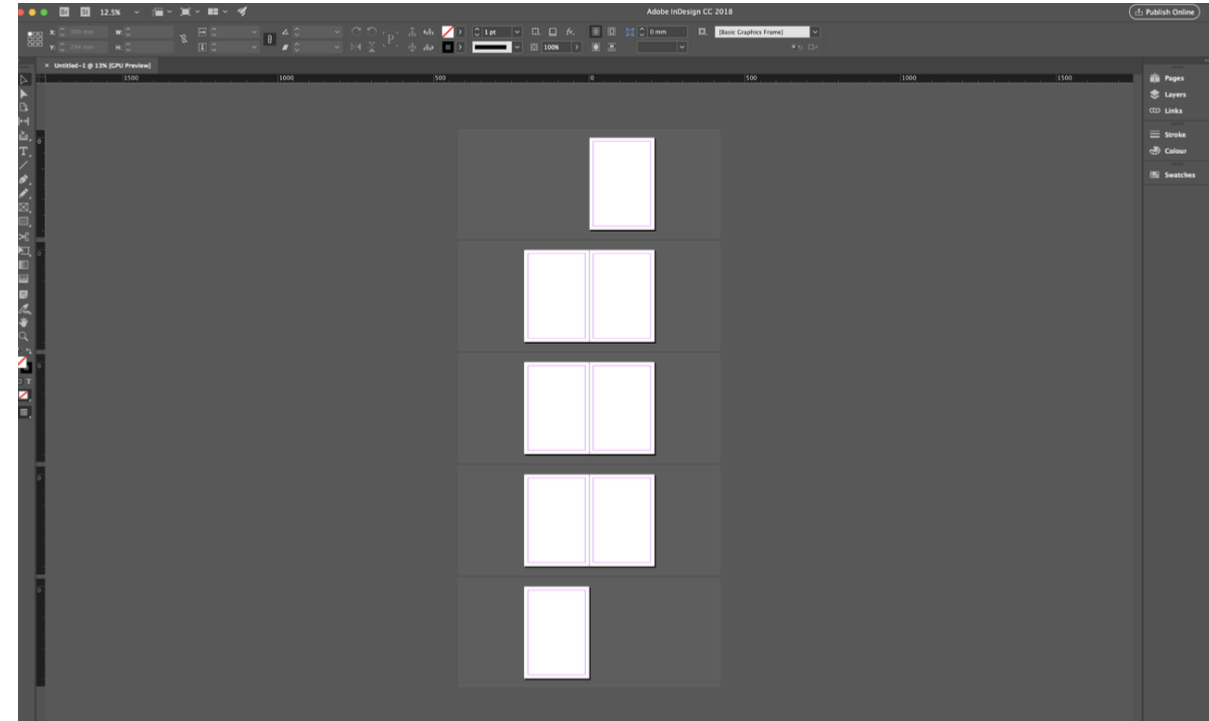
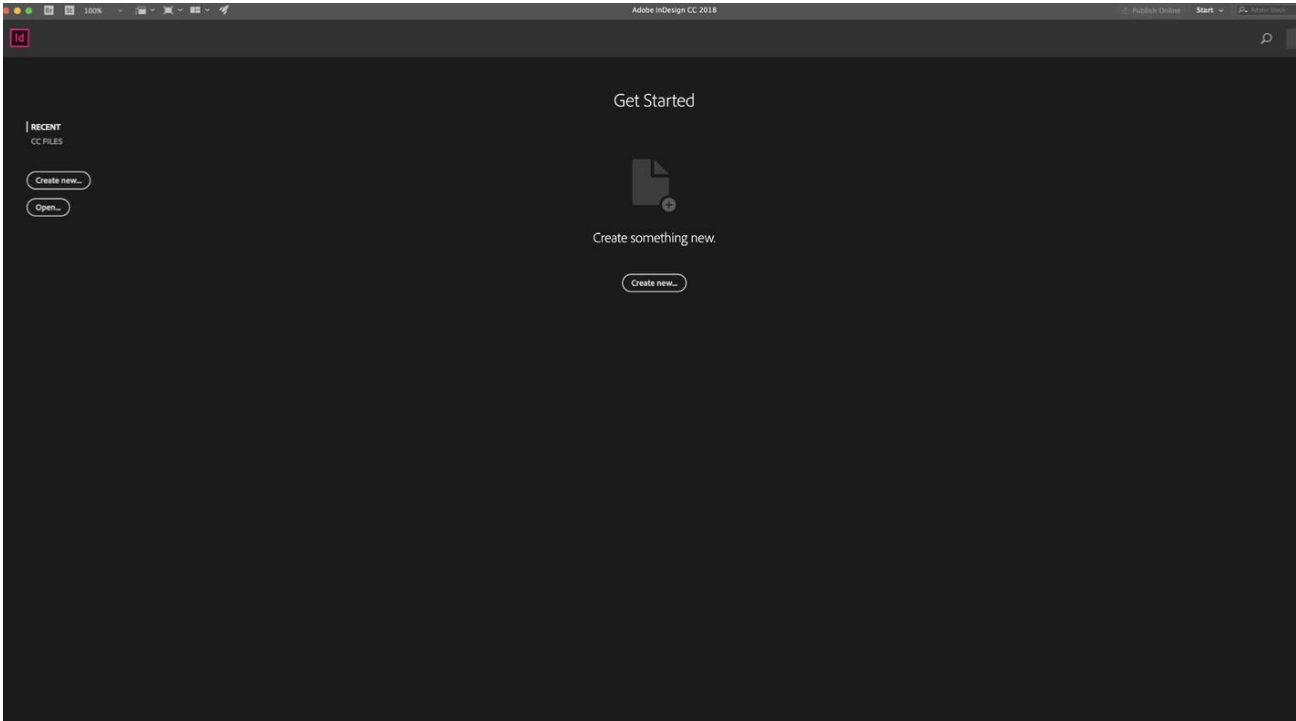


A photobook that has influenced my work is *Open Shutter* by Michael Wesely. This photobook fits in well with my theme of marks left behind by also using the long exposure technique which goes on for days or even years rather than a single moment being frozen in place, these photographs show the change over time and the marks that time have left on the image.

This book also plays an important role within my theme about things changing over time and the marks left behind. About the visuals in the book the one thing which I could notice about the book was its ghost like appearance with the things in the image such as the buildings, cranes, people, and the light overlapping. The social context of *Open Shutter* is connected to the growth and change of the city changing over time.



Book dummy 1



I opened InDesign and I then selected new file and new document then I selected the size A4 and for orientation I chose portrait then I decided to have 8 pages, and I ticked off 'facing pages' then I selected create.

Once I had selected the images, I then dragged images onto the pages and some images I placed on their own and with other I put together but with one image I cropped it, then I cropped the image again in another area of the image and placed the different cropped parts of the images onto the page.

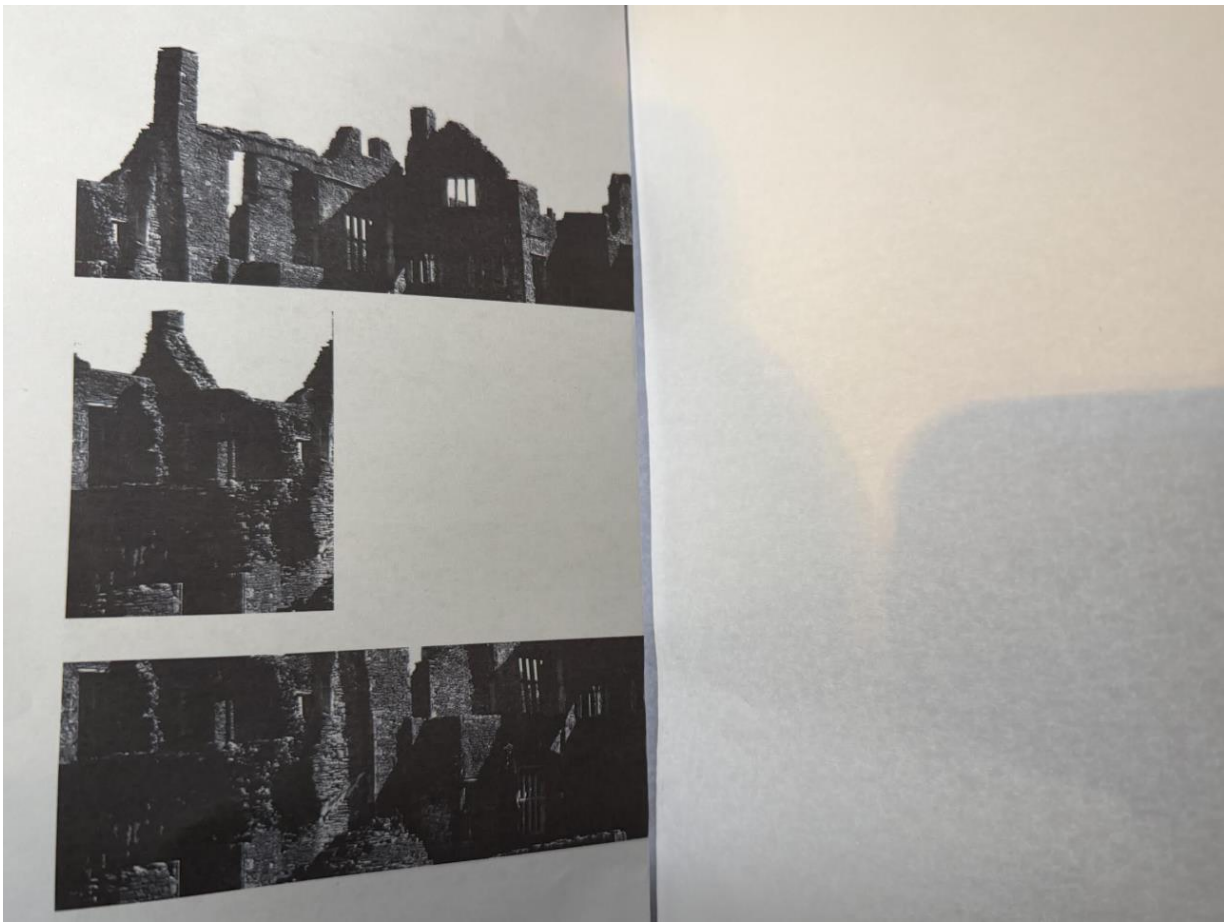
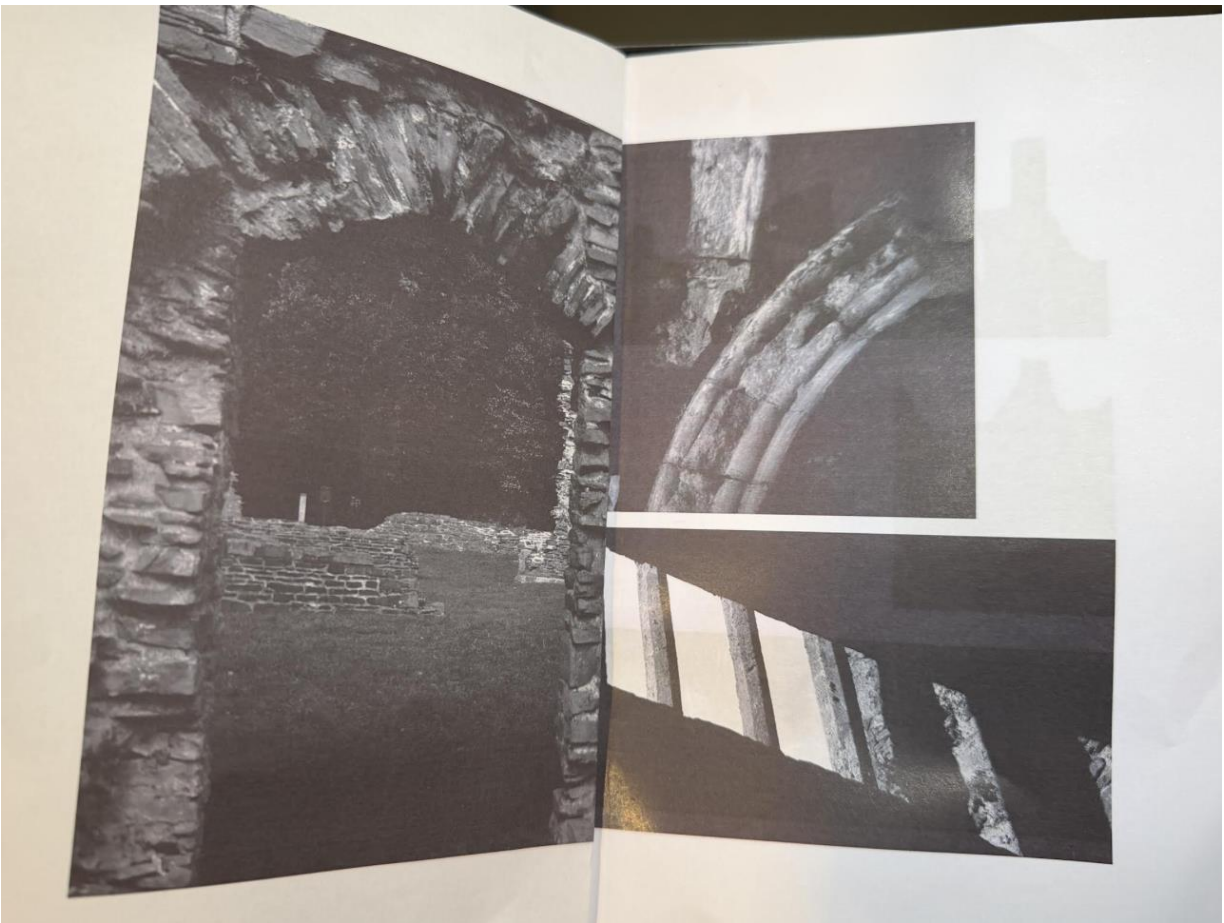
After I had created the book dummy, I then printed the pages out and folded them together to create the book dummy.

