

External Liaison

Fen Shields

1802148

Photography in the Arts

ADAA6000

Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of BA (Hons)
Photography in the Arts

You can view my website at this address:

<https://www.fenshields.com/>

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Self-Promotion.....	3
CV.....	3
Website.....	5
LinkedIn.....	9
Instagram.....	10
Liaising Within the Institution.....	12
Student Representative.....	12
Unibuddy Course Representative.....	12
Student Voice Representative Application.....	13
Increasing my Employability.....	14
AHEH.....	14
Pink News Futures.....	17
Mailing Lists.....	19
Careers Advisor.....	19
Photography Jobs.....	19
Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities.....	19
Portraits of Students with Learning Disabilities.....	20
Culture Mix.....	24
Zine Fest.....	26
GoWales Work Experience.....	32
Liaising Externally for Exhibitions.....	38
Vices & Virtues.....	38
TV Interview.....	38
Ikonospace.....	39
Folium Publishing.....	39
Print Drive.....	40
Giving Back to the Communities I Represent.....	41
No5.....	41
LGBTQymru.....	41
Future Plans.....	42
Researching Post-Grad Courses.....	42
Channel 4 Internship Application.....	44
BBC Application.....	45

Introduction

This past year we have been in and out of lockdowns with continuous restrictions throughout due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Opportunities have been few and far between so in this document I will not only reflect on my external engagement from this year, but from previously as well. This document will act as reflection on my external liaisons and professional practice, and how these affect my career path.

I have grouped these up and laid them out in chapters to show their purpose more efficiently. For example, the first chapter consists of my CV, website, LinkedIn, and Instagram and is titled “Self-Promotion” because the purpose of these things is to promote myself as an artist.

Self-Promotion

CV

While looking for opportunities, it is important to have a CV. It is most often the first thing about you that employers see, so it needs to sell yourself perfectly. This is why you often change your curriculum vitae for each job: to cater for what they are looking for. Below is my standard starting point I have ready to go. Pink News Futures (as discussed in the “Increasing my Employability” chapter) taught me that separating things into boxes like this was a great way group together information and therefore make it easier for employers to find what they are looking for. My careers advisor (also discussed in the “Increasing my Employability” chapter) advised me that employers for artistic roles are more likely to want to see my skills, achievements, and artistic positions than to see my education or employment history. Therefore, I re-ordered my CV to put the most relevant information first with the intention to grab the employer’s attention and present myself as a stronger candidate for the job.

Fen Shields

shieldella@googlemail.com | www.fenshields.com | <https://www.linkedin.com/in/fen-shields-2537731bb/>



Summary

I am an organised, hard worker with a background in photography and moving image. I am looking to pursue a career in the visual arts industry.

Skills

- Organisation - Reliability - Fast learning - Creativity - Working under pressure

Achievements

- My volunteer roles are big achievements for me as I manage to balance my time well between all my commitments.
- I was the student representative for my course throughout both years of college and all three years of university and became a Unibuddy Course Ambassador in third year.
- Before COVID-19, I was set to go to Portugal on a professional practice course as one of only two students selected from my campus.
- I achieved a grade of 90% on my dissertation – the highest of all Art & Design students at my university.
- My work experience photographing for the careers department website.

Artistic Positions

- Artist appearing in the *In Search of Ground* exhibition 2021.
- Member of the curation team for *In Search of Ground* exhibition 2021.
- Member of the catalogue team for *In Search of Ground* exhibition 2021.
- Artist and curator involved in *Vices & Virtues* exhibition 2020.
- Artist appearing in *After: The Future* exhibition 2019.
- Artist and curator involved in *The Narcissism Epidemic* exhibition 2019.
- Artist appearing in *The Reading Festival* exhibition 2019.

Volunteer Work

- **November 2020 – present:** My role as a 'Qommunity Reporter' for LGBTQymru (which is the first Wales-wide, LGBTQ+, bilingual magazine) involves me writing articles. I enjoy working with other members of my community as I feel safe and seen, and I really appreciate the opportunity to give back. It's taught me how to make my writing more journalistic.
- **April 2018 – present:** Working as a Young Ambassador for No5 Young People in Reading (the only charity in the area to offer free counselling to under 25-year-olds) is important to me as I have personal experience with overcoming mental health struggles. Volunteering here is very enjoyable because of how passionately and effectively it is run.
- **Academic year 2017 – 2018:** On multiple occasions I worked with students with learning disabilities at Reading college. I took their portraits and taught them the basics of using a camera. I enjoyed my time with these students and their enthusiasm and happiness had a positive impact on me.

Employment

- **November 2019 – present:** Currently, I am employed as a Customer Assistant at Tesco in an Express store in Swansea. Working here is improving my communication skills through acting as part of a team and teaching me the value of building a rapport with regular customers.
- **June 2017 – August 2018:** I worked as a member of Floor Staff, as a Cloakroom Assistant, and then as a Bartender at a bar/nightclub called Smokey's in Maidenhead. I left to attend university but was re-employed during Christmas and Summer breaks. My time at Smokey's hugely built up my confidence and really helped me break out of my shell by immersing me in a very social environment where I held a lot more responsibility and authority than I ever had previously. It also taught me to think on my feet and not buckle under pressure as it was a fast-paced job and demanding setting.
- **Summer 2015:** Administration work in an accountant's office. This role instilled in me the value of organisation.

Education

- **September 2018 – June 2021:** Currently in my final year of Photography in the Arts BA(Hons) at UWTSD in Swansea.
- **September 2016 – June 2018:** Received a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Photography at Reading College.
- **June 2015:** Achieved 13 GCSEs at A*-C including English Lit., English Lang., Maths, and Further Maths.

Website

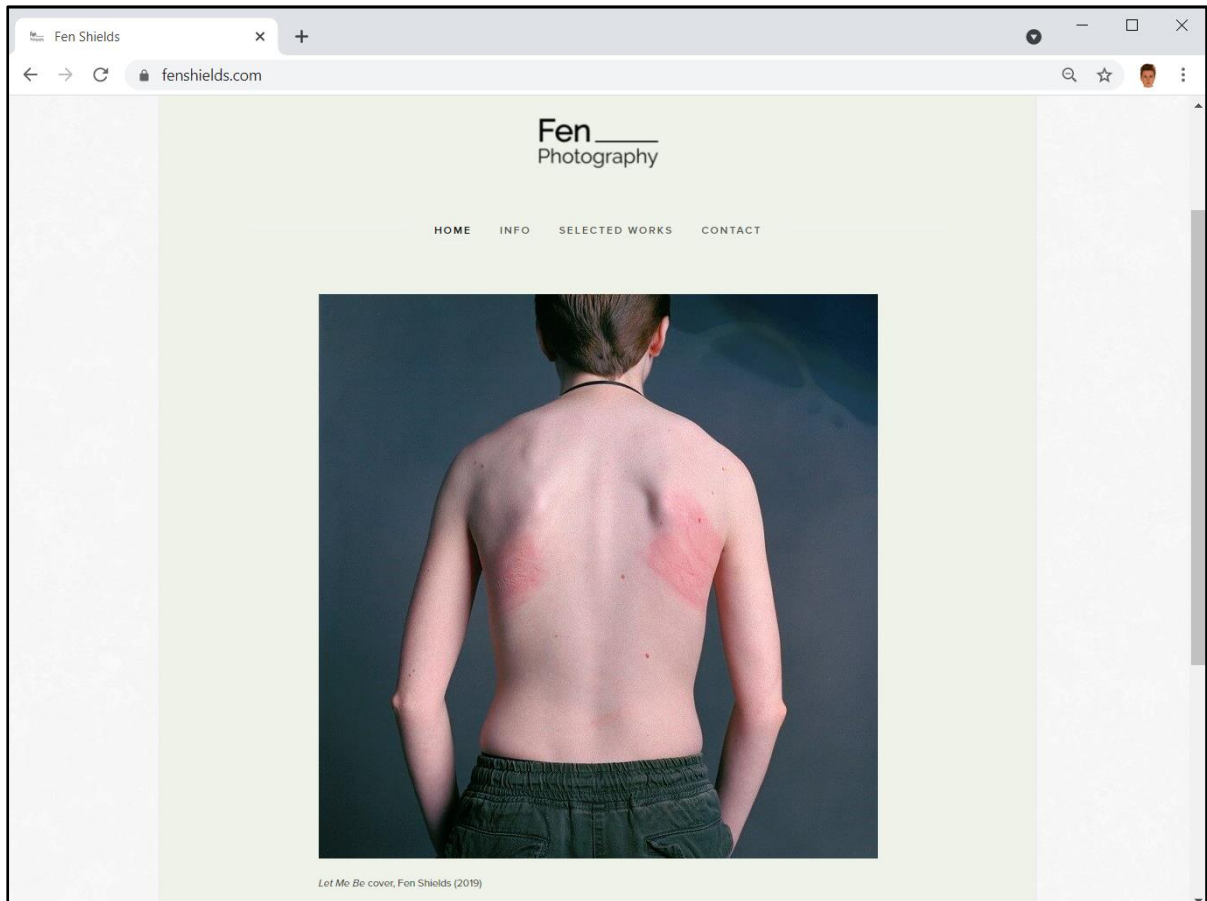
<https://www.fenshields.com/>

As a practicing artist, it is important to have a website. It advertises your work to possible employers, customers, and collaborators by showing your style and who you are. It is important it looks professional while successfully conveying your personality. I gave mine a pale green-grey background as the colour shows some personality to stop it looking too boring, but the pale shade of it keeps it in the realm of professionalism.

My website uses one of my personal favourite images as the home page because straight away you can see my preferred style by what I choose to show, so I wanted to communicate my style accurately.

My "Fen Photography" logo is used as my title and also my website icon to create strong branding. The logo uses a long line that goes where you would expect to see my last name for three reasons:

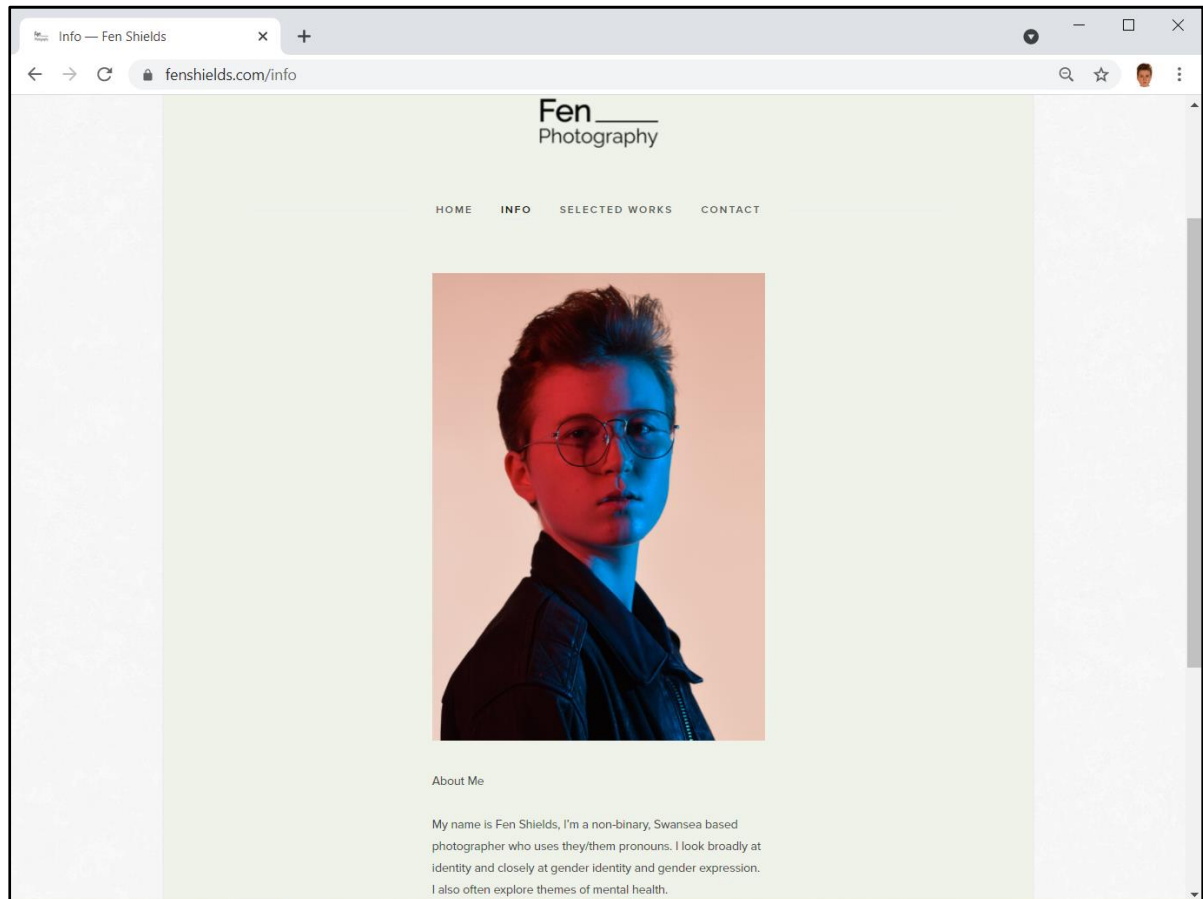
1. To highlight the fact that I only use my first name – it is shorter, and I have an uncommon name, therefore it is memorable, strengthening my branding.
2. It looks like an underscore and so mimics my Instagram handle "@fen_photo" making it memorable also, strengthening my branding again.
3. The minimalism looks professional, but it is also visually pleasing.



