

Visual Diary

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Feedback from last semester

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STUDENT FEEDBACK FORM

This section details the extent to which the assessment criteria are demonstrated by you, which in turn determines your mark. The marks available for each category of skill are shown. Lecturers will use the space provided to comment on the achievement of the task(s), including those areas in which you have performed well and areas that would benefit from development/improvement.

Generic Assessment Criteria	Marks available	Marks awarded
1. Engagement with Literature Skills	20	9
There is some research evident in your artwork studies slides where you are searching independently for new imagery. This is good to see and should be continued. However, it is important that you want to research artworks and projects in more detail – particularly to inform your understanding of their contexts and the related themes. Your artwork study and exhibition review would have benefited from this information, giving you a broader understanding of why they make this work. This would extend your otherwise very good visual analysis that connects content and composition. In formating this, link for quotes which you can directly reference using a citation or for information you can paraphrase, and reference will provide further context in semester 2 of these two types. For both, the website used should be referenced on the page.		
2. Knowledge and Understanding Skills	20	12
All work is attempted based on the empty template slides. The attempt made is good and reflects dedication to your studies and good timekeeping. I am particularly impressed by the exhibition review done entirely independently. Research would have helped to improve your understanding of the work's context and in-depth analysis of individual images (rather than general overview) would have helped. In general, I would like to see more depth in each of your studies. Look for and connect with all the content of each image, consider how it is composed and what impact this has on how the image is read. Challenge yourself to make multiple points for each. Reference this with research and consider returning to tasks to extend them and reorganise your writing as you make connections between context, composition and content. In your project cycle work, your responses to the questions are very brief, providing a very basic overview. In your planning slide, there should be far more attention paid to each point. For example, instead of telling me you will look at artist's work, look at them and document them. Try to remember that you are learning the skills to document your practice for your own development, the project cycle is an in-depth process of planning, documentation and evaluation to help you do this at the required depth.		
3. Cognitive and Intellectual Skills	20	10
Your artwork studies are good and show a good connection with visual elements in images. You are confident in connecting content with composition and describing it, sometimes exploring the impact of this. As mentioned already, further research to develop broader understanding of contexts will only benefit your analyses. The feedback is similar for your exhibition review; a broader understanding of the work will help you develop a theme for your review and a stronger relationship with its curation, presentation etc, all of which can form part of the review. In your own work, you have answered the questions regarding evaluation, but the evaluation of your process remains very brief. The format given for evaluation during the relevant week's PowerPoint consists of bullet points to engage you in full evaluation of your work. They relate directly to your planning stages and help to identify your areas of progress and where needs further attention. Please use this and evaluate your own work in much greater detail next semester, to see regular progress from one experiment to another.		
4. Practical Application Skills	20	10
There is good attention to the practical skills of composition in your artwork study and knowledge of key processes such as photographic and digital analogue skills. In your analyses, try to spot ways in which practical skills have been used to compose elements. For example, in your analysis of Grandma Ruby and me, consider the front lighting/backlighting (shadows), the shadow release table, and how the image must have been setup (prop and) rather than being candid. This impacts the final image and the relationship we are invited to look to it. In your own work you document the basics of the equipment needed in your planning. Here, I recommend discussing why you have used this equipment. From your portfolio, the images created utilize wide angles, almost macro focusing and shallow depth of field to re-emphasise the figures. Was this accidental? How did the equipment you chose affect this?		
5. Transferable Skills for Life and Professional Practice	20	12
Well done, Katelyn, your visual diary is complete and with very good order and flow. Your slides are well formatted and the work develops. This is particularly noticeable in your artwork study where as you connect more directly with how images are composed. Your writing is good but would benefit from further proof reading and spell checking. It is acceptable to use freely available tools (e.g. Grammarly) that can help to improve your writing and catch any syntactic or spelling errors. Please start to draft work and use paragraphs to reorganise and order points. This is most notable in your analysis of Grandma Ruby and me. This is your most extended writing and shows very good effort. It would benefit from being broken into paragraphs that help order and organise your writing. Focus on using this format to extend your writing, going into greater detail about a range of points for any given image, using research to inform your position on the work. This is a good demonstration of your skills so far and I look forward to you developing these in the coming semester.		

From the feedback given for engagement with literature skills I know I need to start researching artworks in more detail to develop a better understanding of the work and how the themes relate to it. I also need to use quotes from the artist about the work. I also need to reference the page used on the slide.