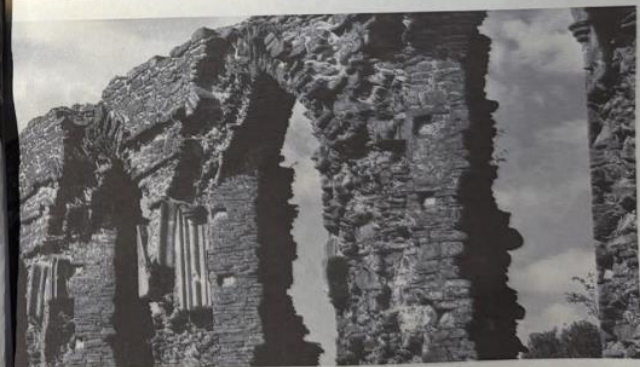
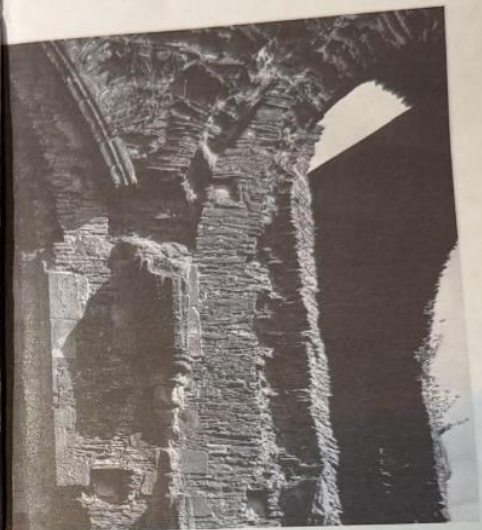
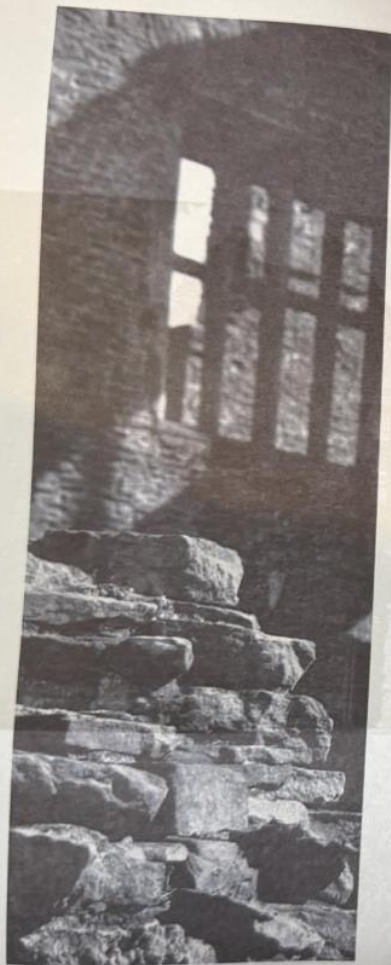
Book dummy 1

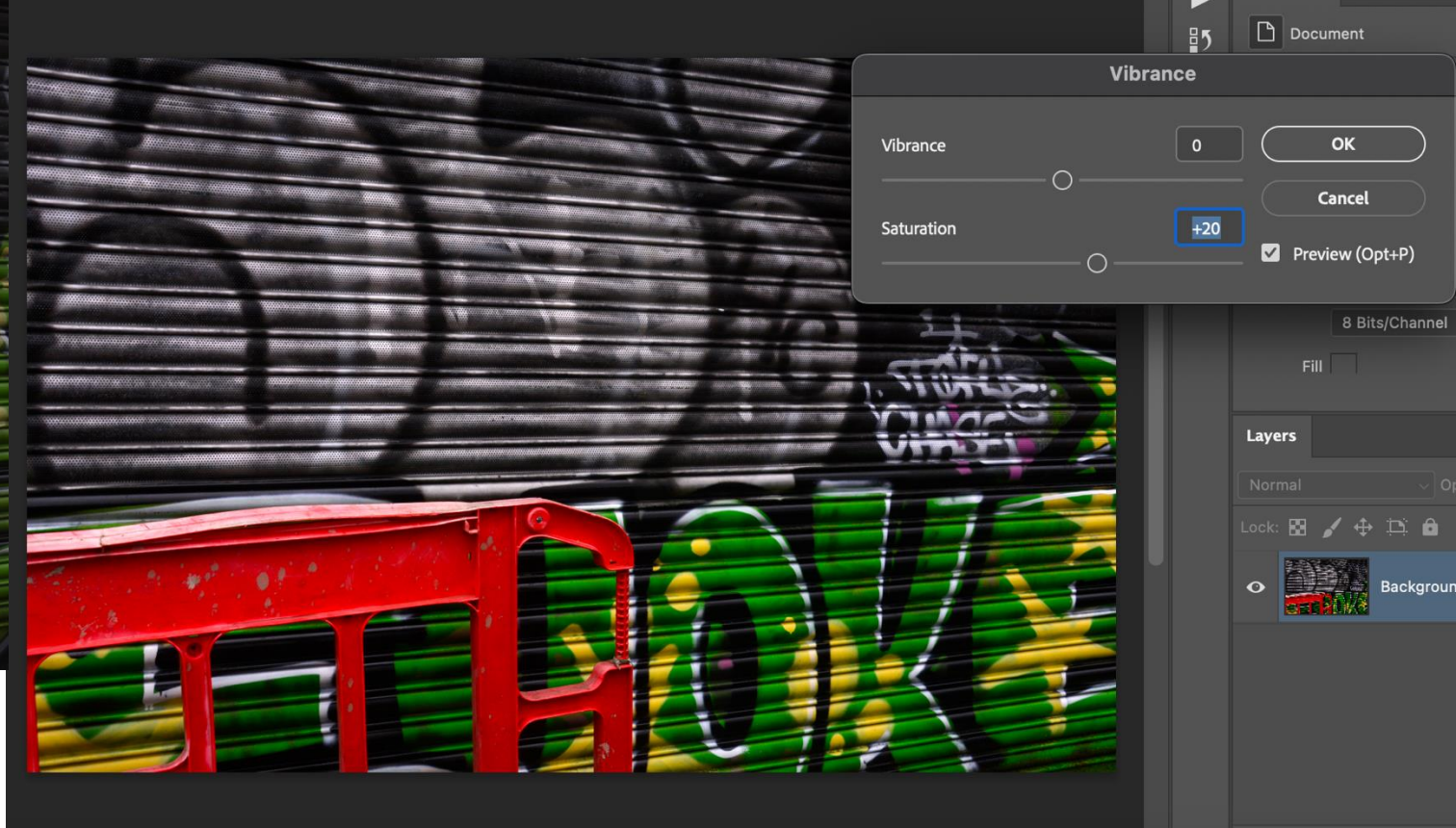


For my first dummy I wanted to learn how to use InDesign and learn how to create a photobook.

So, I used some images to create the photobook, and I played about with the layout just to understand how to use InDesign. I then printed off the book and I just put it together using staplers.

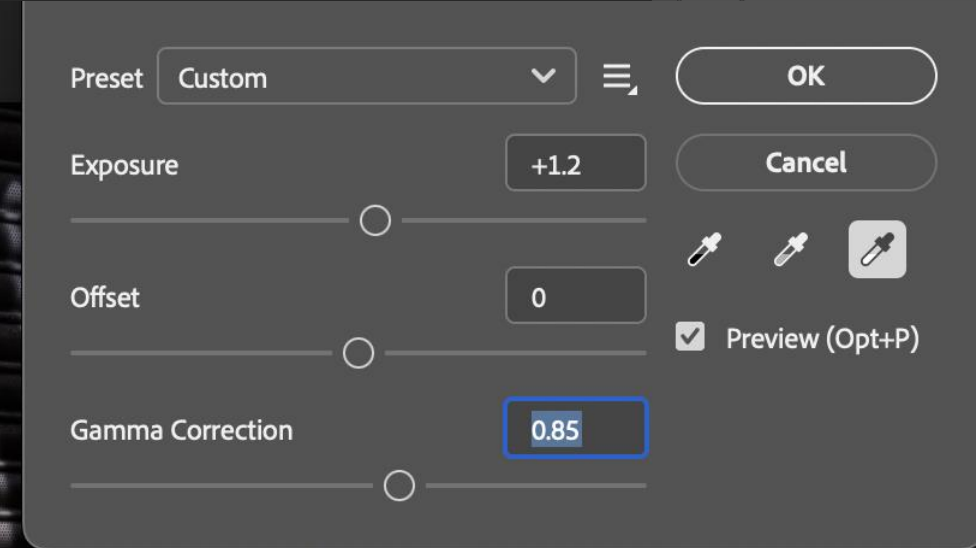






With all my selected images from the first shoot I took them onto photoshop to edit them slightly. I decided to bring the colour out in the graffiti.

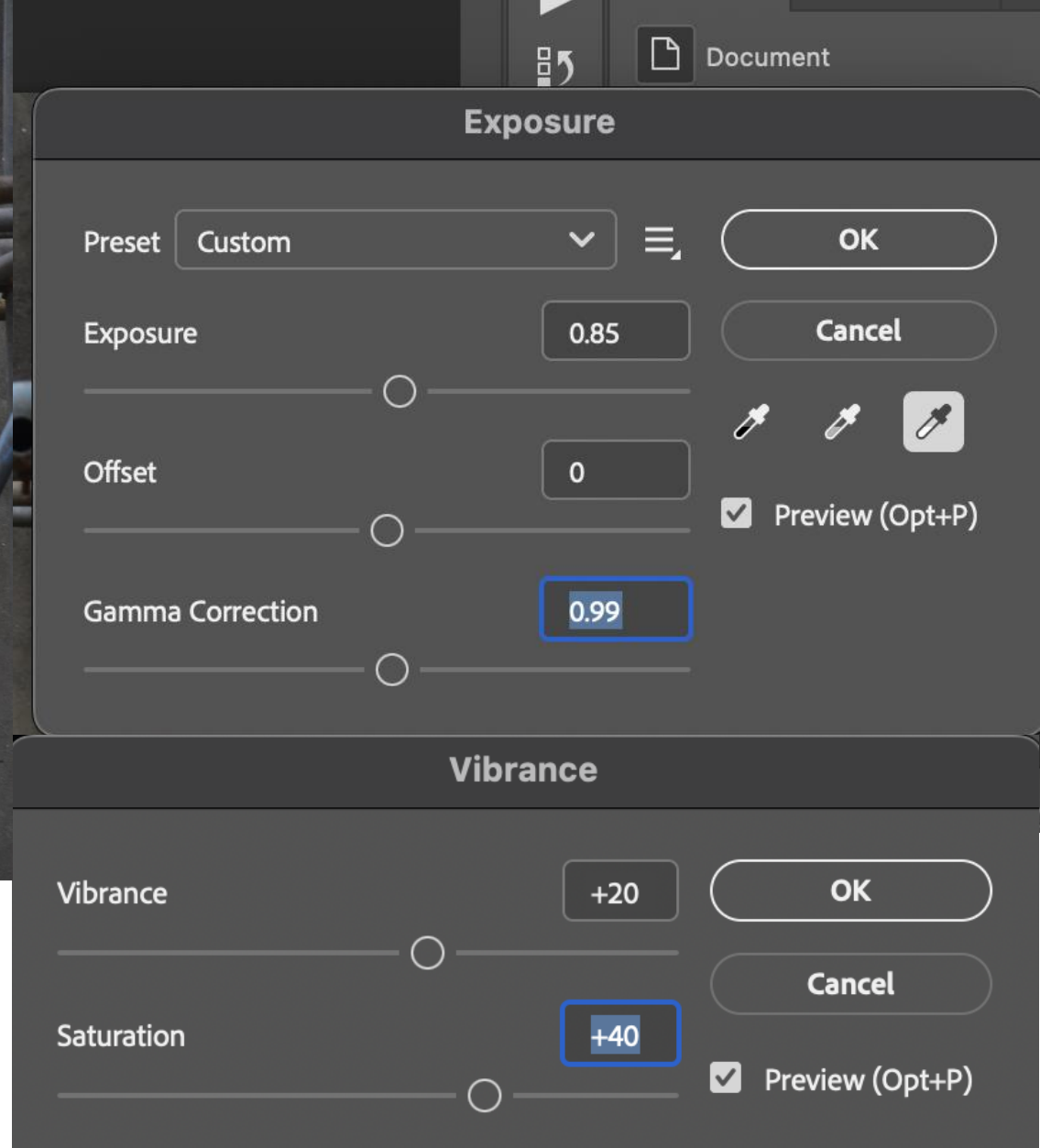
So, I took this image onto photoshop and I selected image, adjustments and I chose vibrance and I brought the colour up by bringing up the saturation to +20 but then to make the image brighter I used the exposure and brought it up slightly to +1.2 and set the gamma correction to 0.85 which helped brighten the image and show off the colour better.







I repeated the steps for the rest of the images while setting them differently which best suited the images but with this image I also decided to crop as I think this image worked well once I had cropped it.