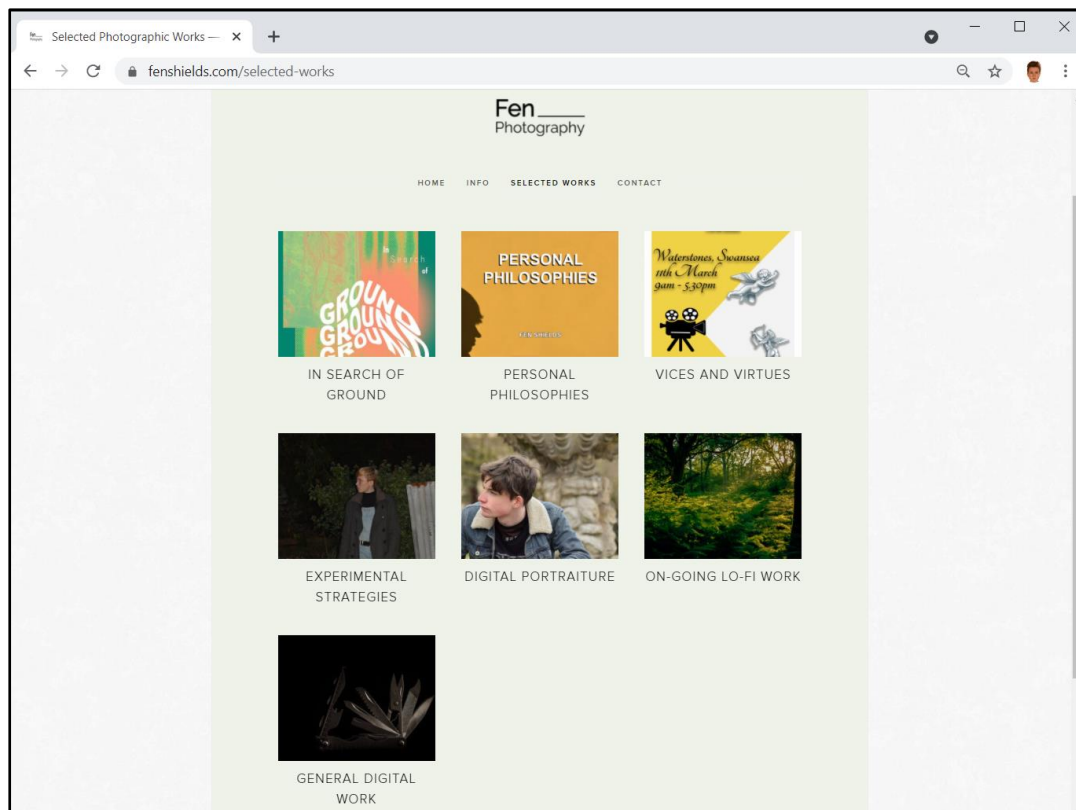
Fen____ Photography

My "Info" page is my 'about me' section. I chose to use a self-portrait of myself from the studio where I had used coloured gels because I thought it was eye catching, showed I had

experience using a studio, and was originally taken for a project about my identity so was relevant to myself, showing my personality. I kept my statement concise so as not to bore the viewer and to get straight to the point.



My "Selected Works" page includes only my best work to ensure I am selling myself correctly. All the projects are in chronological order with the newest first but the on-going material at the end. This is so that it is easier for people to keep up to date with what I am working on and also because people will tend to be looking for my most recent work. If people are just finding me, it is usually because they have heard about my most recent endeavours.



I of course included a contact page – it allows people to contact me directly through my email without me having to put my email address on the internet. This means I never miss a message and do not have to deal with a lot of junk mail.

A screenshot of the 'Contact Me' page on the Fen Shields Photography website. The browser's address bar shows 'fenshields.com/contact'. The website has the same light green background and navigation menu as the previous page. The main content area is titled 'CONTACT ME' and includes the instruction 'PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW'. The form consists of several input fields: 'Name *' (split into 'First Name' and 'Last Name'), 'Email *', 'Subject *', and 'Message *'. A 'SUBMIT' button is located at the bottom of the form.

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/fen-shields-2537731bb/>

This screenshot shows the top portion of Fen Shields' LinkedIn profile. The header features a background image of a field with the text 'Fen Photography' and a circular profile picture of Fen. Below this, the name 'Fen Shields' is displayed as a 'Photographer' from 'Uplands, Wales, United Kingdom' with '14 connections'. Navigation buttons include 'Open to', 'Add profile section', and 'More...'. Two featured sections are visible: 'Open to work' (listing roles like Photographer and Photojournalist) and 'Share that you're hiring'. The right sidebar contains a 'Grafton Recruitment' job recommendation and a 'People also viewed' section listing Edward Matthews and Shanna Bowden.

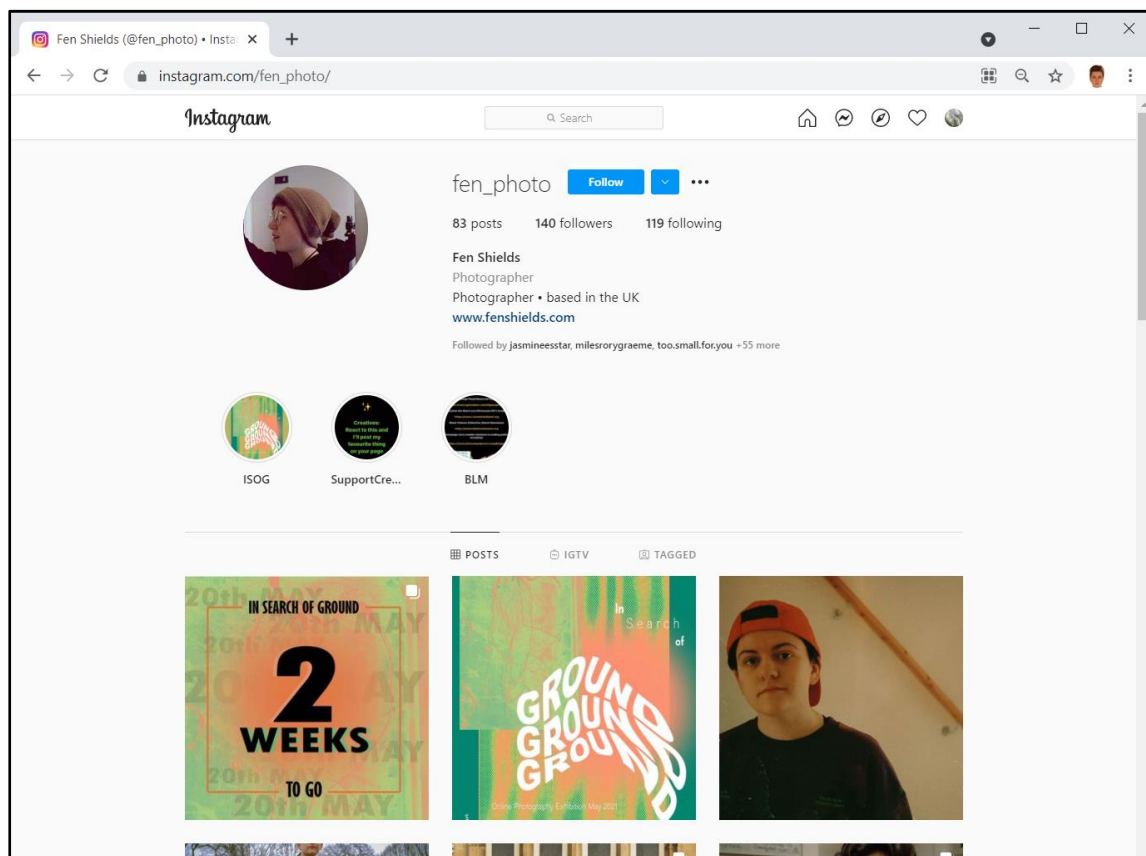
This screenshot shows the 'About' and 'Featured' sections of Fen Shields' LinkedIn profile. The 'About' section contains a detailed bio: 'A creative photographer looking to make a positive impact, I am in my final year of study for Photography in the Arts BA(Hons) at UWTSU. Nearing the end of my degree now, I am excited to take the next step and begin my career. With my new found confidence, a thirst for creativity and the drive to succeed, I am looking for job opportunities commencing after my graduation in June 2021. My self motivation is rooted in an innate need to create and I am determined to pursue a career in the photography or film industry. I hope to one day produce work that positively effects people and makes a change. I aspire to be a trailblazer and I consciously work towards this goal on a daily basis by publicly standing up for what I believe in and challenging opinions. Want to learn more? Why not send me an email at shieldsella@googlemail.com'. The 'Featured' section includes a link to the 'Fen Photography Website' with the text: 'Here is a link to my photography website where you can view some of my work.' The right sidebar continues with more connection suggestions, including Suzanne White, Gideon Davies, and Oliver Morris, and a 'People you may know' section featuring Caroline Thraves.

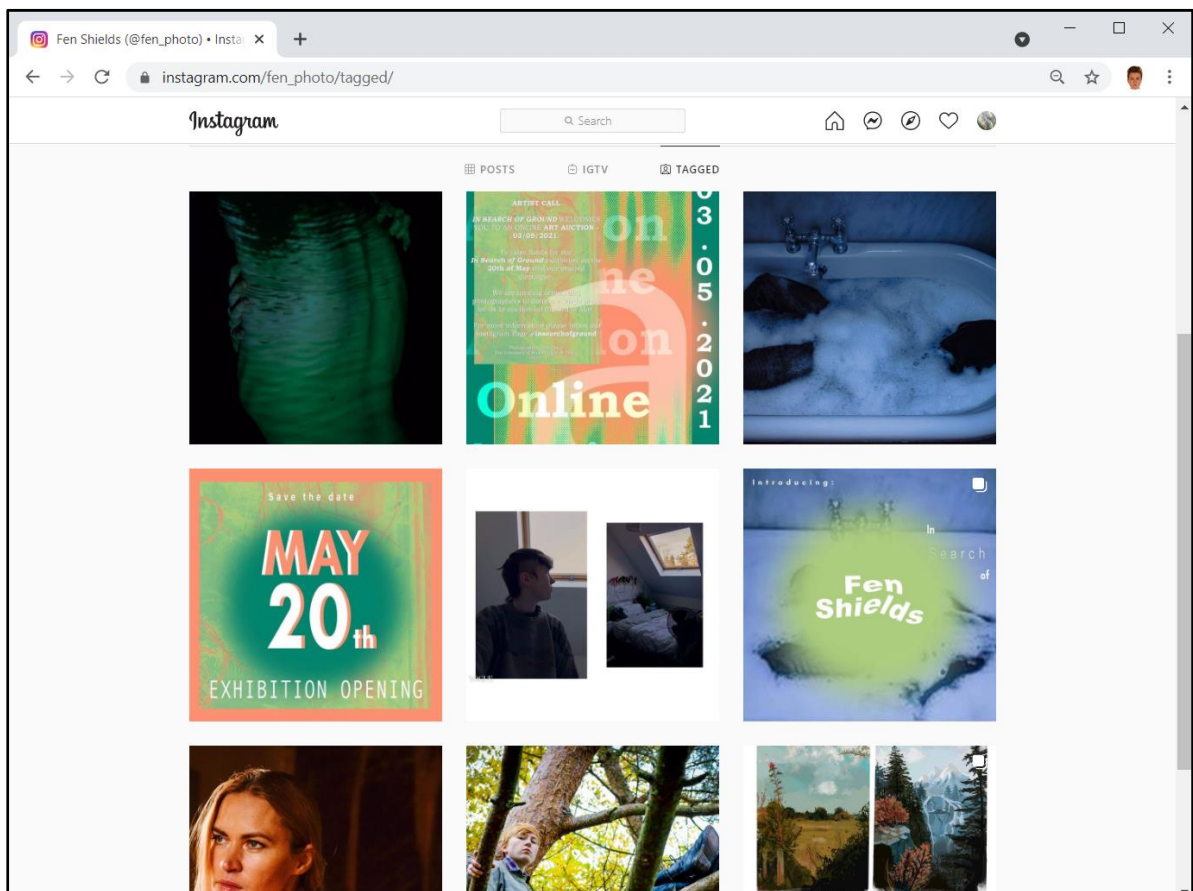
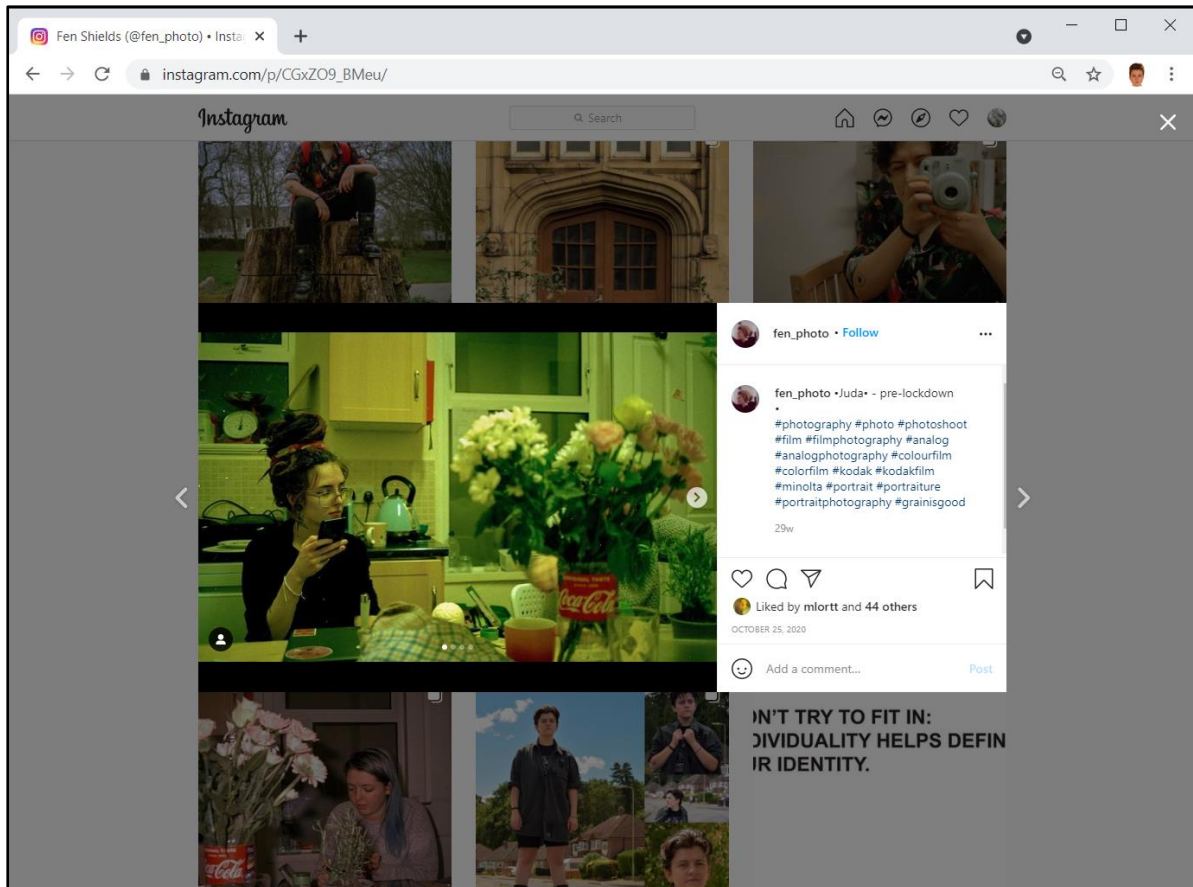
I made a LinkedIn as it a great site to use for networking because most professionals have a presence on LinkedIn. I talk about how I am looking for jobs in the visual arts and that my motivation comes from a need to create and wanting to make the world a better place. I believe it to be the right balance between selling myself well and describing myself honestly. It also links to my website.

Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/fen_photo/

My Instagram links to my website to direct more traffic there. The handle “@fen_photo” is simple, memorable, and looks visually similar to my Fen Photography logo from my website to strengthen the branding. It is updated more regularly than my website so people can follow my process rather than just seeing my end results. It is more likely to be seen by strangers than my website, so it is good for getting my work out there. I use lots of photography-relevant tags to ensure the right people are seeing my work. I am also currently tagged in material by four different accounts meaning peoples’ attention is being directed towards me.





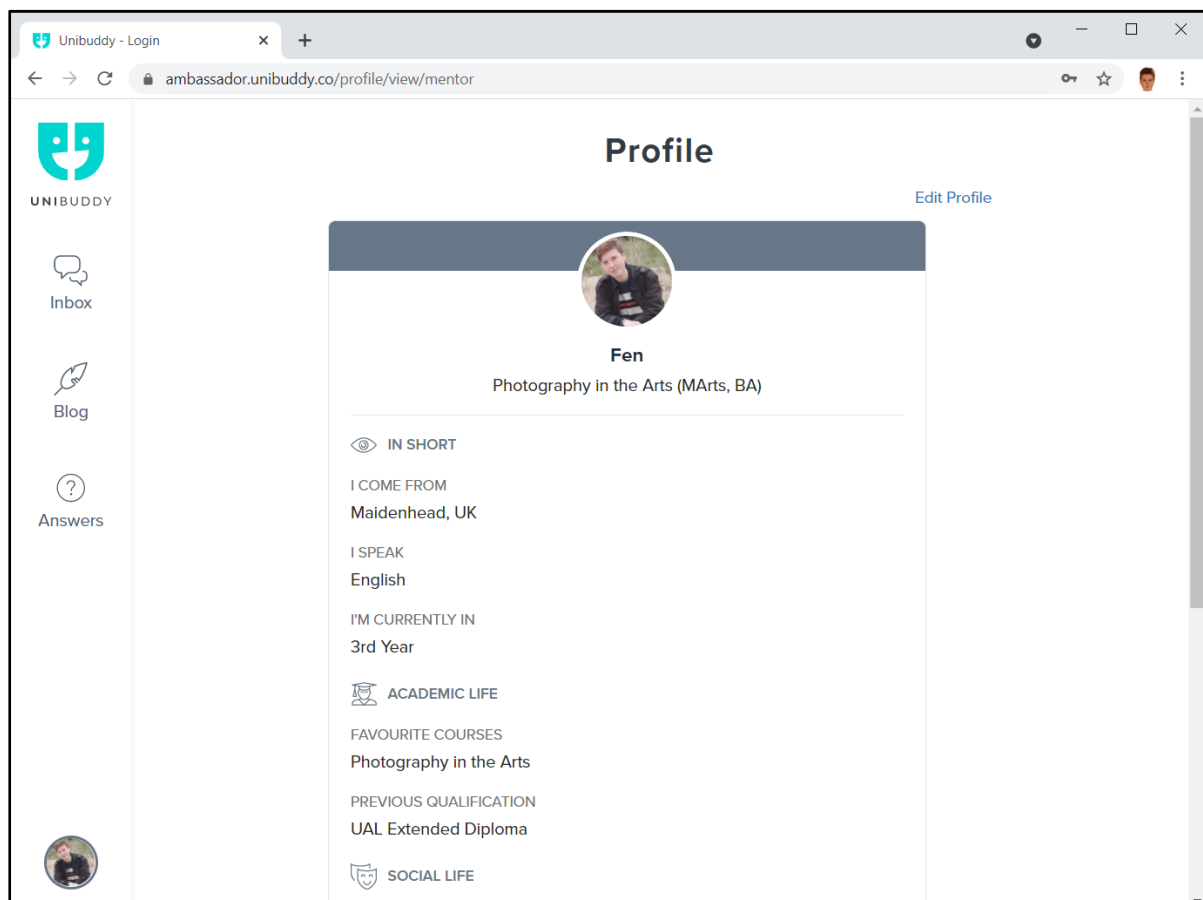
Liaising Within the Institution

Student Representative

I held the position of student representative for both years of college and all three years of university. My roles included attending meetings to aid improvements within the institutions and representing the voices of the students. This will help me with my career because it shows I can hold down a position and I have good communication skills. It proves I can communicate with other photographers.

Unibuddy Course Representative

As a Unibuddy course ambassador, my job is to answer questions from potential new students about the university and the student life here. Participating in this scheme shows I am involved and enthusiastic about what I do. It will help me with my future career as it demonstrates that I take time to promote what I am involved in and take enough of an interest in the institution to be able to answer questions about it.



Student Voice Representative Application

Student Voice Rep opportunity



Ffion Davies
Thu 30/07/2020 15:33
To: Ella Shields (1802148)

Hi Ella,

I'm getting in touch because you have been identified by staff in your Institute as a particularly keen and engaged Course Representative.

Firstly, I want to thank you sincerely for all you've done for your fellow students. It is so good to hear that you have been successful in your role.

The reason for me messaging you is that we have a fantastic opportunity within the SU at the moment to become a Student Voice Representative for your Institute. We only have 10 vacancies for Student Voice Reps across the whole of UWTSU. Their role is to work closely with Course Reps to gather feedback that's outside of a course level, identifying trends, and participating at a senior University meeting called Institute Board.

This is a great opportunity for personal and professional development, and is a really important role. We want to make sure we're recruiting excellent reps to these positions, and I therefore wanted to share the opportunity directly with you:
<https://www.tsdsu.co.uk/articles/become-a-student-voice-rep-applications-open-now>

You can find all the info you need in the link above. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you are interested in the opportunity and have questions.

Best wishes,

Ffion

Ffion Davies

Swyddog Achosion a Pholisi Academaidd
Undeb Myfyrwyr Y Drindod Dewi Saint

Student Voice Rep opportunity

Hi Fen,

Thanks again for your application to become a Student Voice Rep. I'm very pleased to offer you an invitation to interview for the position next week. **Congratulations** on being shortlisted!

The interview will be on MS Teams at **10.50am on Tuesday 25th August**.

The interview panel will be led by James Mills (Group President), and will also include Andrew Jones (Student Engagement Assistant), Euan Morrison and Ffion Davies (Student Voice & Advocacy Coordinators). The aim of the interview will be to get to know you a little better, and will focus on your motivations to undertake the role, your understanding of it, and your ideas to engage with other students and for developing the UWTSU student experience.

The interview will be informal and should take around **30 minutes**. You will be able to join the interview on Teams by following this link:

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)
[Learn more about Teams](#) | [Meeting options](#)



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

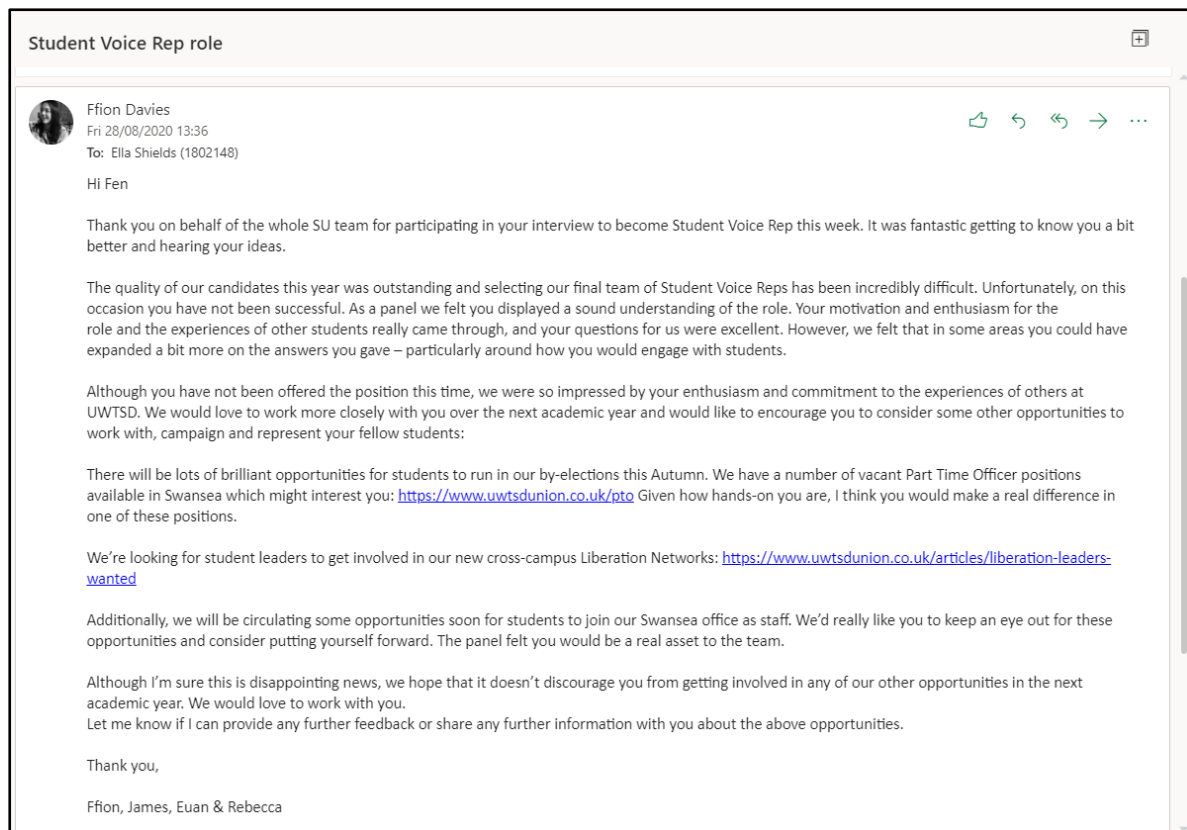
[Help](#)

If there are any factors you'd like to make us aware of ahead of your interview, including any access requirements, please do let us know as soon as possible and we'll do our best to accommodate you.

