

Gabriela Szczygiel

2009924

Programme of Study: BA Fine Art

Module: ADAA5000 Changemakers

lecturer: Paul Duerinckx

1. Social media

I have decided to be true and refuse to complete this task at this time, so I will only write a short statement explaining the nature of things. I recently rejected social media in my life and am in the detox phase from them. I have never used any platform for professional purposes and using a personal Facebook account for 12 years was a big cheating on myself. Whatever I was doing I was not fully present thinking only about sharing photos or my work with friends on fb and then waiting for the number of likes. I also do not have 550 friends, one or two at least. Most should stay where they belong, in the past. Screen scrolling was stealing my time and energy every day. I knew it was an addiction, but I did not have the strength to stop it until my account was hacked and closed.

For several days I tried desperately to unlock the account and then the process of acceptance and detoxification began. When after a month I realized that the account was working, I was already at a good enough stage not to get involved again.

When I feel that my current attitude has strengthened and I am ready, I intend to create my professional fb and Instagram account, which I will be able to manage consciously and purposefully.

2. Artist statement

Gabriela Anna Szczygiel is both a mature person and a young, emerging artist with a Polish background who currently lives and studies on BA Fine Art, Studio, Site, and Context in Swansea College of Art. Late decision to give her artistic passion a more professional form was caused, among other things, by personal, also traumatic experiences and professional regression related to emigration. Szczygiel completed a foundation course in 2020/21 where, through a series of experiments with a wide range of media and fields such as: painting, observational and life drawing, photography, textile, and sculpture, she became intrigued by the phenomenon of process in art and decided to continue BA Fine Art to explore new directions, breadth and the depth of the limits of art.

The fast-growing fascination with conceptual art combined with a strong need to find an authentic voice as an artist and a philosophy rooted in the theory of anarchism inclined Szczygiel to reject traditional art and reach for unconventional methods, which is reflected

in her visual works, starting with the installation PEACE (2022) and the subsequent installation THE ART OF PROTEST#WORK NR1 exhibited at the final show in Dynevor in June 2022. Her current art is a continuous expansion of this topic and the slogan the art of protest has grown into her activity which explores the areas of activism or maintenance art employing media such as: installation, collage made from newspaper scraps and pictures, elements of performance and painting in combination with the written word .

Szczygiel's art is politically oriented as she believes that the socio-political system is the source of all social problems, while showing these problems in the context of the mental and physical health of the individual; The therapeutic value of art that creates a healthy space for development and gives us a chance to find and use our authentic voice: "In our response is our freedom".(Frankl) The artist's intention is that the guiding message of her art is that however we feel dominated by the limitations imposed by the system, our power lies in our reaction to them.

I decided to write about myself in the third person as it seemed a very interesting experience that strengthened my belief in the role of the inner observer who is the opposite of the ego, allows me to see things from the right distance without being overly influenced by my own emotions.

This statement is about where I am today, but I may not necessarily be tomorrow or next month, as my art is centered around a process, including my inner journey, which will lead me to find my identity as an artist. At this stage, I accepted the change as the only constant in relation to my thinking about art in the process of gaining knowledge and changing areas of research, therefore I would not use this statement to present myself in the media, on website. I admit that in a year I may be a completely different person in a completely different place as an artist, so I choose to give myself more time to create my personal brand in the media, at the moment I don't feel ready for that.

3. CV

Gabriela Szczygiel

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EDUCATION

2021 to Present	BA (Hons) Fine Art	UWTSD - Swansea College of Art
1st / 2:1 grades Gaining Studio practice and developing my skills as a painter specialising with Acrylics, but now also developing my 3D skills in sculpture and conceptual art.		
2020-2021	Art & Design Foundation Certificate course	Swansea college of Art
	Pass	
2015-2017	ESOL,Skills for Life(QCF),Entry 2 and 3.	Gower Collage, Swansea
	Pass	
2001-2005 completed	Health Education Therapies Degree	Silesian University Poland 4 years

Studied at the Department of Education & Psychology modules on the topics of psychology, philosophy and sociology.

1994-1998 – College (general profile) in Sosnowiec – Equivalent to "A" Level courses.

EMPLOYMENT: Retail & Hospitality related

2021- Goose Island Clothing wholesale – customer service, online orders fulfilment

2019 - Awa Restaurant & Stokrotka Polish Shop – waitress & shop assistant

2018 - Dolphin hotel – waitress (Also 2014 -2015 The village hotel, Verve Restaurant – waitress)

2013- Animalshop, Chorzow Poland -Sales Representative : marketing of a new brand food for animals Guabi.

2011-2012- Radio Group "Time" S.A.. Warsaw, Poland – account executive: planning and implementation advertising campaign, selling airtime.

2010-2011 Real estate agency "Your home" Sosnowiec, Poland – estate agent. (also 2008)

2009-2010- printing agency COPYPRESS ,Sosnowiec, Poland -customer services (also 2006-2007 customer service Poland

2007(holiday work) Fresco Cafe , Swansea Wales – waitress

2002-2005- Multiprint,Katowice, Poland- customer service, advertise agent,bookbinder

1998-2001Vision TV sp.zoo Warsaw, Poland – customer service consultant, offers presenter.

Employment: Social Care related

2019-2021-helping elderly and/or disabled people at their homes with cleaning, ,gardening, decoration, ironing Etc.

2016 - 2017 – housekeeper in private houses.

2016 – Independent living care and mobility support for disabled person

Employment: Production work

2020 & 2019 Something Different warehouse & Dr.Organic – picking,packing via Work Wales agency.

2018 - SIC Manufacturing Excellence, Swansea via Staffline – production workers

2018-2019-Cyden Limited- production worker

I decided to present my original CV as I do not feel that this part of the assignment was addressed to me. Of course, I could follow the instruction and example of other students, but

I consider it untrue and pointless. Perhaps my approach reflects my current anxiety-depressive state, which was influenced by my emigration experience, among others' problems with employment despite education and professional experience. It is hard to write about imagined reality being scared about a near future related to employment issues base of last summer traumatic experience.

I do not have experience as an artist that I could put on my cv but I hope to get them before I finish my education. I would definitely like to add a short statement about myself compressed from my artist statement when I am more confident about my position as an artist. I am not sure about my previous work experience due to my age, I don't know if I should remove it all from my CV, perhaps I should compress it to give some idea what I did before I decide to educate myself as an artist. I should definitely strengthen and develop the part where I write about my artistic skills. This cv was created a few months ago and currently this part would be different, but the process of changes is too intense to decide what it is.