Exposure

Preset Custom ⌵ ☰ OK

Exposure +1.76 Cancel

Offset 0 ☑ Preview (Opt+P)

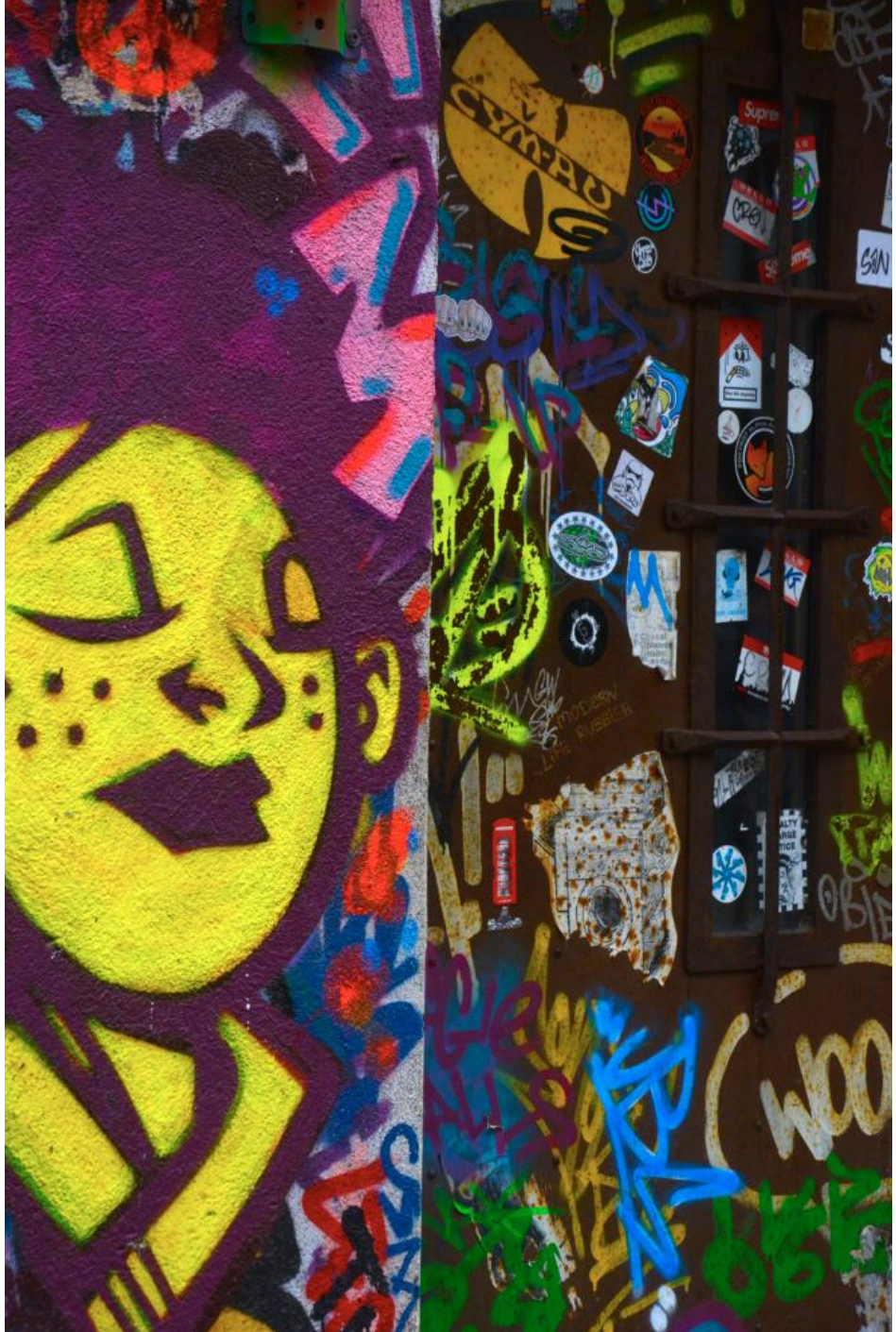
Gamma Correction +1

Vibrance

Vibrance +30 OK

Saturation +40 Cancel

☑ Preview (Opt+P)





Exposure

Preset Custom ⌵ ≡ OK

Exposure +1.15 Cancel

Offset 0 ⬇ ⬆ ⬇

Gamma Correction +1 Preview (Opt+P)

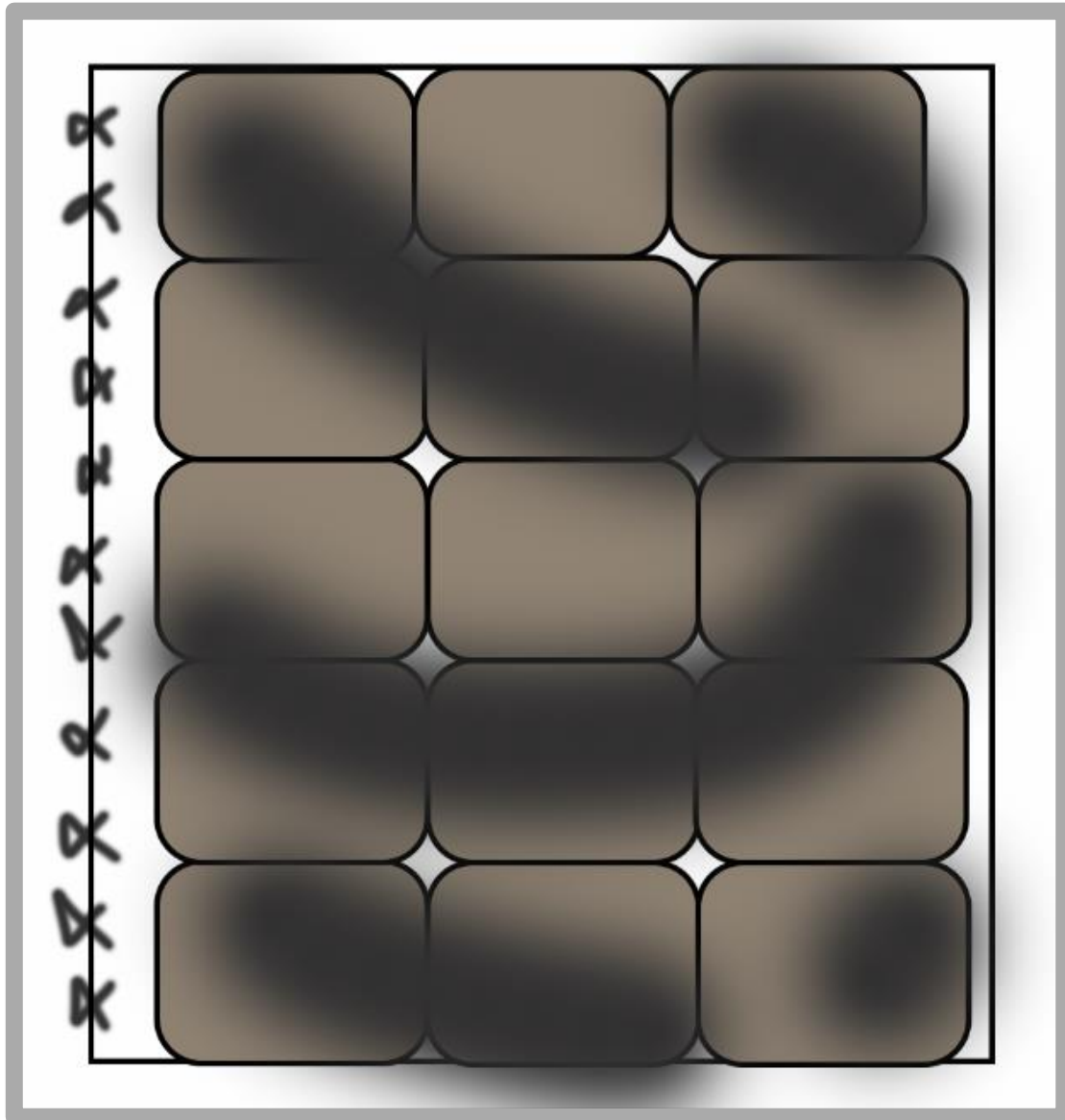
Vibrance

Vibrance +30 OK

Saturation +30 Cancel

Preview (Opt+P)



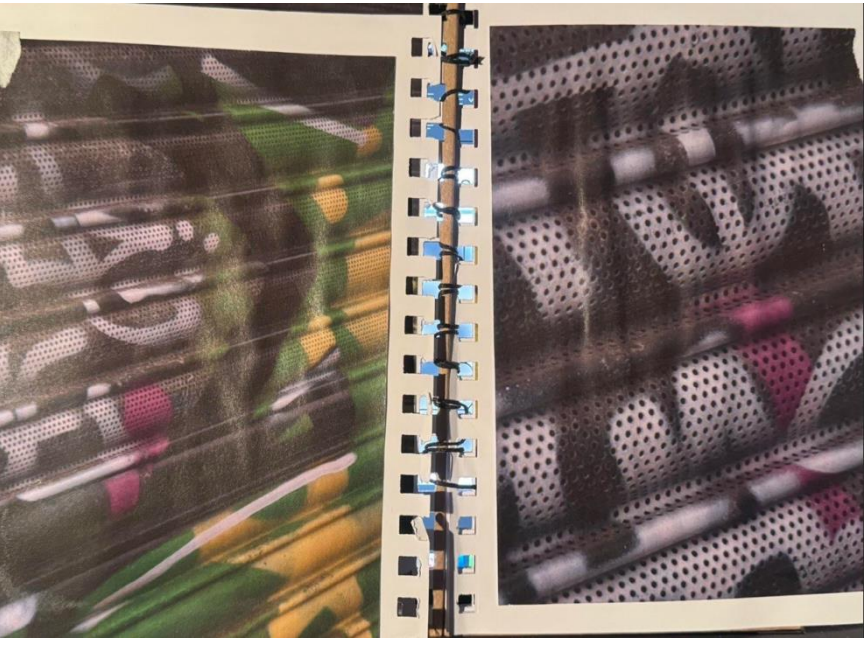


Book dummy 2

For my second book dummy I wanted to create a cover that fits the theme of my work, so I decided I wanted to experiment with the cover I went onto photoshop to create the design.

For the cover I had the idea of creating something that looked like bricks of a wall, and I wanted to have a hard cover and then stick them onto the cover of the book and pain them a brown colour. I then decided to try and spray paint over the cover to try and make it look like graffiti.

For inside the book after looking at other photobooks I liked the idea of having my images as a full page, so I printed of my images and put them in the book as full pages.



Exhibition

PROPOSAL: referring to guidance notes – write your proposal here (up to 150 words).

for the exhibition my work will explore graffiti as a trace left behind. Many of the images are close-up shots that focus on surface details like peeling paint, cracks, and faded marks.

This exhibition presents graffiti not as bold street art, but as a record of memory. Through photography, it captures marks that may soon disappear.

I want to present my work on a wall space with one big image and possibly smaller images beside the bigger image.

SPECIFICS: Please provide diagrams, renders, photographs of how you envisage your installation. **Photography:** please indicate if you will be printing 'in-house' or externally. If 'in-house', what paper stock do you require?

For the exhibition I will be printing my work externally



Statement

My work explores the traces of graffiti and how it is used.

The accumulation of paint, scratches, and faded tags indicates the dialogue between the graffiti artists, the authorities, and the people.

The traces of the graffiti indicate that the action of creating the tag has taken place and how the tag has changed over time.

I am interested in the role of the traces as memories of past actions and how they are physical traces that impact how people experience the city.

My photographs demonstrate the city as a place that is in a state of constant change and is impacted by expression and use.

For my photobook the theme I chose to explore was “traces” I chose to explore the theme by using images of graffiti as a way of examining the relationship between the people and the urban environment.

Rather than focusing on graffiti as something visual, I approached it as evidence of a presence of someone who left a mark by using graffiti. Each mark suggests an action that has already taken place. This changes the focus from what the graffiti is saying to what it shows as it acts as a sign that something happened and highlights how the city is always changing.

The graffiti shows both expression and absence, because it proves someone was there, but they are not there anymore. Even though graffiti is usually seen as communication, in my images the meaning is often unclear, because many of the marks don’t have a clear message.

This challenges the idea that images need to say something obvious and instead shows that meaning in the city can be broken and unclear. Leaving the mark becomes more important than what it says, because it shows how people interact with the environment.

I developed this idea by focusing on details such as cracks, and worn surfaces, because these show that traces are not only made by people but also changed by time and weather.

By cropping these images and zooming in on these details, it shifts the viewers attention away from seeing graffiti as a clear image and more towards the surface itself. This shows that the city is always changing, because surfaces are both marked by people and damaged naturally.