Please confirm your attendance at interview by responding to this email.

Best wishes,

Ffion



One of the staff members put me forward for a position as a Student Voice Representative and I applied and attended an interview. Although I did not get the position, Ffion (the woman running the hiring process) was very complimentary about me and asked me to look out for other opportunities which I would be better suited to. This is good for my career because it shows I am enthusiastic and hardworking enough to be recognised for my abilities, I have practice writing applications, attending interviews, and dealing with rejection, and I come across well enough to be directed towards other positions. If I can replicate this in future, I will be in with a chance at landing a good job.

Increasing my Employability

AHEH

You can find below a copy of my application. You will see it starts at section two; this is because section one is just personal details.

Section Two: Statement to support Application

Please tell us a little about yourself, your skills interest and practice. (max 250 words)

I go by the name "Fen", I am a non-binary photographer from a Welsh family but was brought up in South East England. My practice is rooted in identity because the majority of my work stems from a personal place as I create a lot of activist pieces drawn from experience. My most notable piece from my career so far has been a zine based on gender identity looking deeply into my own gender. Although, I am not limited to this activist genre and have branched out and experimented a lot. I recently created a project responding (but not illustrating) a book.

As a photography student, my main interest and skill lies within photography – both digital and analogue. However, this is not the extent of my abilities. I am skilled with organisation, time management, creativity, communication and self-motivation. This helps me maintain a respectable grade average while balancing it with a part time job. I believe these skills could help me get a career in my desired field after I graduate, although I feel like programmes such as this AHEH course can benefit myself and others like me to hone our abilities and therefore improve our employability.

What project did you work on for part 1 of professional practice?

**What was your contribution and how was the project of interest to you?
(max 250 words)**

For the first part of my professional practice module, my group worked on Film 5: Elinor Shaw's People Speak Up movement which was all about creating an art based project to break down generational barriers. I chose to respond to this brief because I already had pre-existing knowledge about the benefits of pensioners and young children spending time with each other, and I felt that the creativity skills my art-based course had nurtured would be useful in a project like this.

Placed in a group of five, there was always going to be people who were more involved than others and people who were less involved. Two of our members were repeatedly absent but a boy called Andy and myself stepped up and tackled the work load both inside and outside of working hours. A girl in our group came up with the idea of the participants collaboration on a mural as it was fun, interactive, easy to organise and fairly cheap. From there, we decided upon

a target audience and I contacted possible participants, made a cost list and a time plan. Then Andy and myself researched the company, created a presentation, found a self-proclaimed 'industry mentor', discussed marketing possibilities and I finished it up with looking into the benefits of becoming a Community Interest Company.

Any additional supporting information you might want to include about other relevant projects you have been involved with that evidences why participation in the AHEH project is of interest and how you think it will benefit you. (max 500 words)

Recently, we had an "Activism Week" at our university where we had multiple artists, practitioners and groups come in and give us lectures on activism within the photography and art industries. They even stayed behind for tutorials so that they could respond to our work. I really enjoyed it and felt that it achieved the second AHEH objective of fostering greater collaboration between HEIs and business and was perhaps even step towards objective four of developing and mentoring A&H students. However, having not been around industry specialists before, engaging with them in tutorials was difficult. I believe that not being taught how to professionally communicate with other practitioners was the reason for low turnout at the tutorials. This is where I believe we can benefit from this programme. Not only would it teach us how to interact professionally, but would give us the confidence to do so. This wouldn't just open up the lines of communication between undergraduates and successful guest lecturers, but would also aid in asking for exhibition spaces, applications for competitions and jobs, magazine entries and so on. This would achieve AHEH objectives one, four and five of embedding knowledge and aligning industry/graduate needs, develop and mentor A&H students, and improving opportunities.

Please confirm that you are available for all key dates as listed.

I am available for all the key dates listed at the top of this form.

Please email your entry in a Word .doc

Please ensure you save the document as 'your name' AHEH 2020.doc

Please submit images in link to online blog/website or all images collated onto a single PDF.

No individual image files please.

Dear Fen,

We are delighted to be able to offer you a place on the Erasmus + **AHEH** exchange to Oporto University and participate in their professional development module.

Please can you confirm if you are able to accept this offer.

The dates of the exchange are a 19th - 24th/25th April 2020 depending on flight availability.

- Please can you send us your full passport details ASAP so we are able to book flights.

To make the bookings we need:

Your title: (eg Mr Mrs. Ms etc)

Full name as it appears in your passport:

Passport Number:

Date of birth:

Place of birth:

Nationality as appears on passport:

Unfortunately, COVID-19 prevented this event from taking place, however this does not take away from the fact that I was selected to represent the university at this event. This will help me in my future career as I got to practice application and interview techniques that will help me secure future positions. The professional practice course would have really increased my employability by teaching me more professionalism, however, getting selected is an employability-boosting achievement in itself. This is because it shows that I stood out from a large group of candidates as a good option to represent the university abroad.

Pink News Futures

I found out about Pink News Futures from social media, it is a zoom conference Pink News have started hosting twice a year for LGBT+ students, recent graduates, and young people. It is a week of talks and workshops for young LGBT+ people entering the workforce. You sign up for each individual event you would like to attend. I attended:

- Welcome to Pink News Futures.
- How I Lead.
- Make Yourself Employable.
- Navigating Intersectional Identities.
- Meet Our Partner: Sony Music.
- Being LGBT+ in Media.
- Interview Workshop.
- Coaching Session – 3 Degrees of Innovation.
- CV Consultation.

Hey there,

Thanks for signing-up to **PinkNews Futures** 2020! We're so excited to see you there (digitally).

We've got some super inspirational speakers lined up — please do share the word with friends, family or anyone in your network who might be interested.

You are now able to register your attendance for a whole load of sessions. To do so, simply visit [our website](#), view the programme, and click on the 'Register' button under individual sessions.

Here are just some of the sessions that you can now register for:

- Welcome to **PinkNews Futures** — Keynote address by Ben Hunte
- Make Yourself Employable
- LGBT+ in Finance
- LGBT+ in Media
- Developing Your Authentic Confidence — a coaching session with event partners [3 Degrees of Innovation](#), a one-of-a-kind opportunity!

Make sure to register for all of the sessions you're interested in. There's even an option to add them to your calendar, so you don't forget!

We'll be keeping you updated over the next couple of weeks, and we'll be sure to let you know when you can sign-up for those sessions that still say 'Register Soon', so don't worry if you can't register for your preferred sessions yet.

We'll also be letting you know how you can attend our digital careers fair, where you'll have the chance to network with recruiters and learn exactly what they're looking for in a candidate.

If you have any questions, you can reach out to the **PinkNews Futures** team by emailing futures@pinknews.co.uk. We're always happy to hear from you!

Speak soon,

Molly

Hi there,

Thank you for joining us for **PinkNews Futures**! It's been a wonderful week, and we have enjoyed meeting every single one of you.

We hope you have all taken something away from the sessions, whether it's a sage piece of advice, some inspiration, or a better understanding of careers in a certain field.

Please take 5 minutes to complete our feedback form

In the attachment below, you'll find a series of contact details for some of our sponsor representatives, as well as a few more details to get you started on your journey. If you have an interest in a particular partner or speaker, be sure to let us know and we will try our best to put you in touch with them directly!

ICYMI — some of our sessions are now [on YouTube](#). Keep an eye out for more to come in the next few days!

Don't forget, some of the roles available with our sponsors are still live! **[Be sure to check them out](#)** and send over your applications as soon as possible.

We'd love to stay in touch with you, and help you stay in touch with each other! Please join our [Linkedin group](#) and help the **PinkNews Futures** family grow.

Be sure to follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or [Linkedin](#) to stay in touch with any upcoming recruitment events.

Until next time!

With love,

The **PinkNews** Team

It was fantastic to be able to see other queer people finding success in their fields and not only did the event help me with CV writing and interview techniques, but it allowed me to ask questions about how to navigate a workplace as a transgender person, learn how to recognise discrimination, and understand my intersectional identity. I found it increased my employability as it enabled me to understand how I can function as a minority in a work environment and helped me improve my CV and interview technique through workshops.

Mailing Lists

In order to keep up to date with what is happening on the photography scene and hear about opportunities in film and television, I subscribed to the British Journal of Photography and Raindance. The almost daily email updates from both organisations make me more employable by keeping me clued into what is happening in my career field.

Careers Advisor

I had multiple meetings with a careers advisor to increase my employability. She worked with me to improve my CV from what she considered to be a good CV for a part time job (that I made off the back of the Pink News Futures workshop), to a good CV for a creative field (as seen on pages 3-5). As I explained earlier, a good CV is vital to securing a good job.

Photography Jobs

Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities

At college, our class was approached by staff from the LLDD (learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities) section of the college. They thought it would be nice for one of their classes to learn how to use a camera as a treat. I and three others offered to run a class where we taught the students the basic controls of a DSLR camera. They used some of the university cameras to practice with and we taught them some introductory level skills such as framing, the rule of thirds and then set them a basic depth of field task. It ran smoothly and was very successful, all the students seemed to enjoy themselves.

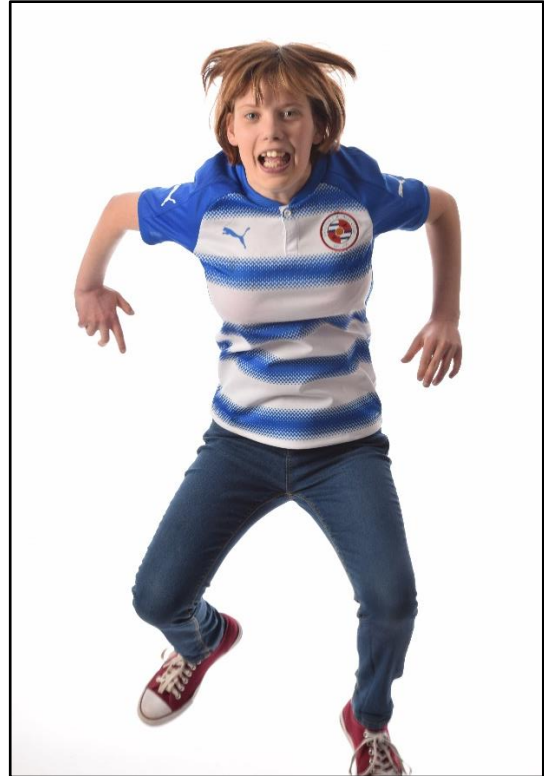
Having this experience teaching allowed me to develop my communication and organisational skills. These are transferrable skills that will benefit me in my career as a visual artist as I will need to communicate with clients, galleries and models and organise my shoots and work. It also allowed me to connect with people whom I otherwise would not have crossed paths with which let me exercise my people skills – something that will be especially useful for networking in the future. Networking is very important as a photographer because local photography scenes are fuelled by word of mouth, so it was very useful to develop my people skills.

Portraits of Students with Learning Disabilities

The class of students I had given the workshop to had taken a liking to me and wanted to see me again so one of their teachers contacted me. We set up a day where I would take portraits of some of them for their parents. They wanted a classic, clean studio shot with flash kit lighting and a plain background and some action shots of them jumping. This was good experience working in a studio responding to a brief and communicating with models. The experience taught me how to be patient and change my communication based on my client's needs.





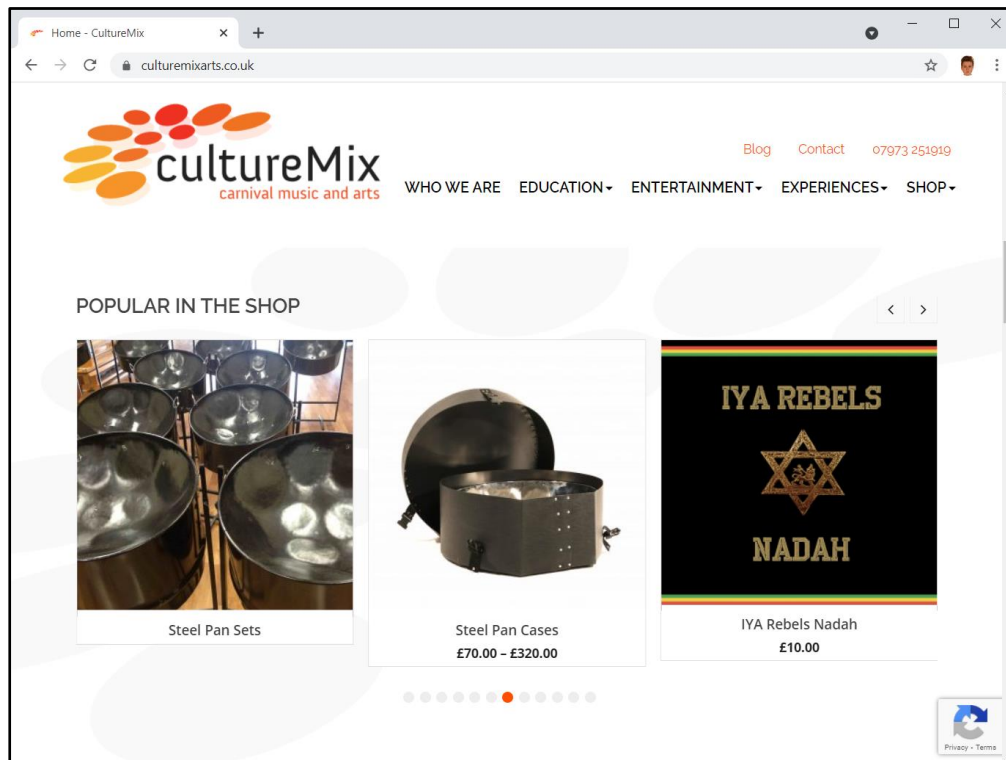


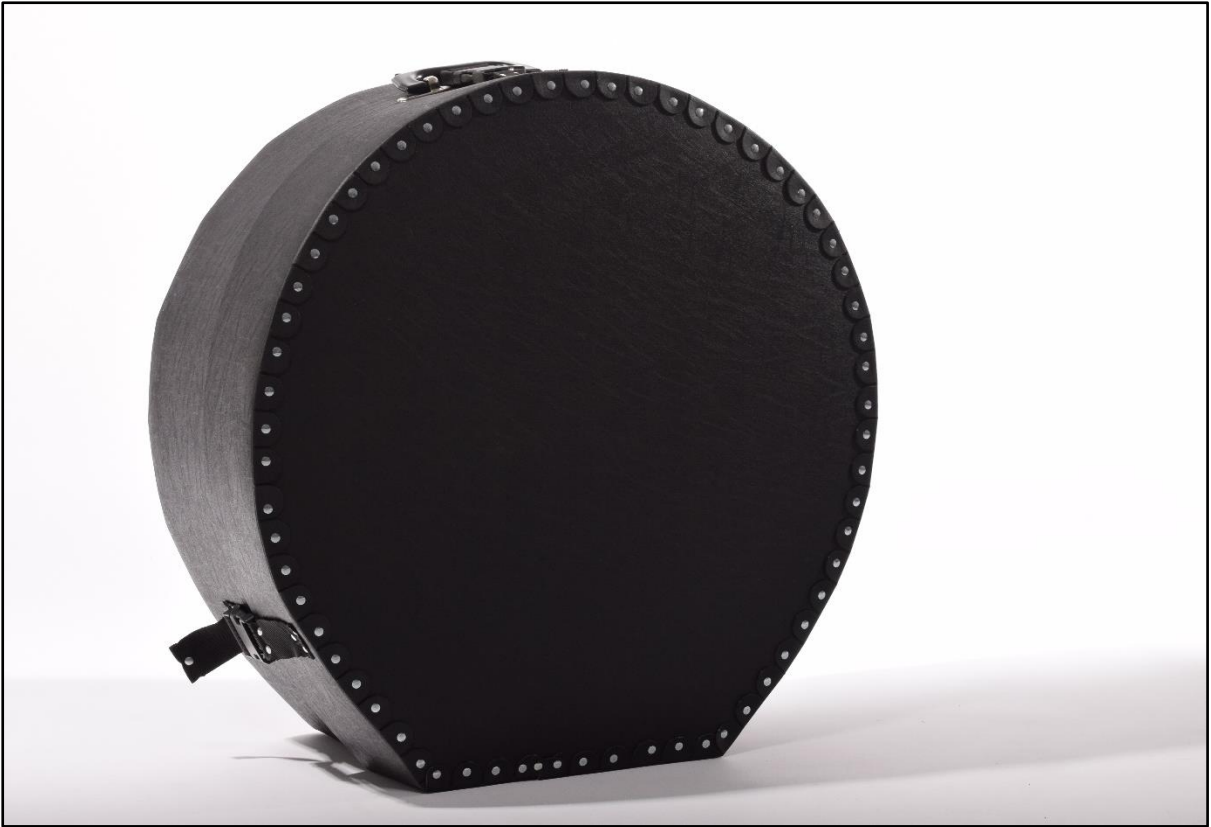
The students also wanted a photograph with me which shows that I am good at making connections and keeping clients happy.



Culture Mix

Culture Mix is a non-profit organisation in Reading that runs workshops with steel pans. While running a workshop for the LLDD students, they heard that I had taken portraits for free, so they came by the studio to see if I was willing to take some promotional photos of one of their steel pan cases for their website. I agreed to help them out and one of my photographs of their case is still featured on their website.







This gave me experience taking promotional shots in a studio which was not something I had much experience in. I learned I needed to be detail oriented and straight to the point with sharp focus and bright lighting. This helped me because now if I am ever required to take promotional shots, I know how to achieve it.

Zine Fest

I had booked out a table at Swansea Zine Fest, but it got cancelled due to COVID-19.

Swansea Zine Fest - Application to Table

Inbox x



Zine Fest <swanseazinefest@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 7, 2020, 10:18 PM



to bcc: me

Hello!

Thanks for registering to table at **Swansea Zine Fest**! We are so excited to have you join us!

To finalise your booking, please PayPal £10 to mskirstyface@gmail.com leaving 'Swansea Zine Fest' and the name of your stall as a note. To ensure we receive the right amount of money please use the 'Pay friends and family' option. Unfortunately as we need to cover the cost of running the event we will not be able to return your booking fee if you find at a later point that you are unable to attend unless someone is able to take your space. If you would like to have your table space next to a friend's please let us know who they are so we can work that into our plan.

In addition to your table fee, please reply to this email with a photo of you or your work which we can use in publicity.

The **zine fest** is on Saturday 9th May from 12pm - 5pm at Volcano **Swansea**. We will be sending out details about set up times etc. nearer the event, but we anticipate that set up for stallholders will be from around 10.30am. If you have let us know of any accessibility requirements you have then we will be in touch with you individually to discuss these.

We have a Facebook event (<https://facebook.com/events/swansea-zine-fest-2020/478659939751064/?ti=c>) Twitter account (@swanseazinefest) and a website (bit.ly/swanseazinefest2019) for the **zine fest**. Please share these on your own social media if possible so we can get as many visitors as possible on the day.

Feel free to get in touch if you have any more questions! :)

Morgan, Cath and Kirsty
Swansea Zine Fest Team



Swansea Zine Fest <swanseazinefest@gmail.com>

Fri, May 15, 2020, 12:14 PM



to bcc: me

Hello lovely tablers!

We hope you are doing as best as is possible for you right now.

We're emailing to let you know that, whilst we had planned to reschedule the in-person **Swansea Zine Fest** 2020 for the autumn, we have taken the decision to cancel the event entirely. We think the situation around COVID-19 and when things can return to 'normal' is very unclear and we don't want to get our hopes up for an event which may or may not be able to happen. Instead, on the back of the brilliant time we had doing Virtual **Swansea Zine Fest** last weekend, we are going to put all our **zine fest** efforts into **Swansea Zine Fest** 2021, which we are hoping will be a two day event including both a physical day and a virtual day!

With this decision made, we are in a position to start returning your tabler fees, which will be done by PayPal (if you need another arrangement please let me know). Everyone is entitled to £10 refunded. However, we are in a position where **Swansea Zine Fest** has made a loss this year due to having to pay out some money in advance of the event which will now not happen. As the only money we have is from tabling fees then this will need to be covered by us as organisers. Please only consider this is if you can comfortably afford it, but if you are in the position to allow us to keep even £1 or £2 of your tabler fee it would help us out. If we recoup our costs and have money left over, this will be donated to Discovery, the charity we usually fundraise for at **Swansea Zine Fest** (<https://discoverysvs.org/>).

As we are sure you can appreciate, this is a big administrative job so please can you help by replying to this email with the following information:

Name of tabler:

Name of table:

Email address of PayPal account:

Amount of refund required (if not completed we will assume you require a full refund of £10):

Please be patient after you have sent your details. If you haven't received your refund within a week of emailing then give us a shout, but otherwise assume we are on it!

Thanks for sticking with us through this, and to those of you who participated in or tuned in to Virtual **Swansea Zine Fest**. We hope to see as many of you as possible next year - in the meantime, be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to keep up to date with our plans for SZF 2021! ❤️

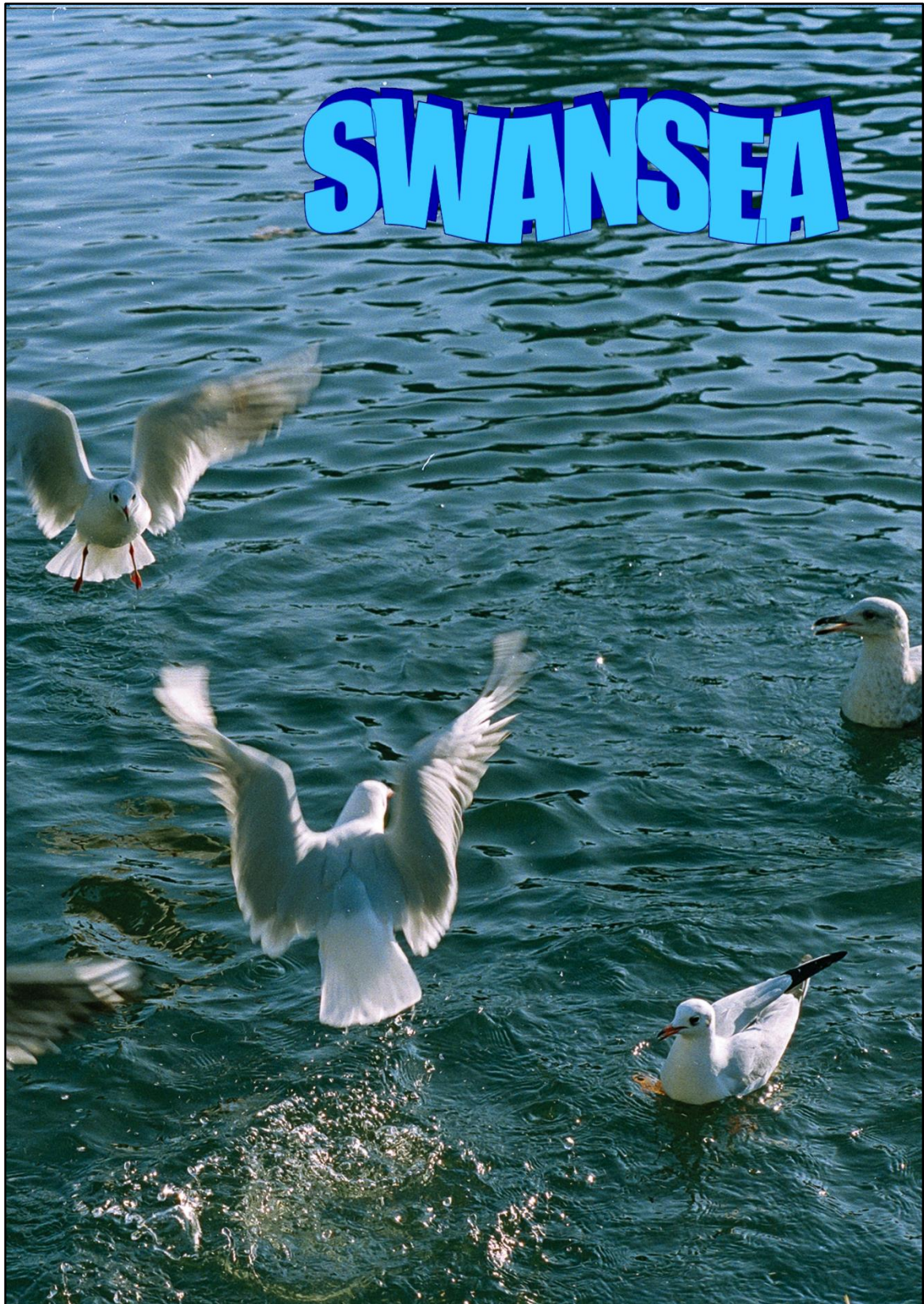
Kirsty, Cath and Morgan
Swansea Zine Fest Organisers