Shoot 2



_DSC0040.JPG



_DSC0045.JPG



_DSC0050.JPG



_DSC0055.JPG



_DSC0061.JPG



_DSC0066.JPG



_DSC0071.JPG



_DSC0076.JPG



_DSC0041.JPG



_DSC0046.JPG



_DSC0051.JPG



_DSC0057.JPG



_DSC0062.JPG



_DSC0067.JPG



_DSC0072.JPG



_DSC0077.JPG



_DSC0042.JPG



_DSC0047.JPG



_DSC0052.JPG



_DSC0058.JPG



_DSC0063.JPG



_DSC0068.JPG



_DSC0073.JPG



_DSC0078.JPG



_DSC0043.JPG



_DSC0048.JPG



_DSC0053.JPG



_DSC0059.JPG



_DSC0064.JPG



_DSC0069.JPG



_DSC0074.JPG



_DSC0079.JPG



_DSC0044.JPG



_DSC0049.JPG



_DSC0054.JPG



_DSC0060.JPG



_DSC0065.JPG



_DSC0070.JPG



_DSC0075.JPG



_DSC0080.JPG



_DSC0081.JPG



_DSC0086.JPG



_DSC0091.JPG



_DSC0097.JPG



_DSC0102.JPG



_DSC0082.JPG



_DSC0087.JPG



_DSC0092.JPG



_DSC0098.JPG



_DSC0104.JPG



_DSC0083.JPG



_DSC0088.JPG



_DSC0093.JPG



_DSC0099.JPG



_DSC0084.JPG



_DSC0089.JPG



_DSC0094.JPG



_DSC0100.JPG



_DSC0085.JPG



_DSC0090.JPG



_DSC0095.JPG

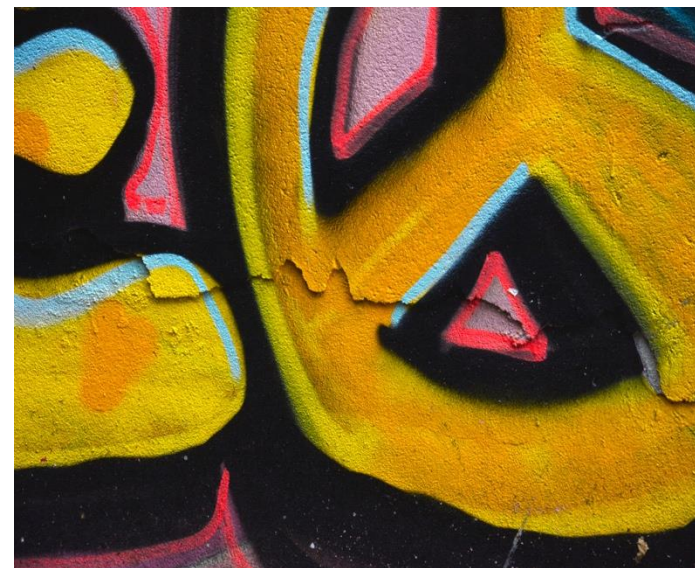
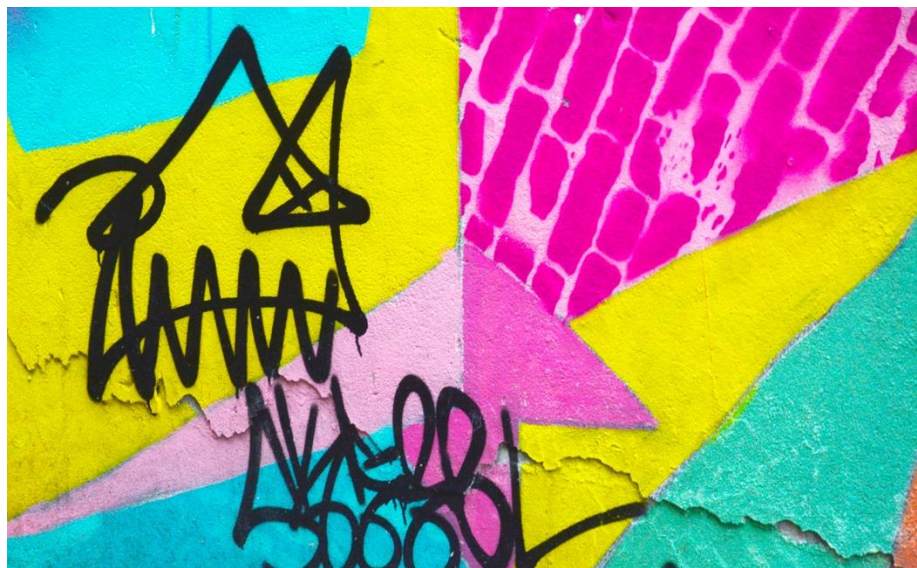
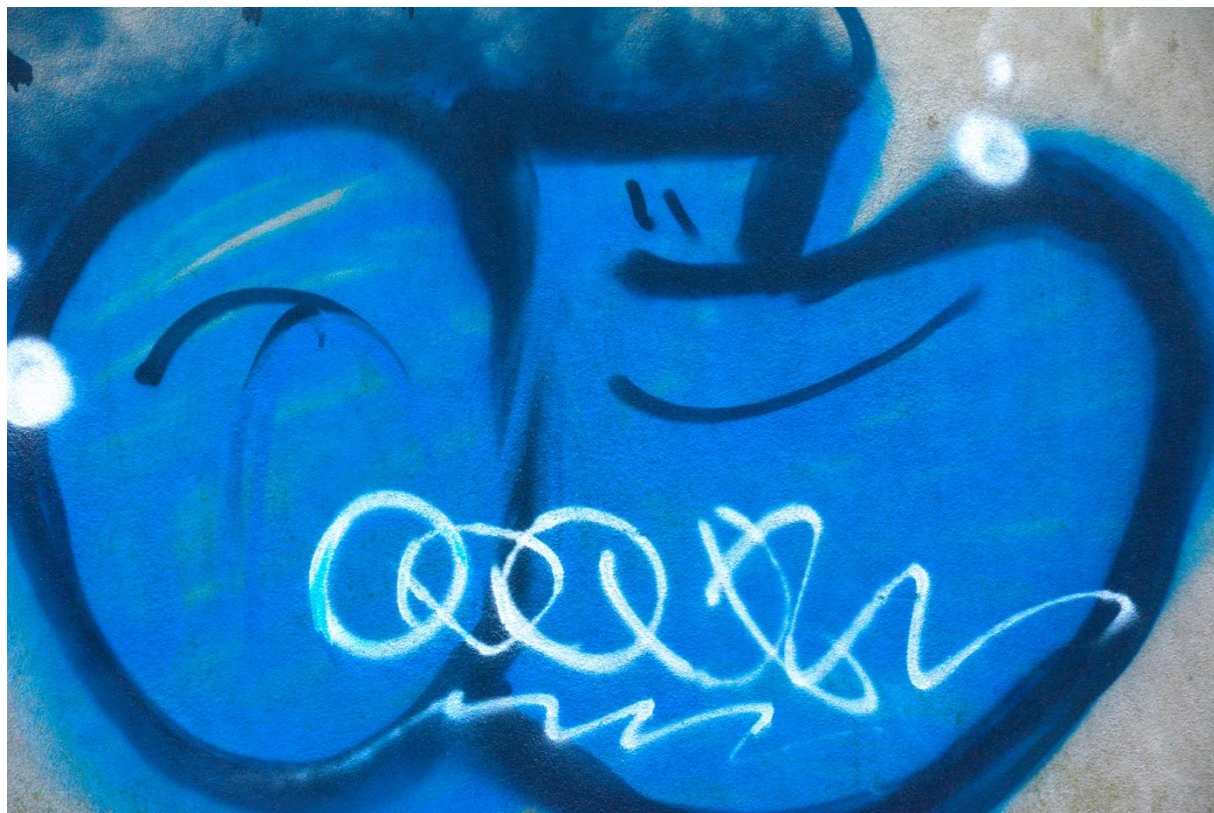


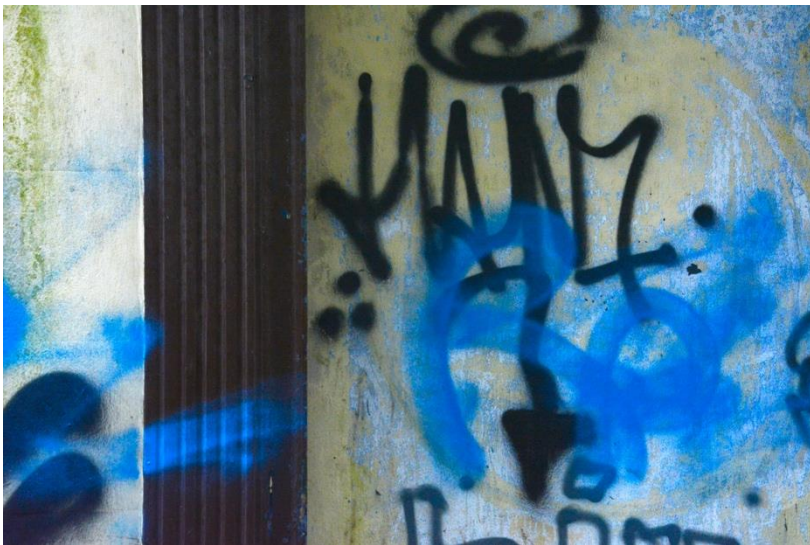
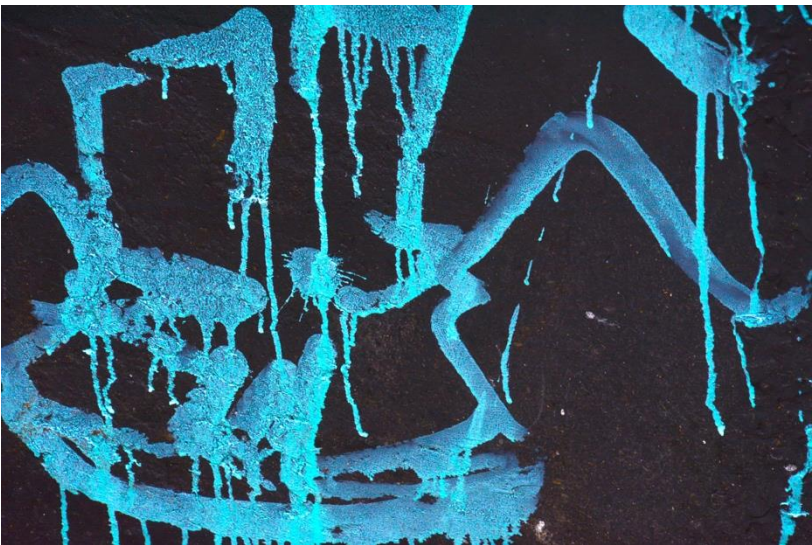
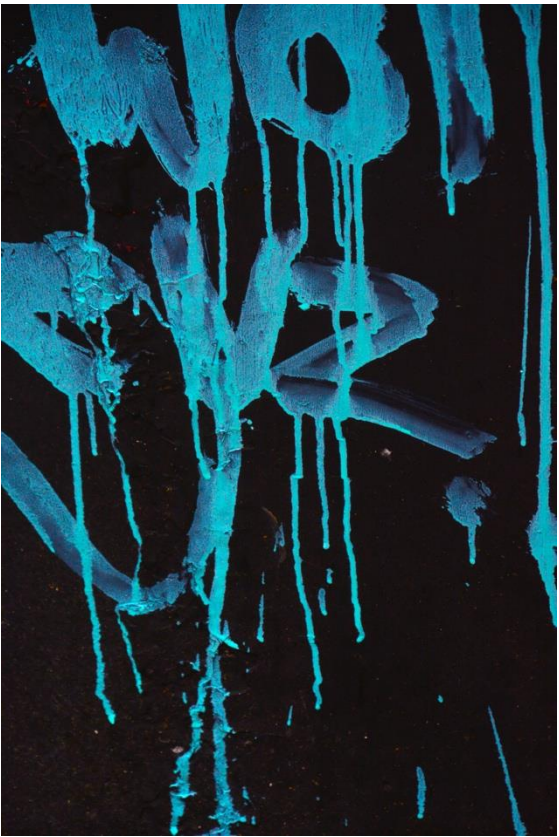
_DSC0101.JPG

Editing images from second shoot

Using photoshop to brighten the images and to bring the colour of the graffiti up.







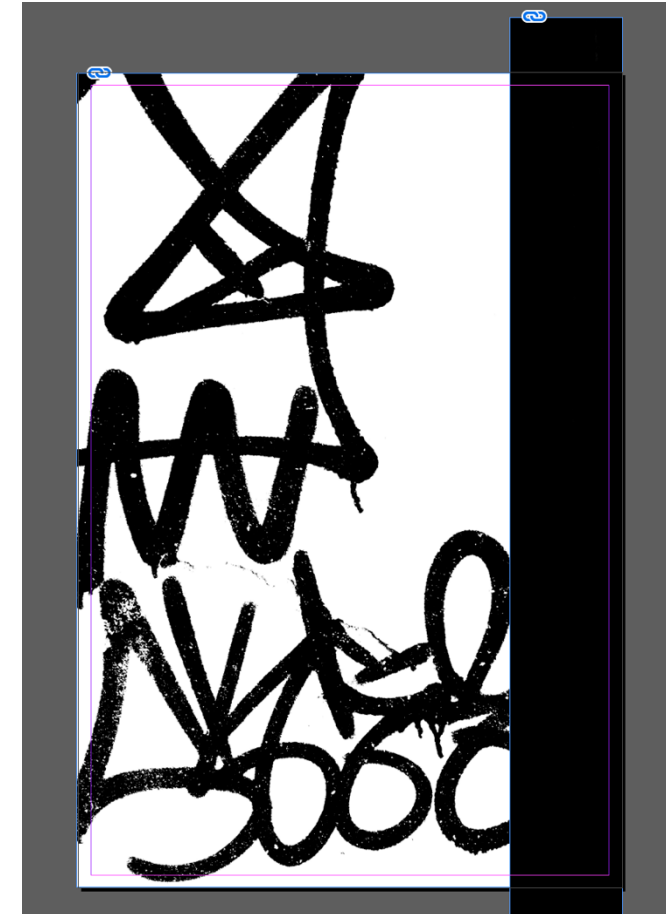
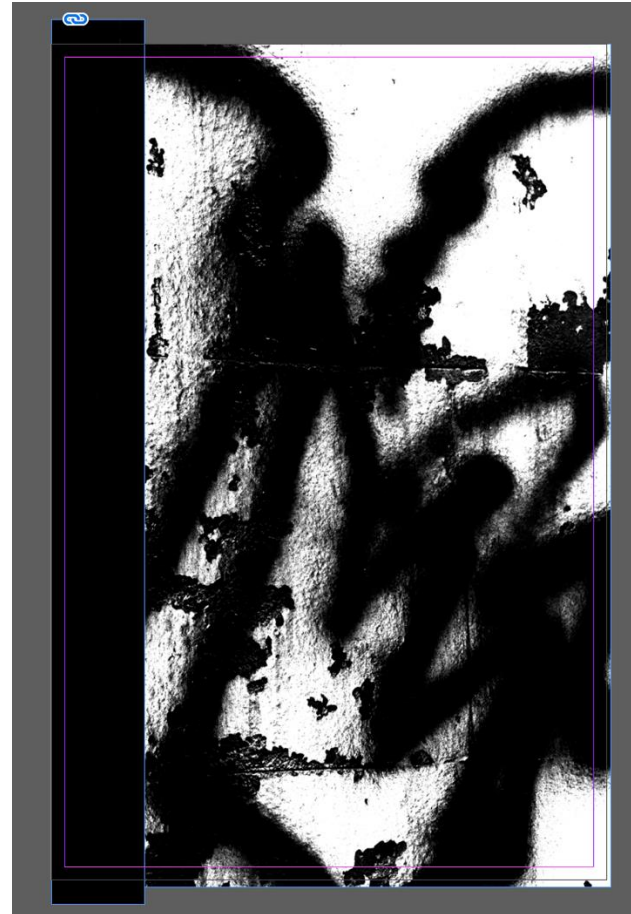




For the inside of my 3rd dummy, I arranged the images in a sequence and experimented with the layout, with some images covering a full page while others were smaller and placed in different areas such as the corners, because this variation in scale and position creates a more dynamic viewing experience and reflects how details in the city are sometimes noticed clearly and other times overlooked.

When I went onto my second dummy I thought more of design and how I wanted to create the cover but then after I had created the 2nd dummy I then realised I didn't really like the cover design because I felt that it didn't fit with the work.

When I had been on a shoot for the book, I picked out some images that had stood out to me for the cover design, so I took them onto photoshop and edited them to how I preferred then for my third dummy I used those 2 images as the cover which I thought worked well so I decided to keep those for the cover design.



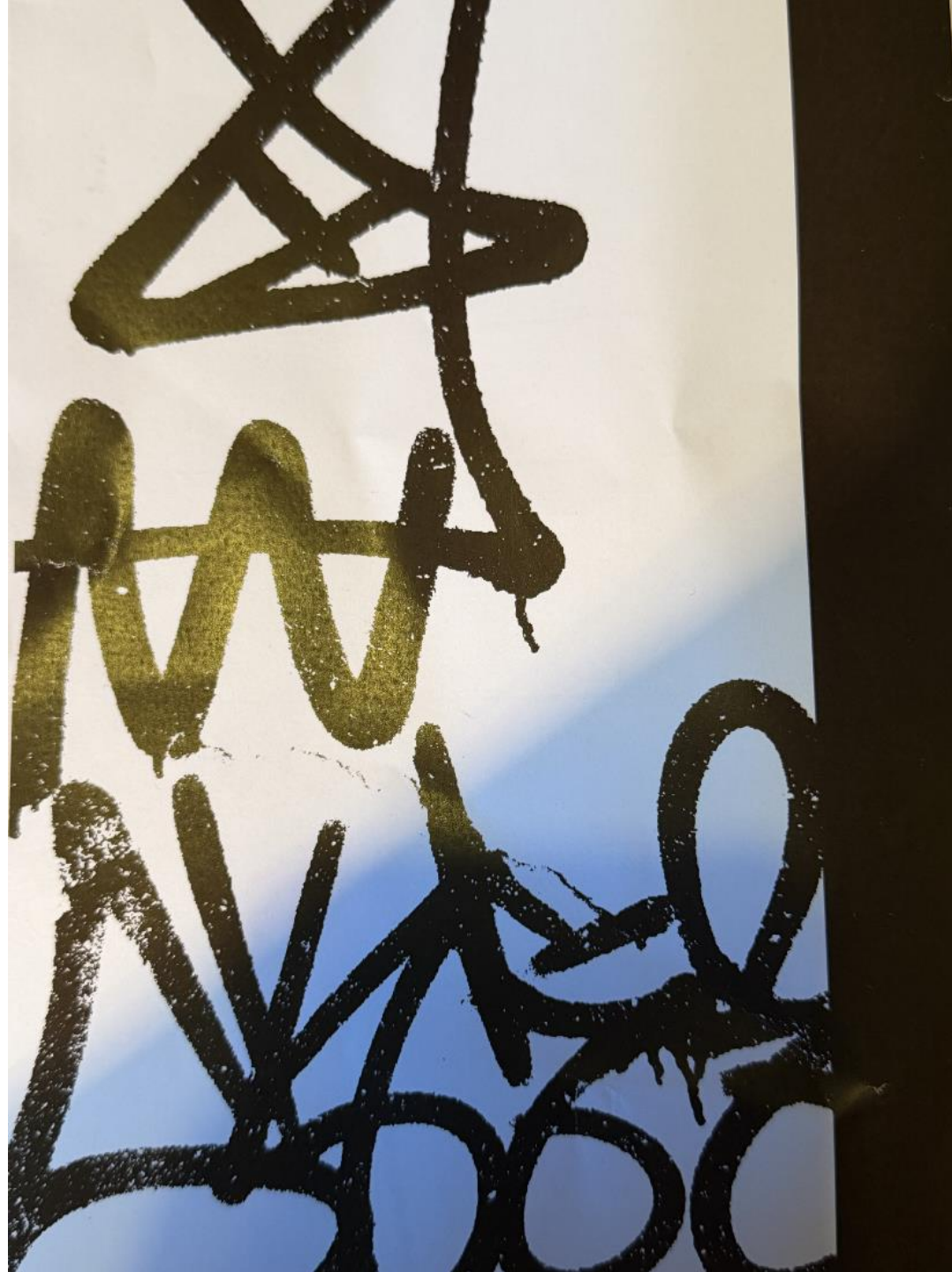
Book dummy 3

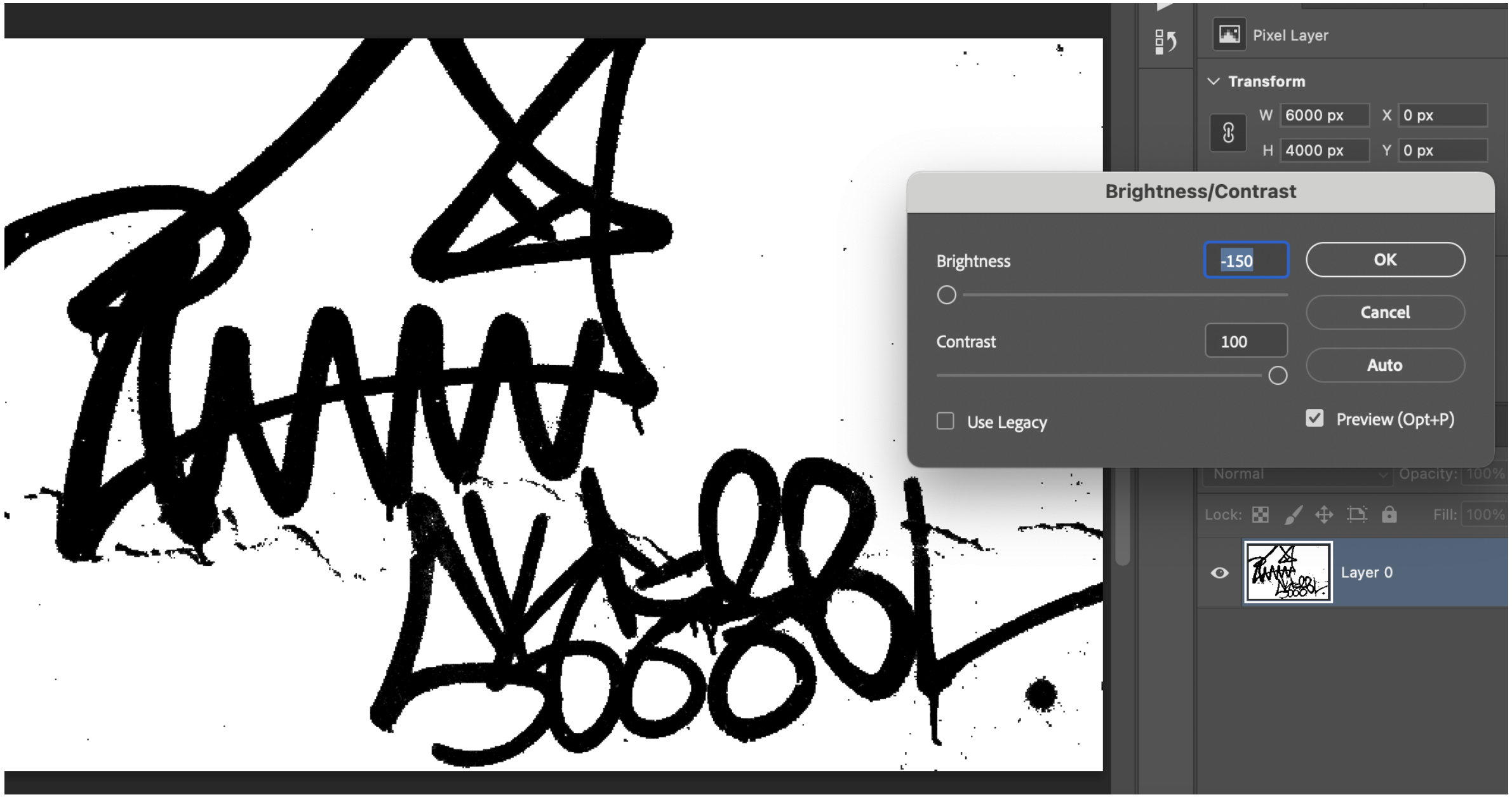


The layout of the book isn't organised with the same images one after the other, but it is organised with different images in different orders such as one image looking at the graffiti then the next page focusing on the detail such as the marks or cracks by cropping the images and making them bigger. By focusing on graffiti and surface details, the photobook highlights the city as a layered and constantly changing environment, because it is shaped by both human activity and the passage of time.

In doing so, it encourages the viewer to reconsider overlooked details, because these traces reveal how the city is continuously being marked, erased, and redefined. put this into simple words. Through these decisions, the photobook becomes more than a collection of images, because meaning is constructed through sequencing and layout rather than through a clear narrative or explanation.







Brightness/Contrast

Brightness

-150

OK

Contrast

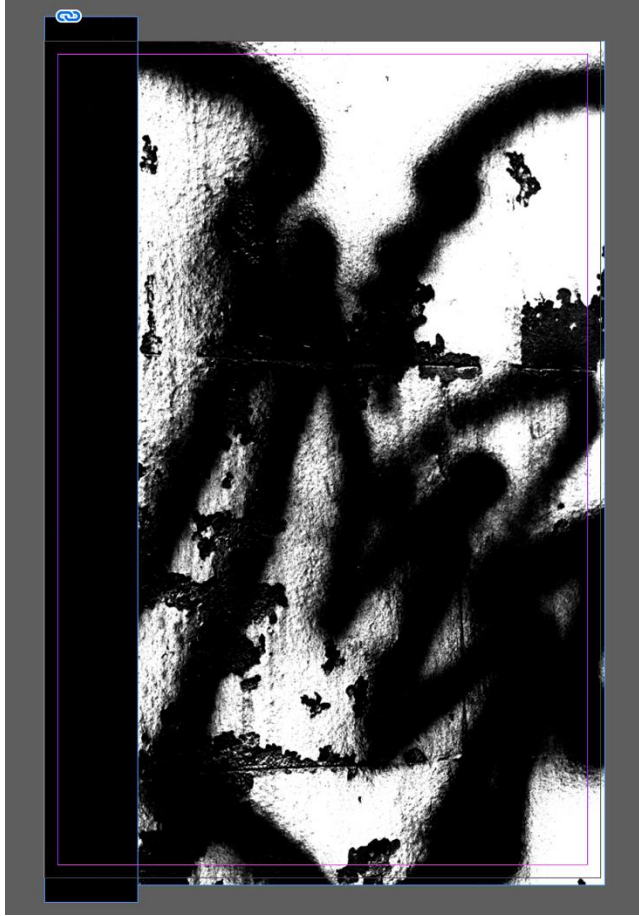
100

Cancel

Auto

☐ Use Legacy

☒ Preview (Opt+P)

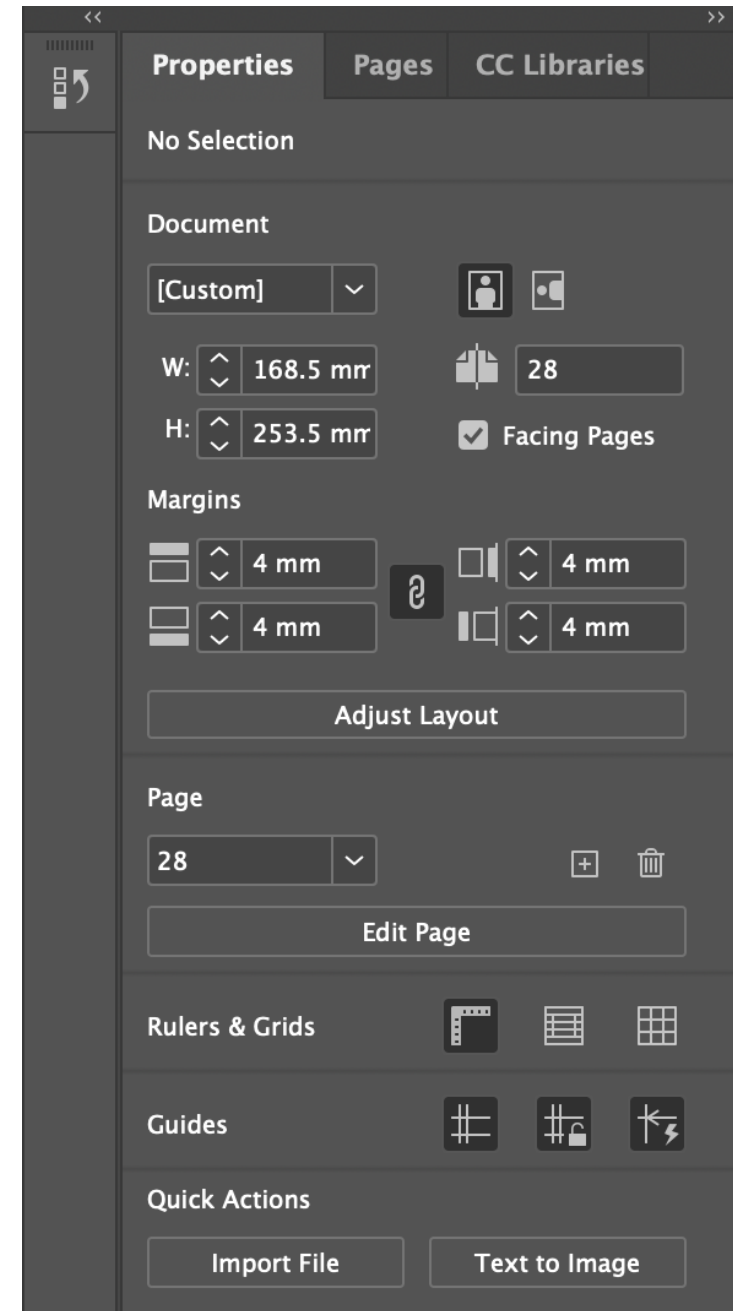


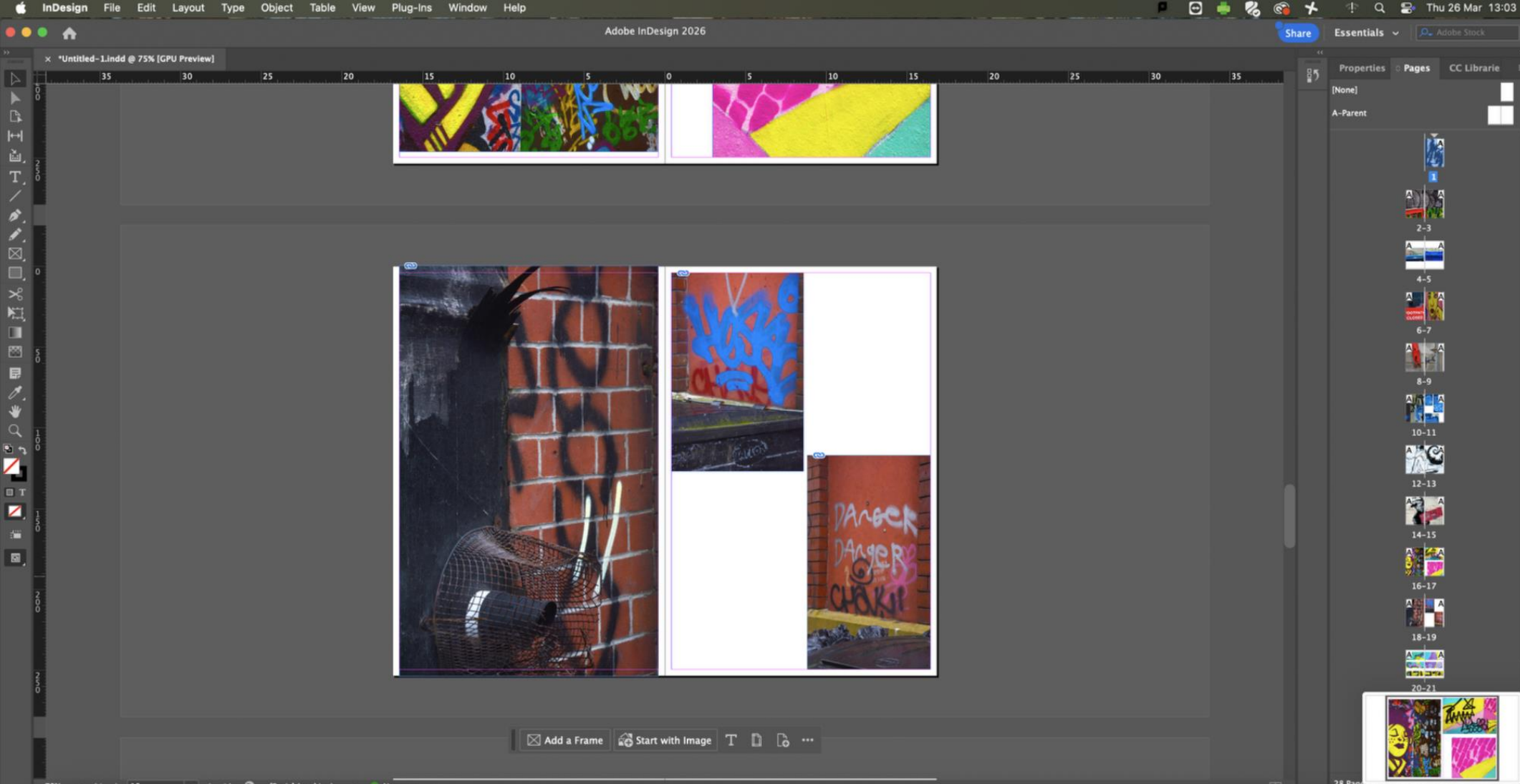
Front cover



Back cover

Foy the cover design I chose 2 images from the shoot, and I took them onto photoshop and changed the images to black and white. I then set the contrast up to 100 and set the brightness to the lowest number to make the black in the image darker.