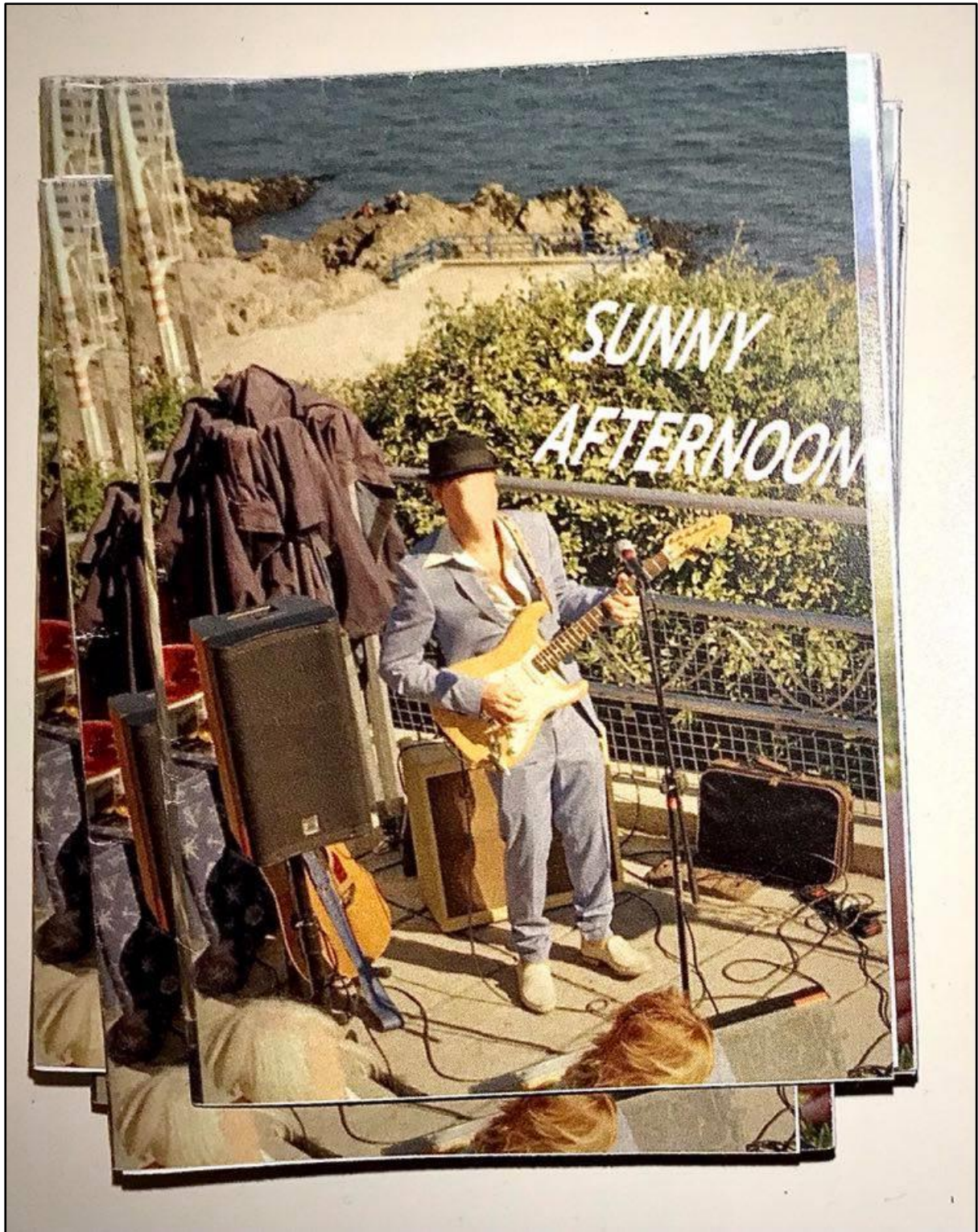
I had already printed a batch of *Let Me Be* zines, *Swansea* zines, and *Sunny Afternoon* zines. I also had lots of *Vices & Virtues* zines left over.



Let Me Be

Fen Shields



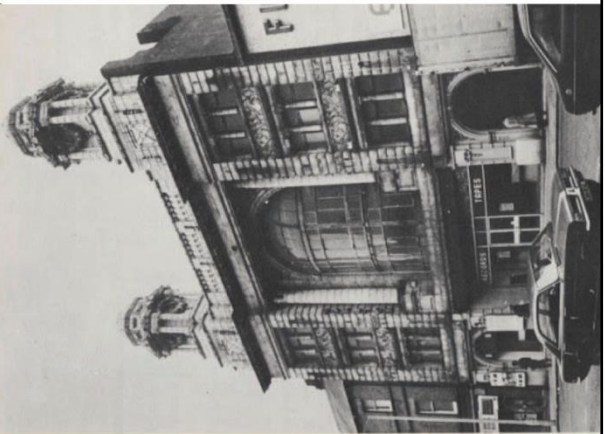


Vices & Virtues
A UNTSD Exhibition

Waterstones, Swansea
11th March
9am - 5.30pm



@vices_and_virtues_UNTSD



I know neither the day ...



... nor the hour.

Shit - everything is
not about myself

The borders between skin
and skin and mine and mine
had just dissolved

And he was the son of God.
He was a miraculous person...

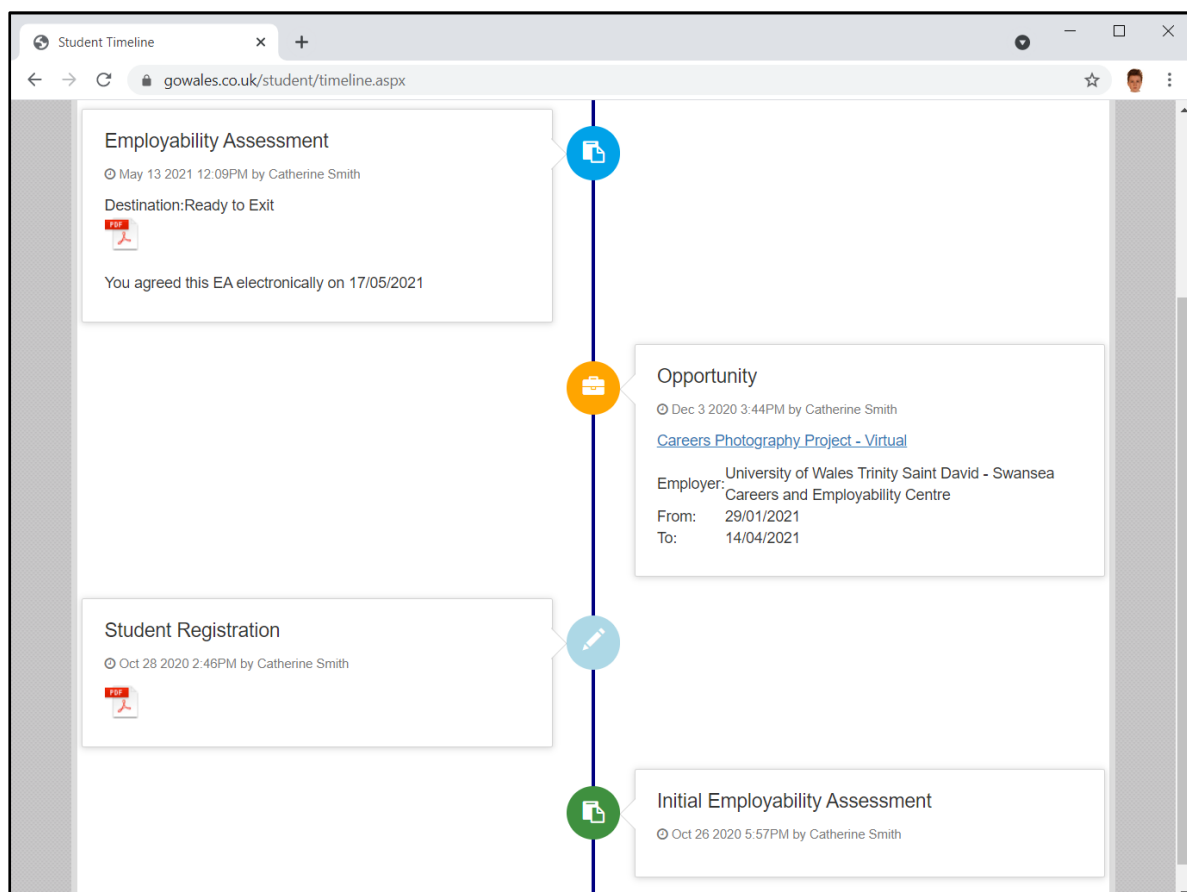
You can
take it
to God



While I never got to attend the zine fest because of the pandemic, I still learned how to go through the process of booking a table and communicating with event organisers. I went through the preparation so when I go to another event I will be prepared and familiar with the process.

GoWales Work Experience

I got accepted into the GoWales work experience scheme. I got assigned to a careers advisor (not the same one I was having meetings with). She wanted pictures of doors for an illustration student to draw bees on top of for the new careers website. Originally, the plan was to photograph prominent doors on the campus in Swansea, Carmarthen, Lampeter, Birmingham, and London, but the pandemic made it unsafe to travel so she recommended I just take photos of the doors on Brangwyn Hall. This gave me an opportunity to practice responding to a brief outside of the studio and taught me how to better deal with change of plans. Previously, I have had quite rigid thinking where plan-changes throw me off, but flexibility a key skill for a photographer so it was important that I had this experience.













Liaising Externally for Exhibitions

Vices & Virtues

Vices & Virtues was my site-specific exhibition. Being based on the Old Carlton Cinema, it was exhibited in Waterstones (who now operated in that building). Because of this, it meant liaising with the Waterstones manager and staff. We held our exhibition on the top floor which used to be an art gallery. As it was based on the Old Carlton Cinema, we sort of re-opened the cinema for a day by screening a short film we made. As we were in a fragile building and using their electronics, we had to liaise with the manager to create an accurate risk report too. The exhibition went ahead and ran smoothly. I learnt how to communicate with space owners to negotiate access to the space and ability to exhibit which will come in useful when I become a practicing artist wanting to exhibit my work.



TV Interview

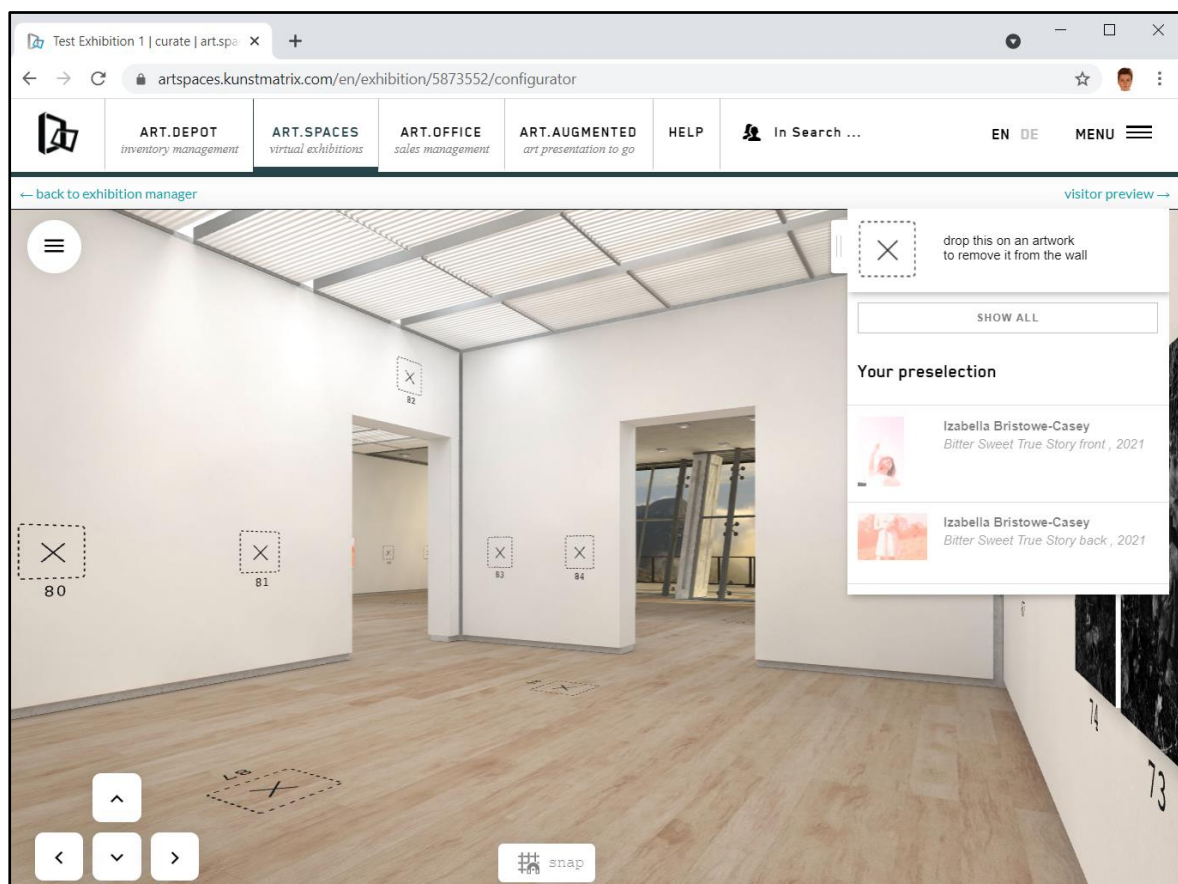
Vices & Virtues ended up picking up traction, so we ended up also liaising with a reporter for a TV interview. The link below will take you to a place where you can watch this.