For my photobook I used InDesign to create my photobook I placed the images onto the pages and placed them where I wanted to put them as seen in the screenshot, I resized some of the images and placed some on one page whereas with the other images I placed one image on both pages covering those pages.

Book dummy 4

After my 3rd dummy and having some feedback for my 4th dummy, I decided to change the design of the images in the book and I re arranged them some images stayed on the same page but most of them I moved and put them in different order. I also worked on resizing images so they would fit the whole page, and I focused on making the images bigger to focus on the detail that I wanted to show in the images I also added some new images into the book to have more work inside.



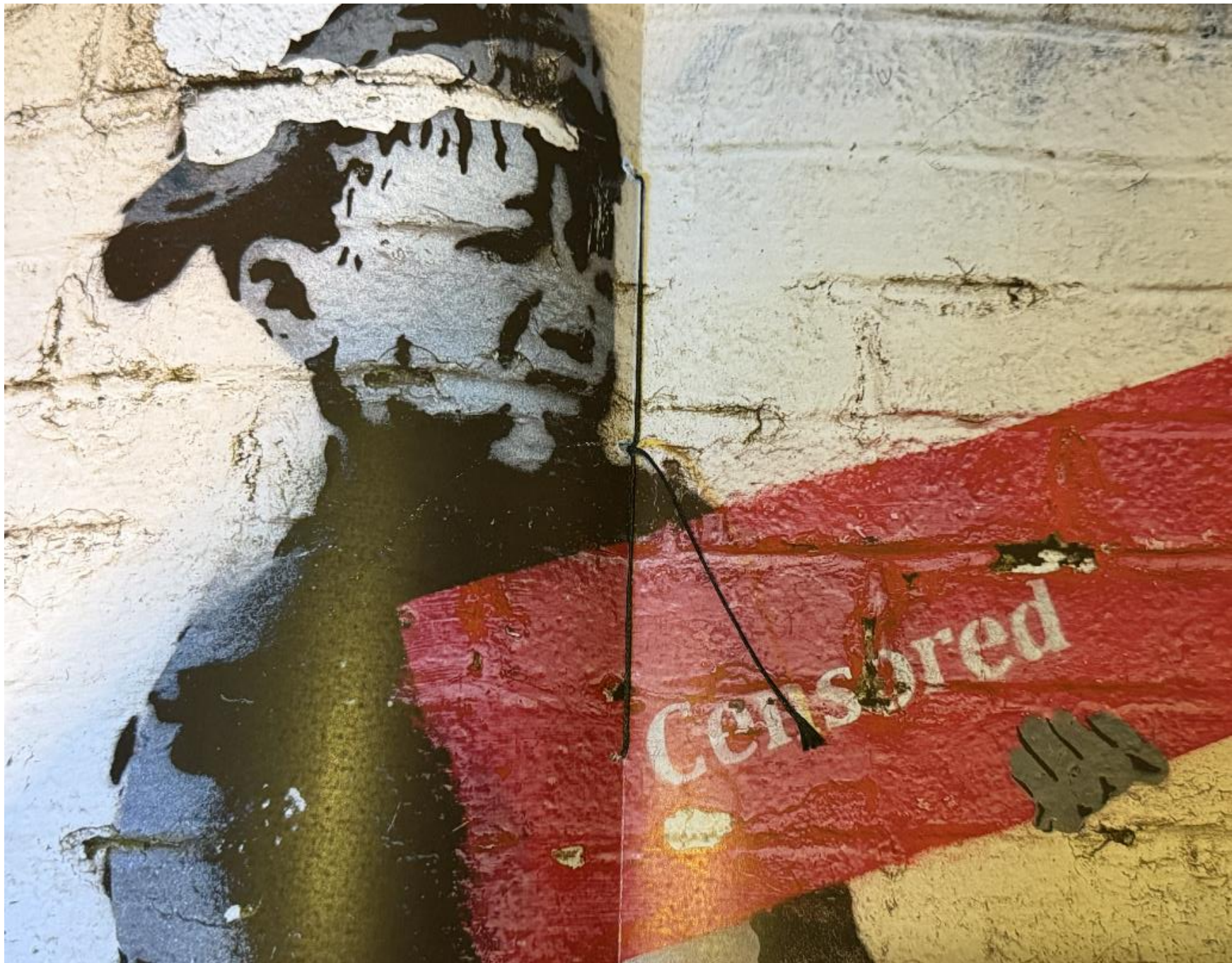








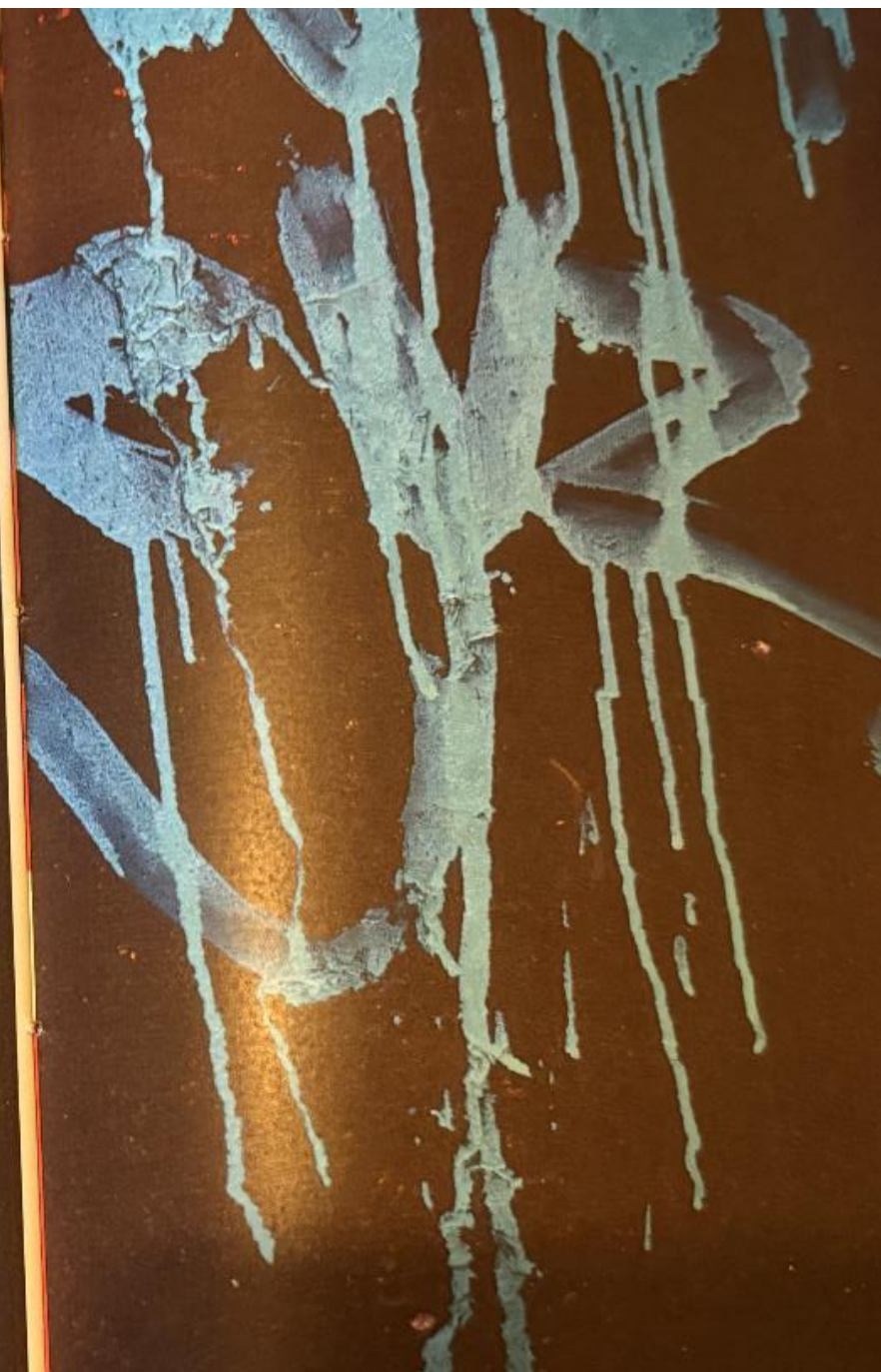




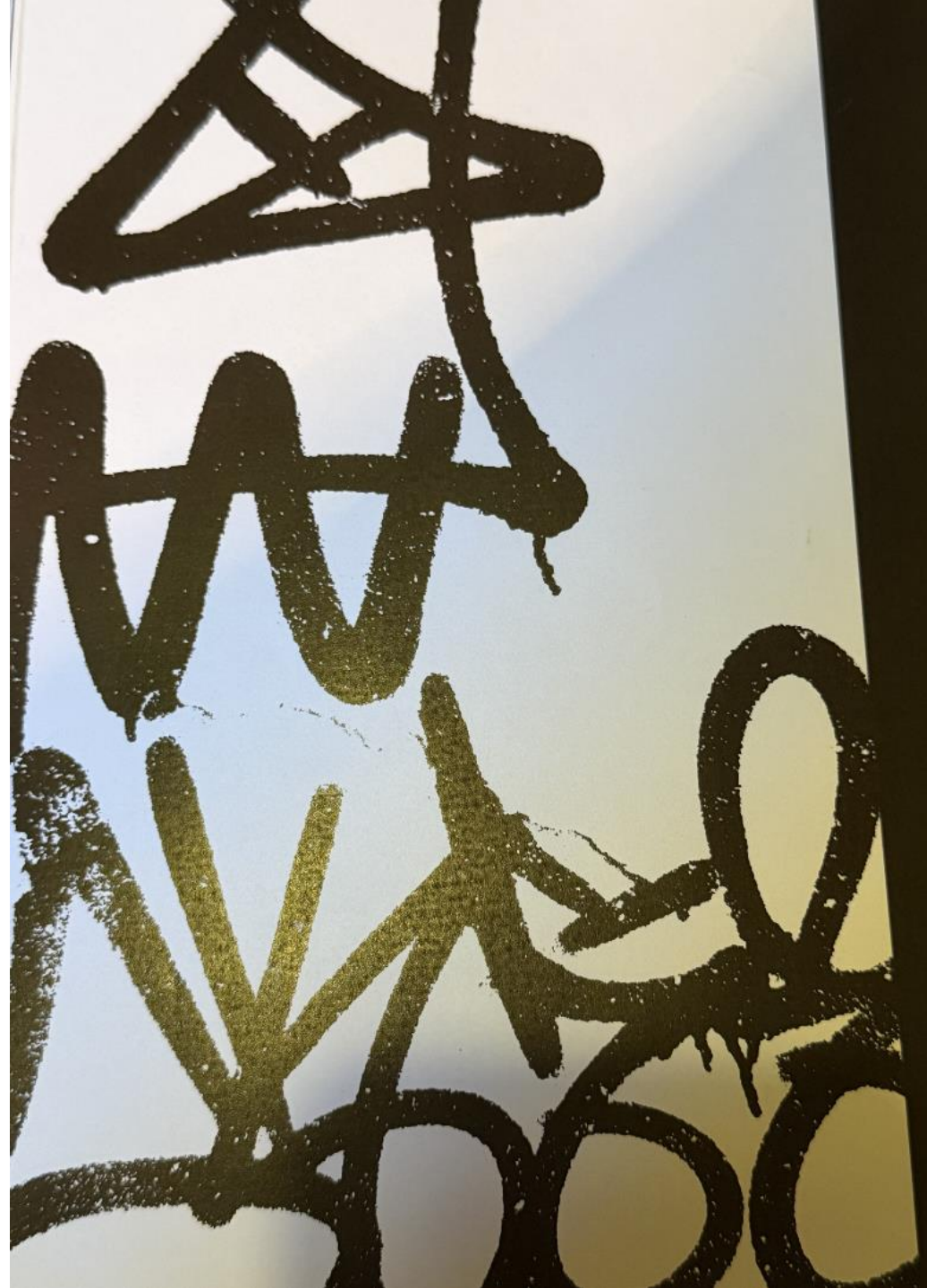












For the process of making my book I took many different photographs of the graffiti within its environment like the streets or abandoned spaces, while the close-up images focus on textures such as peeling paint, layers or cracks on the walls.

For editing the Images I focused on cropping the images also resizing the images to fit the page to show off the details of the marks such as the cracks or fading paint and making the colours from the graffiti stand out more by brightening and bringing up the vibrance.

The manipulation of contrast, cropping, and even some desaturation helped in bring focus to the shape and texture rather than it having any clear meaning.

The process of resizing/cropping the images to focus on the details became very important in the sense that it stripped away the context, hence making some pictures seem ambiguous. This reflects how graffiti can lose meaning when taken out of its original location.

Organising the images together in the book was the important part of the process as I didn't want to just place them in order of when they were taken or where I wanted to have the images in a certain order so that they would be different whereas some images focused on close ups of the marks such as the cracks while the other images were of the graffiti.

During the process of making my photobook many dummies were made each of them showing development. The first dummy I made was more of me trying to figure out how to create a book and trying out layouts for the images.

Printing my work out for the exhibition



1 A5

1 A4

1 A3

1 A0



For the layout of the exhibition, I wanted to try and layout the images as if they were like how they would be if they were seen as they are in their spaces.

So, I made one image A0 to show off the image to try and make it feel that the images feels like the viewer is looking at the graffiti in its original size.

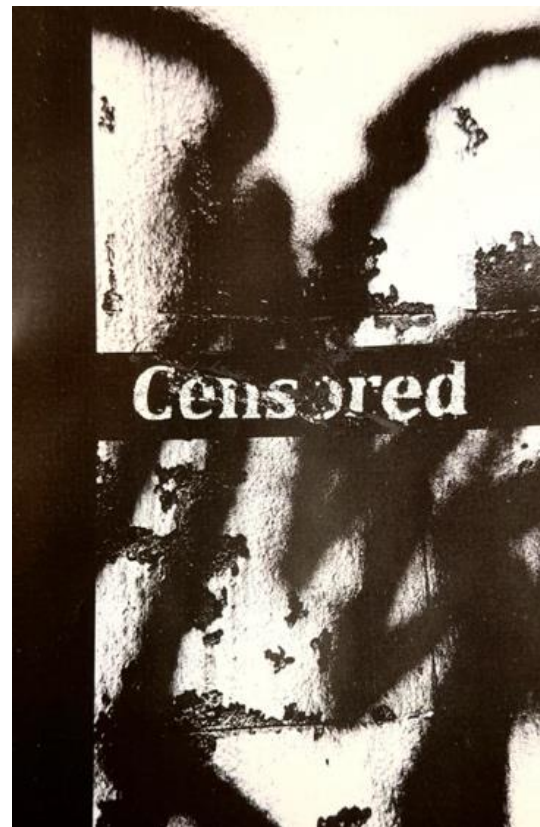
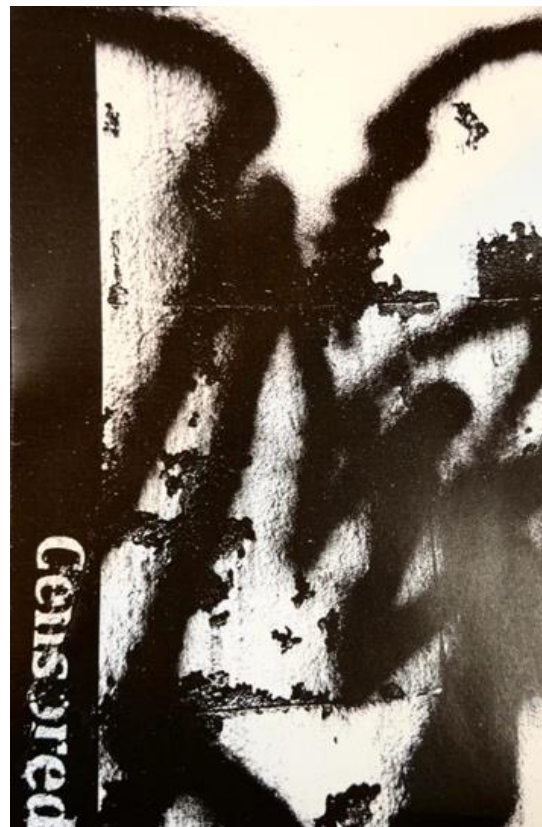
With the smaller images A5 and A4 I wanted them to be at the bottom so they seem like tags that someone would graffiti at the bottom corner of their work.

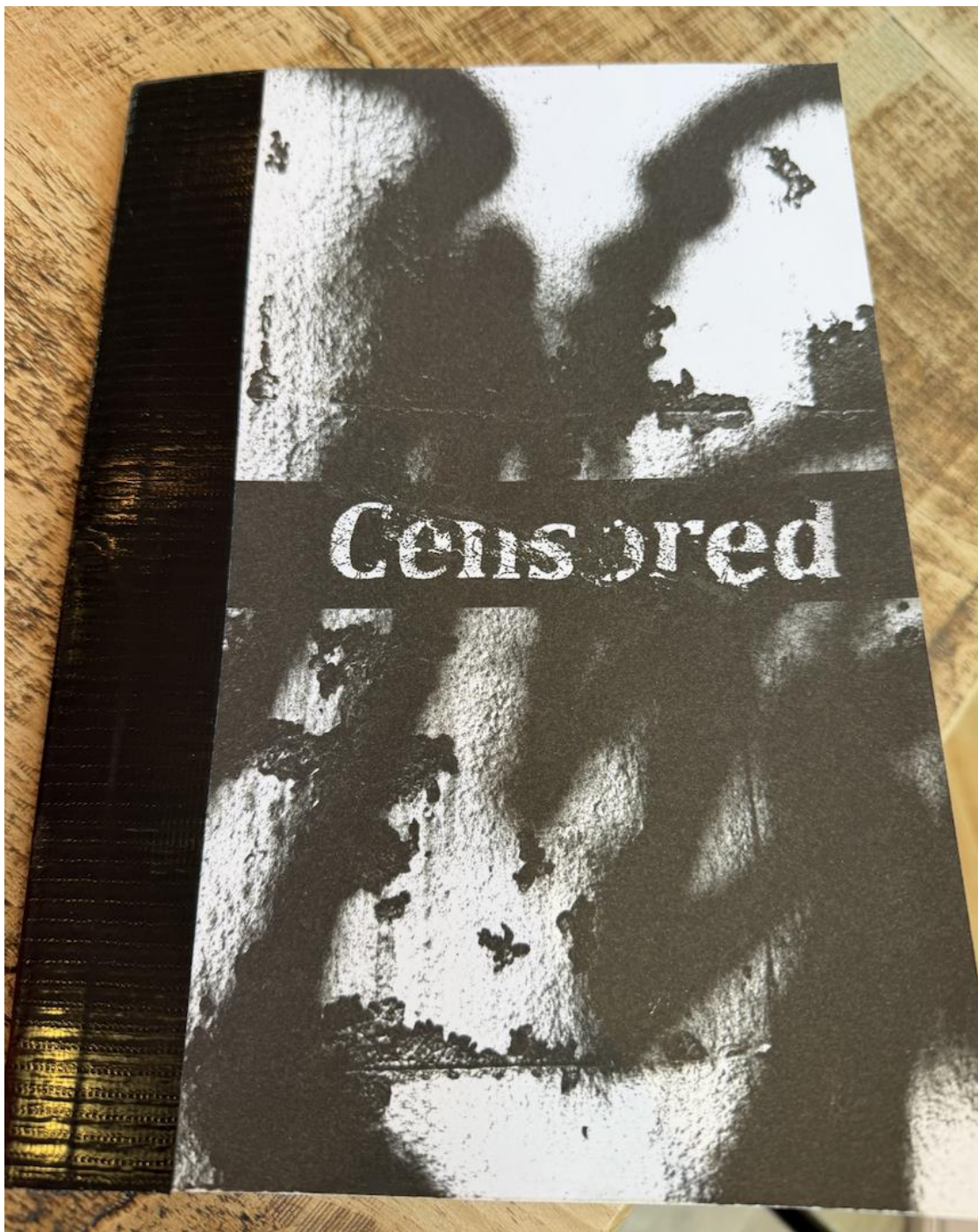
I chose these images for the exhibition because they show the energy and temporary nature of graffiti, and how simple marks, colors, and textures can turn ordinary surfaces into something expressive.

As for my 5th dummy I mainly focused on the title of the photobook as I didn't have one yet, so I wanted to work on the title but also the introduction for my photobook.

For the title I decided to look at some of the images to try and see if I could see any words from the graffiti that I could use for the title I then came across one of the images that had the word "censored" placed on one of the graffiti so I took that word from the images by taking the images onto photoshop and cropping it so it was only an image of the word then I edited it so it would fit with the cover of the book so I made the image black and white and I played about with the editing tools and I made the images darker but brought the brightness up so the word on the image would be more noticeable as the word wasn't that clear before.

I made 3 different designs of the cover with the title to see how I preferred it to look on the cover by placing the word in the centre of the cover and by placing it on the side but making it bigger then smaller.





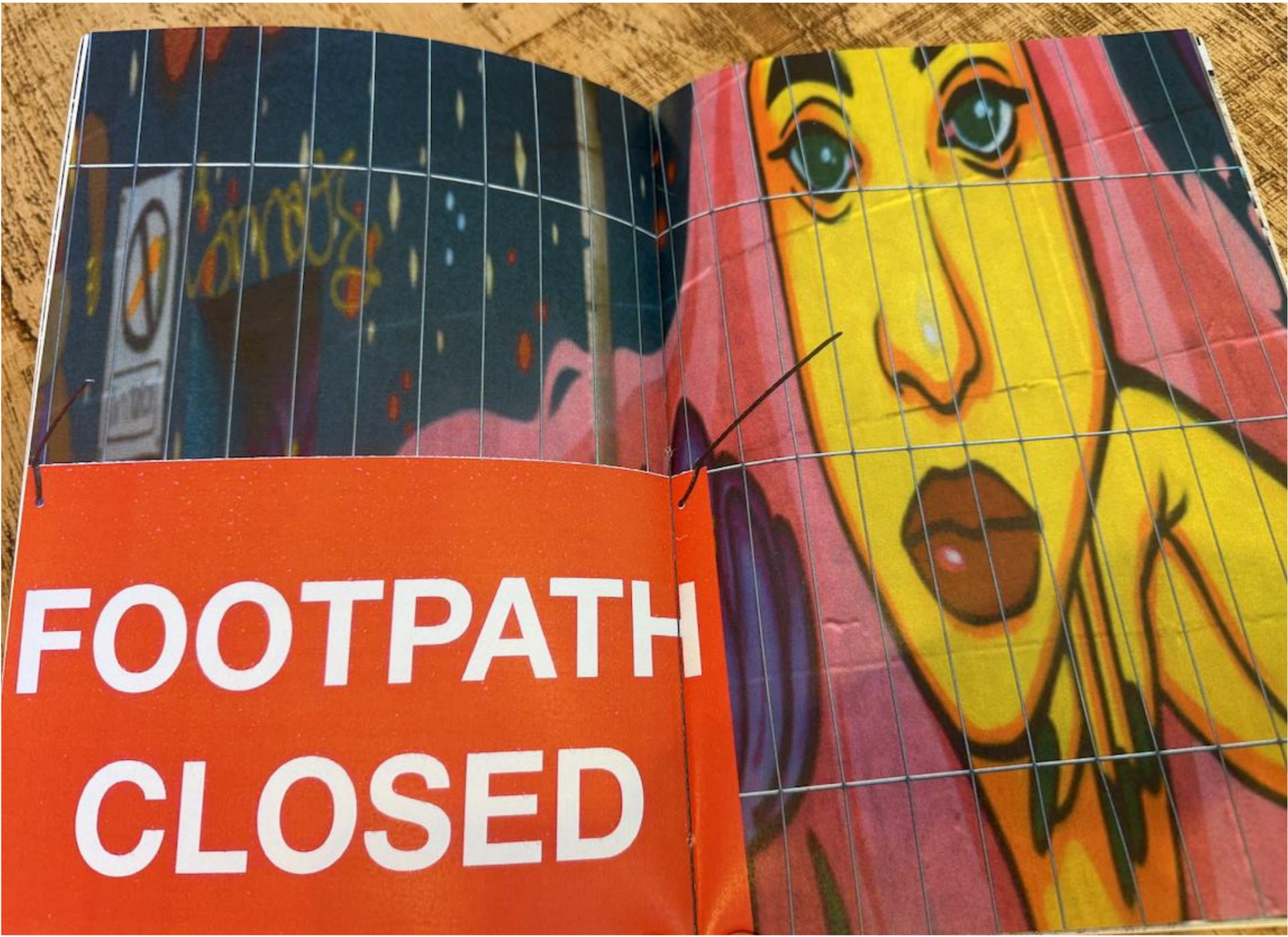
Photobook final design

The work explores the traces of graffiti and how it is used.

Graffiti is something that is often seen as vandalism or an artistic expression.

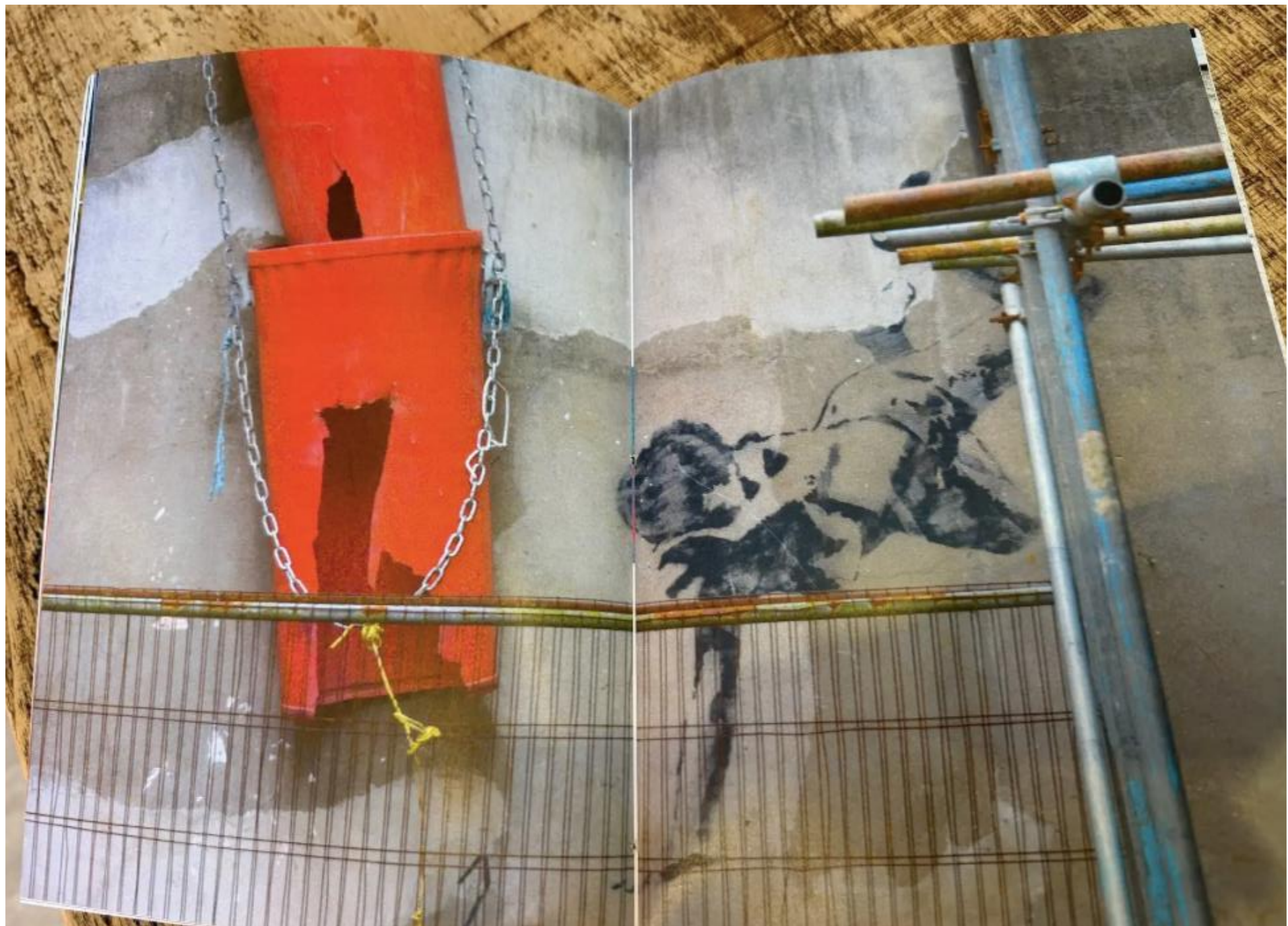
Graffiti can impact how people view the city and can demonstrate the city as a place that is in constant change and is impacted by how people express themselves and use