<https://www.fenshields.com/selected-works#/vice-and-virtues>

This experience was useful to me as it taught me to communicate professionally and advertise my work. This will be a useful skill when I have to promote new works of mine.

Ikonospace

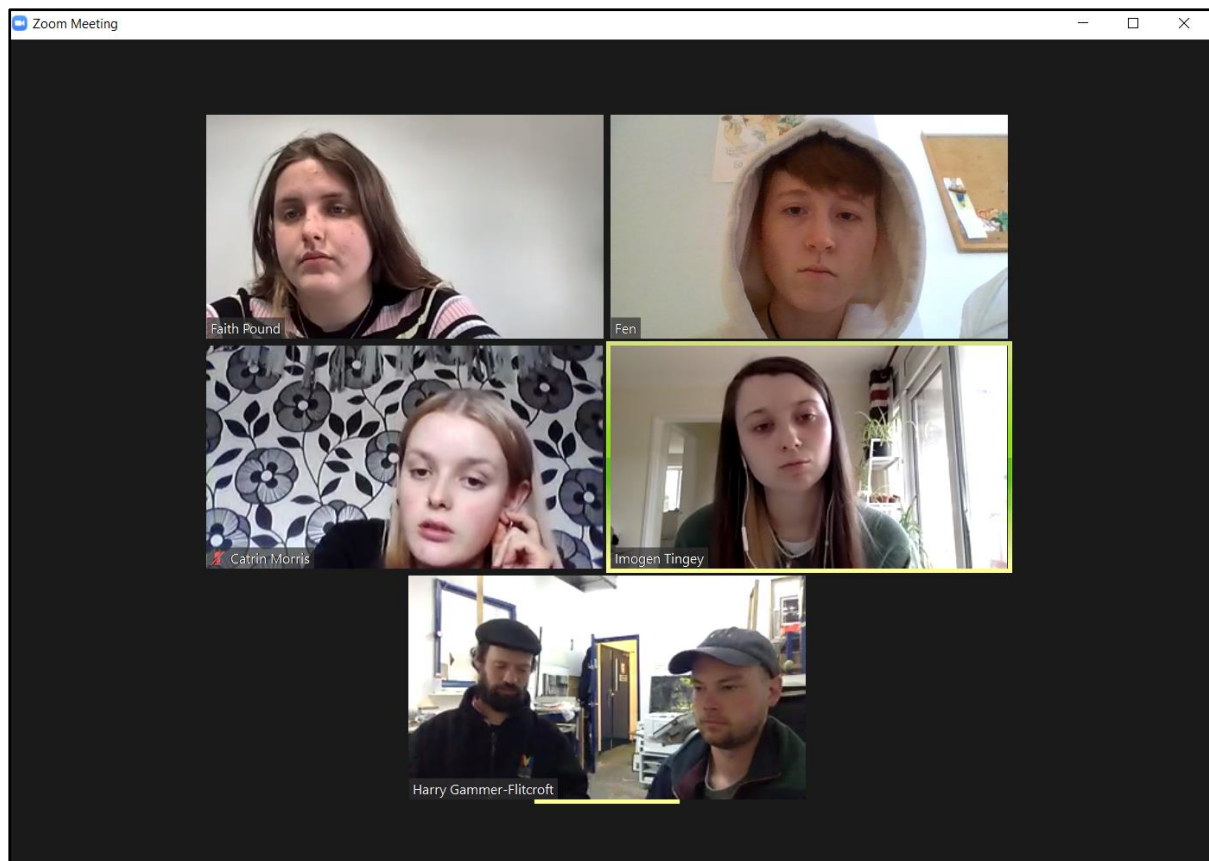
Ikonospace are a company that sell digital gallery spaces. For our degree show *In Search of Ground*, we purchased the “Atlas” space for KunstMatrix. The curation team met with a consultant from the company called Sarah multiple times before we decided upon buying a space.



This communication helps me with my career because it gave the opportunity to experience consultations for gallery spaces which prepared me for doing it for my own work in the future.

Folium Publishing

As a member of the catalogue team for my degree show, I have been in close contact with Folium publishing through this process. We had many consultations and meetings about the catalogue before they went to print. It was good practice communicating ideas with a printing company and working out what is feasible and not. I gained skills in negotiation through this.



Print Drive

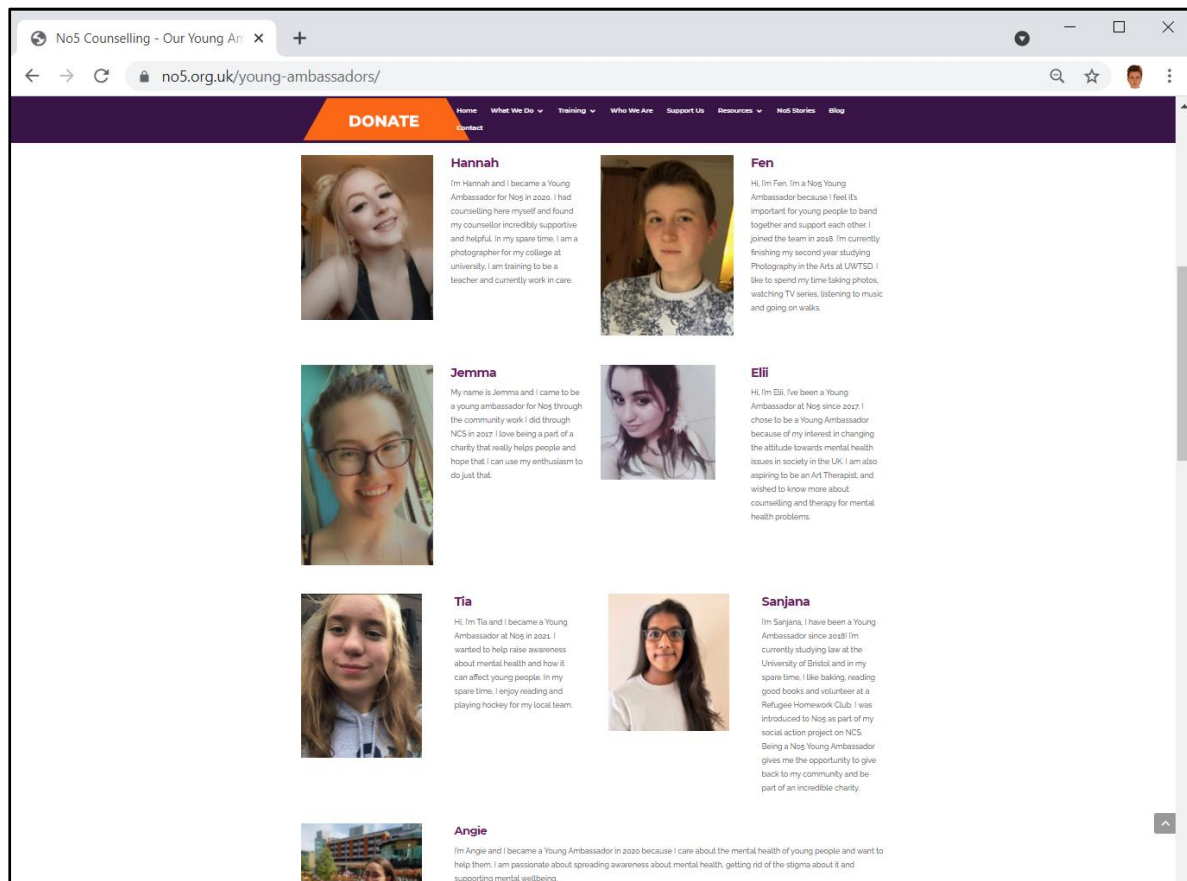
The fundraising team set up a print drive to raise money for the exhibition. They reached out to me to donate a photograph for the print drive, so I donated a studio portrait of water projected onto the body.



Giving Back to the Communities I Represent

No5

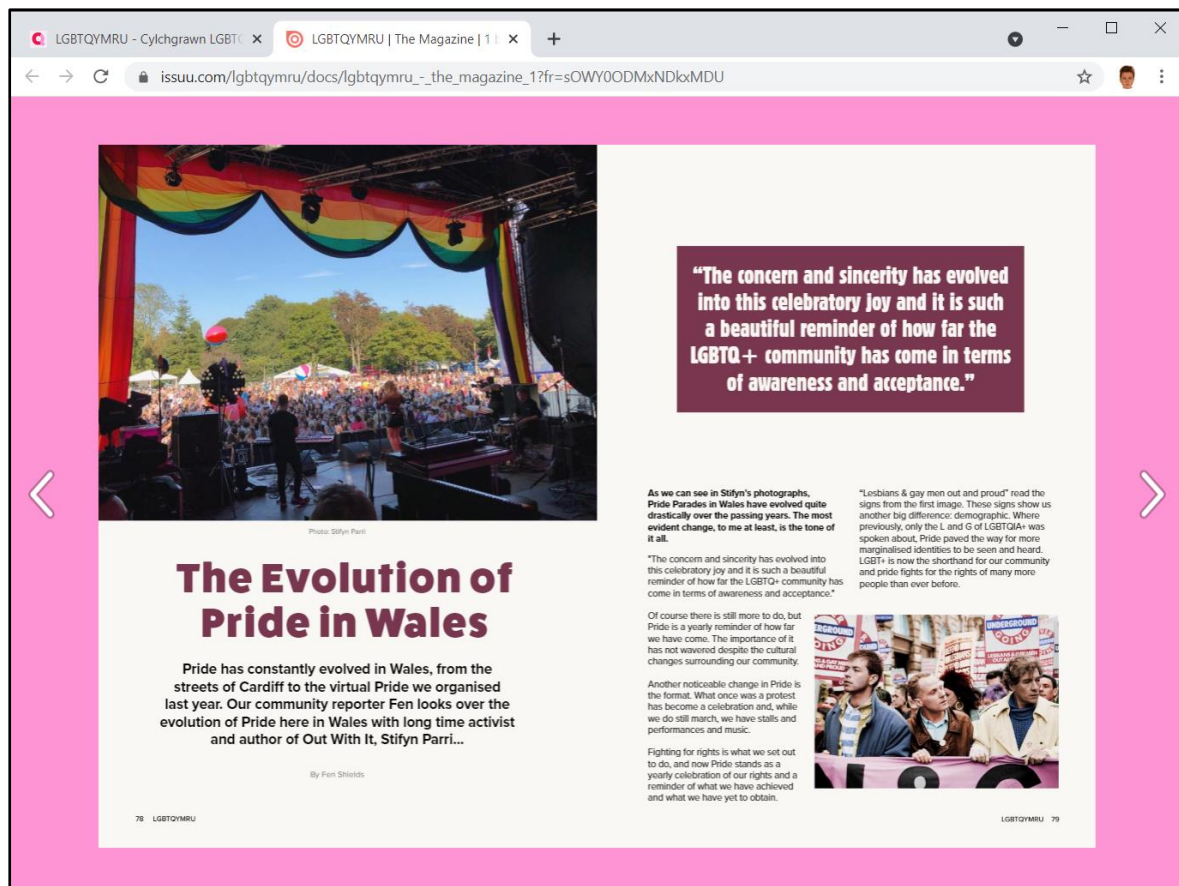
No5 Young People is a Reading-based organisation that provides free counselling to young people aged 11-25. I have been a volunteer there since April 2018.



I think it is important as a photographer to be aware of who your work effects, especially if you make big statements with your work. It is important to give back to the communities you represent because just representing them is not enough. Put your money where your mouth is and do something positive for the people you claim to be helping.

LGBTQymru

LGBTQymru is the first ever Wales-based LGBT+ magazine. It got its name from "LGBTQ+" and "Cymru". I am a "Qommunity Reporter" meaning I write articles for them. Again, if I am going to represent the community, I should be doing something more to help them.



Future Plans

Researching Post-Grad Courses

I looked mainly at Swansea College of Art, Bristol, and Plymouth College of Art. This is because I was already familiar with SCA, the area, the facilities and the lecturers, Bristol is known for its abundance of arts and photography jobs, and I know people studying photography at PCA, so I know what to expect and know that I am well suited to the course. I ended up deciding not to apply for a master's course because I feel I would only gain a real benefit from specialising if I already had experience setting up and a practice which I work full time on.

Photography (MA) | Swansea Coll

uwtsd.ac.uk/ma-photography/

Prifysgol Cymru
University of Wales
Swansea
College of Art

COURSES ABOUT STUDENT LIFE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH



[UWTSd Home](#) - [Study With Us](#) - [Postgraduate Courses](#) - Photography (MA)

Photography (MA)

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [v](#)

APPLY NOW

The philosophy of the MA Photography programme is to pioneer an erudite exploration of and experimentation with, the concept and practice of photography.

You are encouraged to experiment, challenge and utilise the medium as a cross-disciplinary, multimodal practice employed as a way of deciphering the contemporary world.

You will be introduced to a range of current photographic concepts and methodologies, learn to contextualise your practice and apply philosophical, experimental strategies to resolve projects into different outputs such as publications, exhibitions, and digital platforms.

Photography students are invited each year to submit proposals to the prestigious Studio Vortex workshop in Arles, France, run by acclaimed Magnum photographer, Antoine d'Agata.