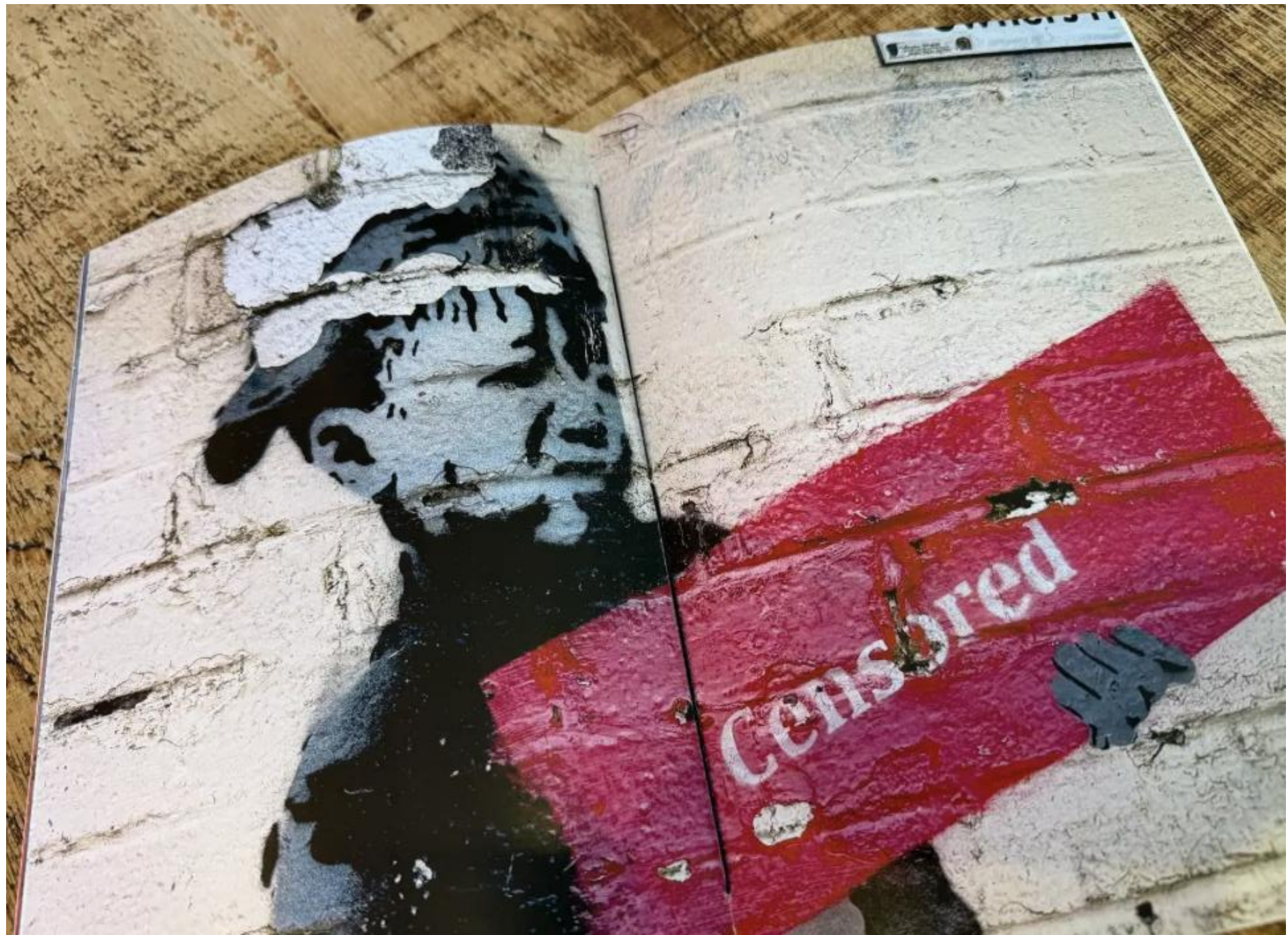
**FOOTPATH
CLOSED**













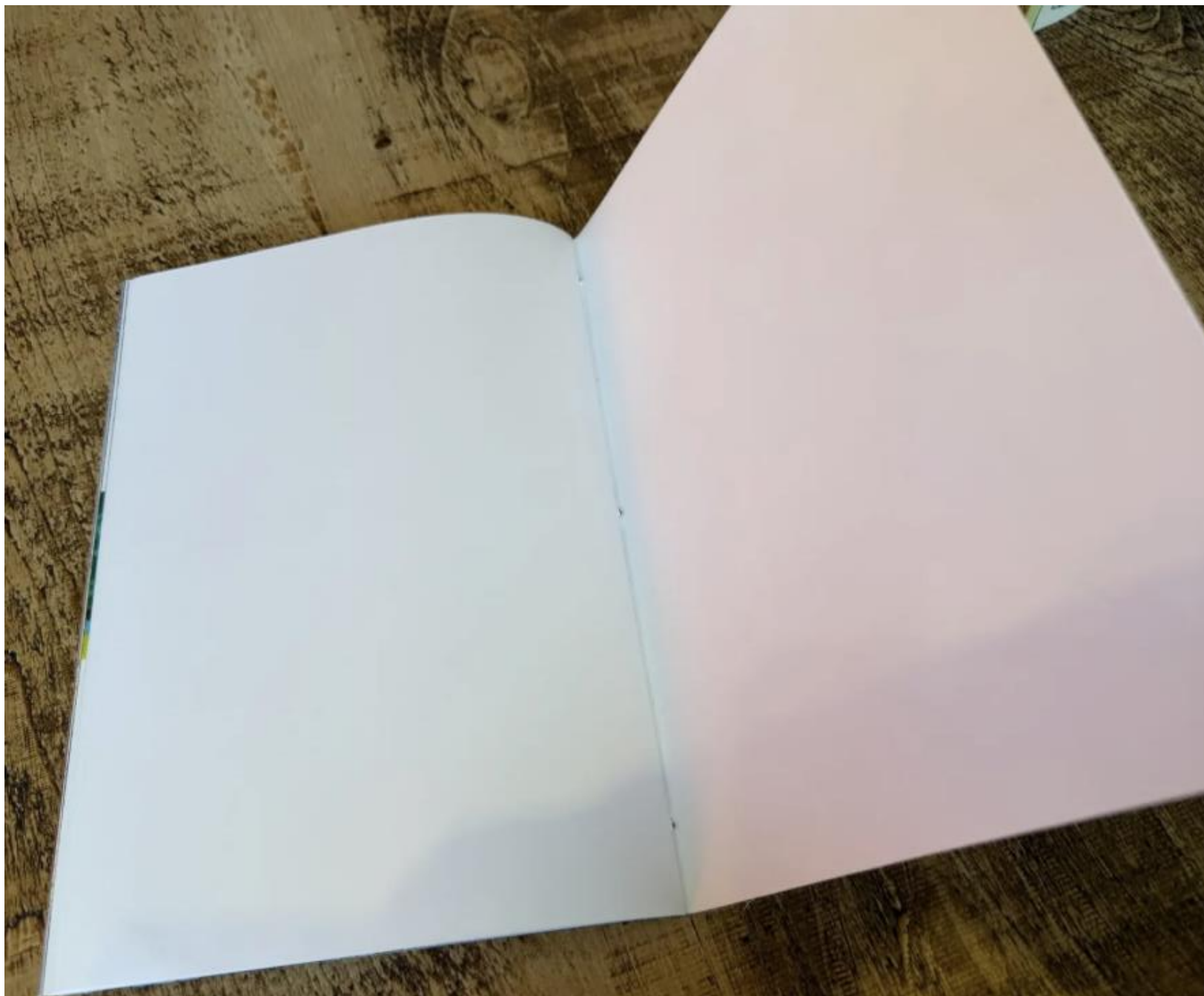


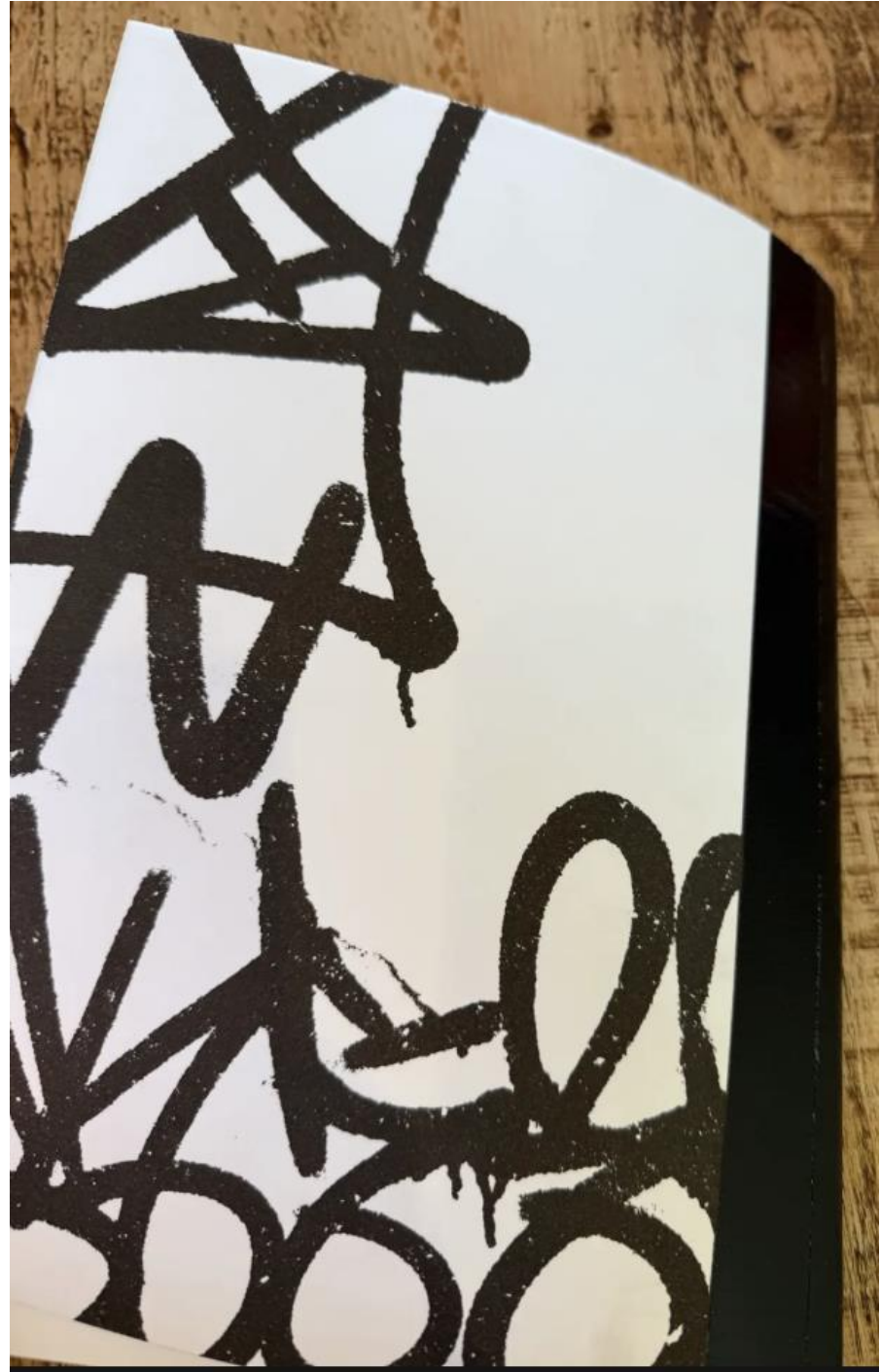






"few people go to art exhibitions nowadays,
the art comes to them." - Chris Geiger





Throughout the process of making my photobook I have learnt was learning how to select images for the book as selecting the images wasn't about which images are the best but what images that worked well together.

This meant looking at similarities, differences, and ideas that would connect them.

This project required me to step back and thinking about the project, not just individual images.

This is a useful skill because it can be applied to many areas where I would need to make decisions, improve work, and think critically.

Arranging the images in the photobook also required a skill for me to be able to learn how to arrange the images to be able to have them to work well but also how the images would have an effect and to bring the work together for it to make the work tell its story.

Another skill I would've developed would be to be able to know how to design a photobook as thinking throughout the process and creating many dummies to get to the final result as creating dummies helped me by being able to think of design and my decisions on how I wanted to create my photobook with decisions about sizing, placement and material choices.

Another skill I have learnt is technical skills by being able to create a photobook I had to learn how to work InDesign which I never used before so being able to create my photobook has helped me to be able to use InDesign to create my book.

I learnt how to manage my time within this process.

Time management was another important skill I developed during this project. Producing many different dummies and working towards the final outcome required careful planning and organisation.

I had to manage my time effectively in order to meet deadlines, while also allowing enough time for experimentation and improvement. This experience has improved my ability to plan projects and work more efficiently.

Overall, throughout this project it has helped me develop a deeper understanding of how to create a photobook, from editing and selecting images to designing and presenting them effectively.