Key Facts

Location:
[Swansea](#)

Language Choice:
English

Course Length:
18 months, full-time
Three years, part-time



WHATUNI?
STUDENT CHOICE
Awards
2020
WINNER
COURSE & LECTURERS

Photography - MA - UWE Bristol

courses.uwe.ac.uk/W6411/photography

UWE Bristol

Skip to main content

Search

Menu

Home | Courses and applying | Photography

MA

Photography

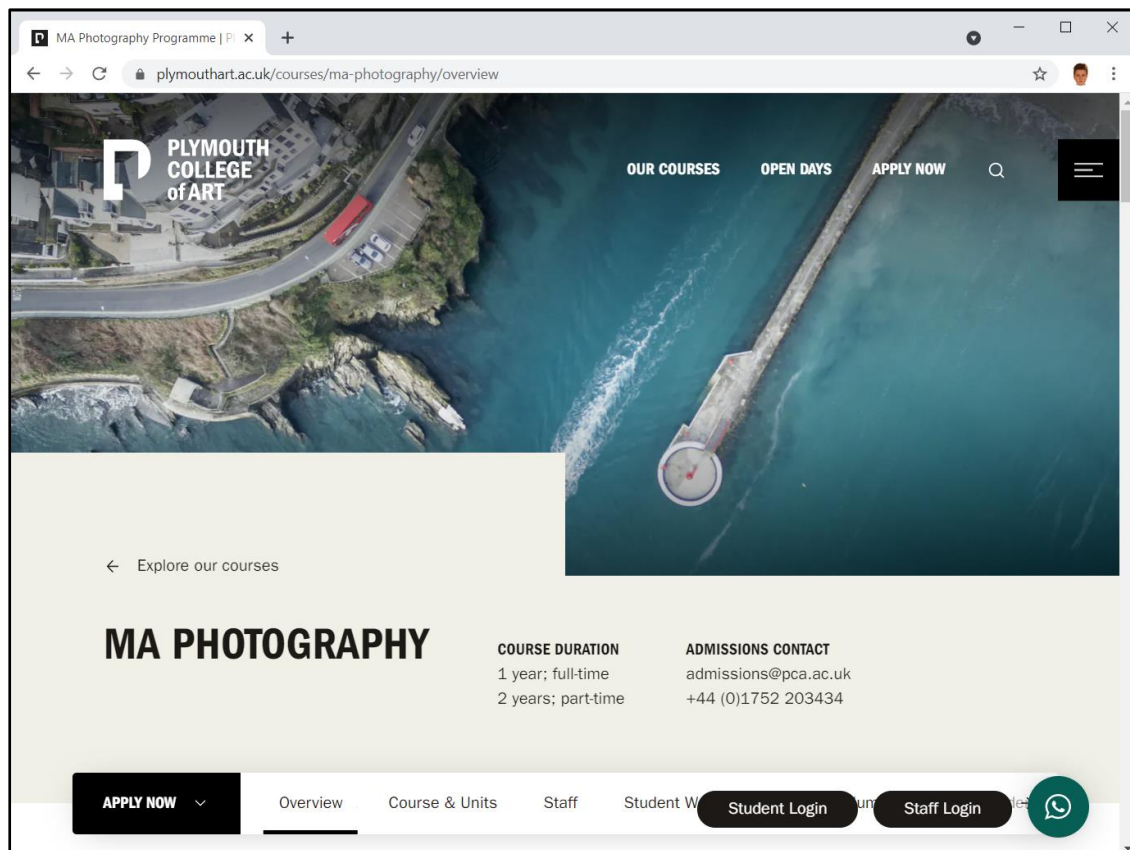
Entry year	2021/22
Course code	W6411
Application	University
Level	Postgraduate
Department	Creative and Cultural Industries
Campus	City Campus
Duration	15 months full-time, 24 months part-time
Delivery	Part-time, Full-time, starts September
Programme leader	Aaron Schuman Dr Shawn Sobers

[Introduction](#) [Structure](#) [Life](#) [Features](#) [Careers](#) [Fees](#) [Entry](#)

Page last updated 10 May 2021

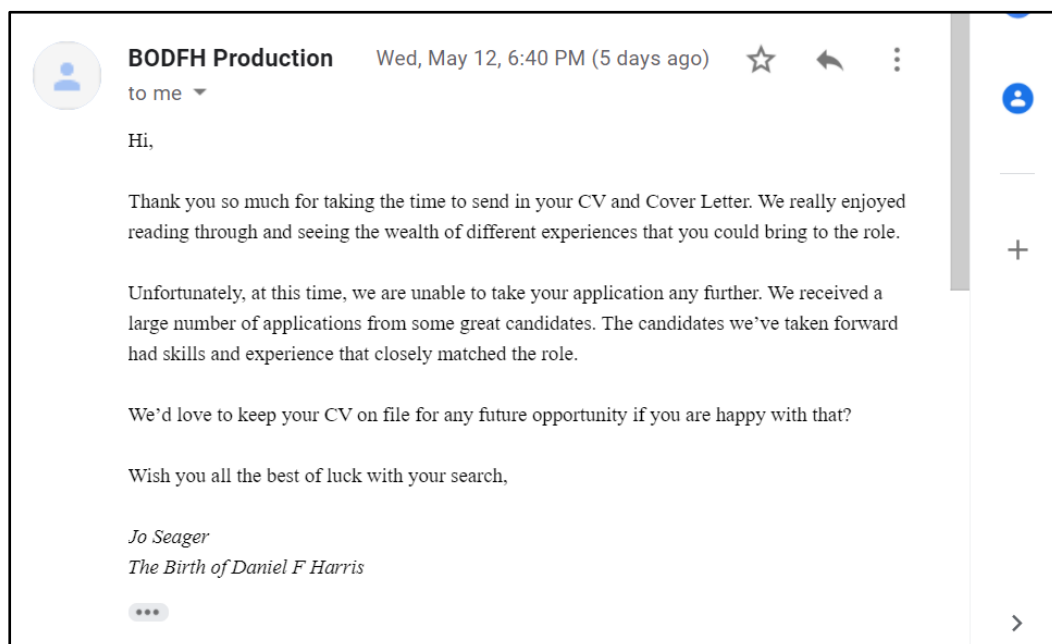
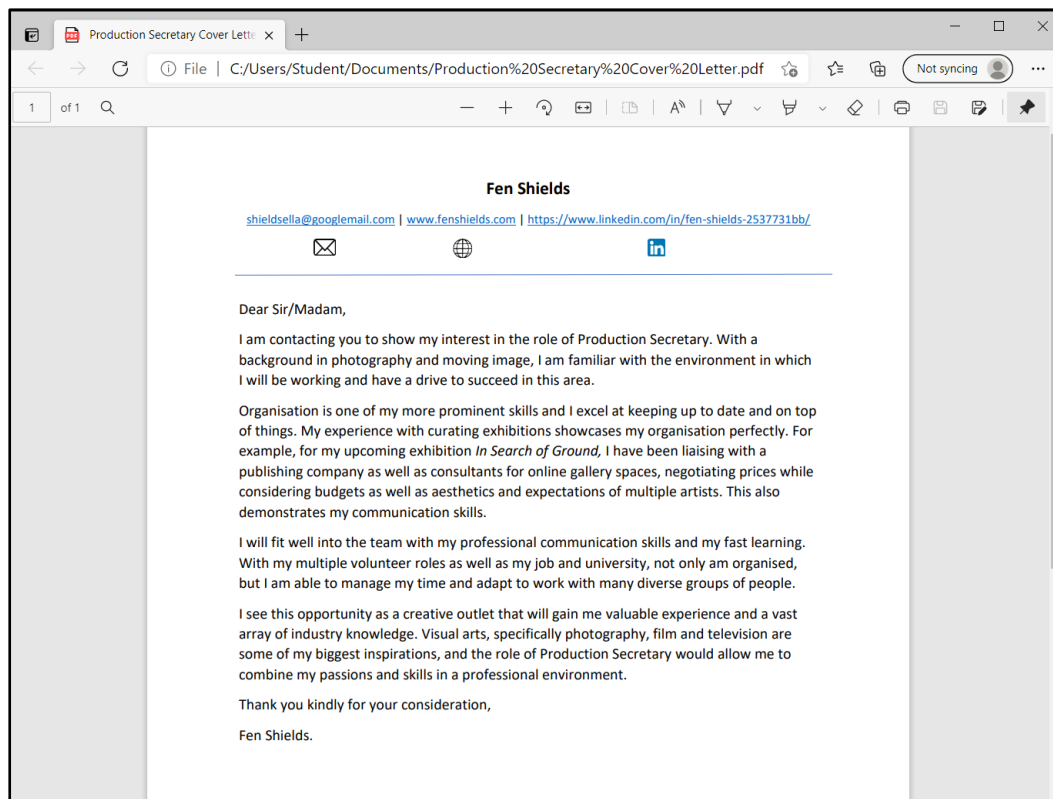
[Apply now](#) > [Book an open day](#) > [Order a prospectus](#) >





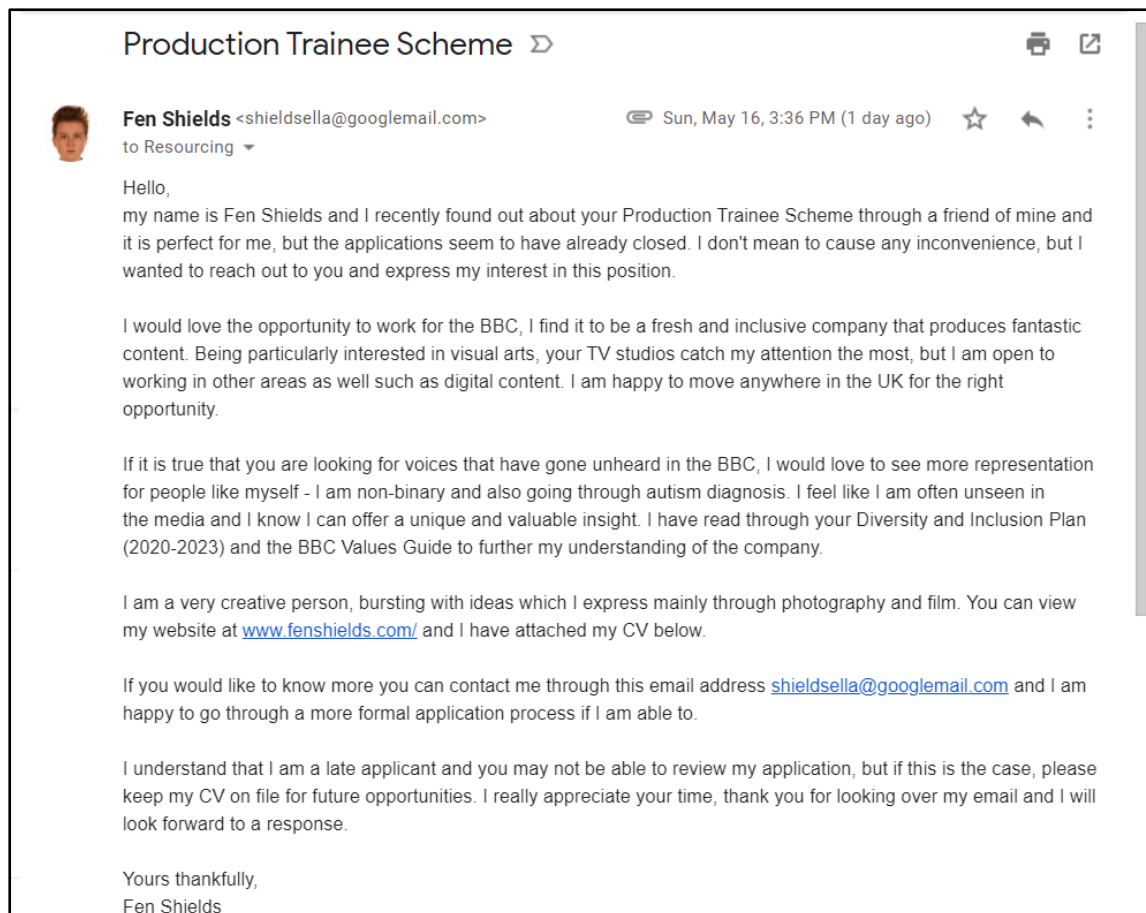
Channel 4 Internship Application

I applied for summer internship at Channel 4 to get me experience in a job where I got to work behind a camera in some way. I did not get accepted, but it gave me practice applying for a job. It also was a great opportunity to write a cover letter for the first time. I formatted it to look similar to my CV for unity.



BBC Application

I heard of a production trainee scheme at the BBC that was looking for unheard voices on the BBC. Working behind a camera in any capacity is a great opportunity to launch my visual arts career but the applications had already closed by the time I had heard about it. I decided to send an email enquiring anyway. This is great experience communicating professionally and going for what you want.



I am currently looking for photography jobs and hope to be employed in the visual arts sector by the end of Summer.