For the knowledge and understanding skills, I have learnt that I need to research into exhibitions to learn more information that would help improve my understanding of the works context and in-depth analysis of the images I used. I also need to learn to go more in depth of the artwork studies by looking and connecting to the content of each image in someway. I need to look at how the images are composed and how this impacts the image which in turn would impact how the viewer sees the image. I need to try to make multiple points for each composition and context in the images and use research to back it. I also need to be more organised in my writing and pay more attention to each point.

For the cognitive and intellectual skills feedback, I have learned that I need to do more research. I also need to evaluate my work in greater detail to understand what I did well and what I can improve on.

For the practical application skills, I need to look at how practical skills have been used to compose images. This includes looking deeper at lighting techniques in images shutter speeds and set up of the camera to be able to capture that exact image. I also need to discuss what equipment I used and why.

For transferable skills for life and professional practice, I need to proof read and spell check my writing before submitting. I also would benefit from drafting pieces of work to check and improve on grammar and details. I also need to start using paragraphs to split up work and extend the writing on the images.

Artwork study, Fay Godwin, Stone industrial building on the Lecht

Fay Godwin

Stone industrial building on the Lecht



© The British Library Board

In this image, You can see a building in the distance between two mountains. There is also a path leading up to it along with what looks like a small stream leading into the back of the image. You can see clouds in the sky and white lines that look like what planes leave when they go past. The shadows in the image is quite dark that might be because of high contrast or the sun going down when she took the image. You can see the sharpness of the image due to how well you can see the individual strands of grass you can see, and the small stones on the path. The building is lit up by a ray of light which means the sun is on the right side of the image.

The image has the composition technique called rule of thirds that is shown by both the path and river, but also the mountains as that goes from the top corner of the image to the just under the house. The leading line technique draws you deeper into the image to the house that is lit up by the light. The image is in black and white which adds a dramatic effect to the image.

On the website that I got this image from, it gives some information about the image. From what I have read Godwin did a project that looked at 'Human occupation on land, both past and present'. Which does explain why the building in this image looks abandon as it could be an old abandoned industrial building. A quote from Godwin " There is virtually no landscape in Britain that has not been worked, affected by human use and this is what particularly interests me". What I took from this quote is that she enjoys looking at how us humans have caused damage to the environment we build on, everywhere we go.

What I like about this piece of work is that it is similar to what I have done for this project, as I have captured images of the copper works industrial building in swansea.

<https://www.nationalgalleries.org/art-and-artists/76105>

This image was created by Bernd and Hilla Becher.

<https://fraenkelgallery.com/artists/bernd-and-hilla-becher>

In this image, you can see a tall, cylinder shaped building that looks like it is made from wood or bricks and metal. From the title of the image, it tells you that this is a Cooling tower. You can see steps leading to the first level of the building, along with some metal vents, maybe, underneath the tower. The image also cuts off some of the pipes in the side of the image which implies that it is bigger than it looks. The choice of having this image in black and white is good because it highlights the details of the building. You can see how sharp they have taken the image by how much detail you can see of the moss growing on the building. There is some dark shadows meaning the contrast is quite high.

The composition of this image is based on how the building is in the centre of the image. I would also say the camera is slightly to the left of the building, making the perspective look slightly off from being dead center.

Artwork study, Cooling Tower, 1967



Cooling Tower [Kühlturm], Mons, Borinage, B, 1967
gelatin silver print, 24 x 20 inches (image & sheet) [61 x 50.8 cm]

INQUIRE

Artwork study

For the fugitive testimonies class this week I was given an image that I would need to base my project around. The image on the left is the one I was given. From a quick google image search I have found the name of the image which is "mounted police, Dock Road, Liverpool, Transport strike, Lancashire". It was taken by Liverpool based firm called Carbonara during the 1911 Liverpool transport strike. This was surprising to learn as when I first looked at the image I assumed it was during or after the war due to the hundreds of police officers walking down the street and the pedestrians watching from the pathways. It was one of many series of images taken during this time. Looking deeper into what the image is made off, you can see how the camera angle captures the long street that has been taken over by the police walking down it and also if you look behind the police you can slightly see the army behind them with what looks like army or police vehicles. This view point shows you how serious the protest must have been to need this amount of officers to contain/stop the protest from getting out of hand. I would say this image uses the composition technique called leading lines as when you look at the image you immediately look at the soldiers at the front of the image and then get lead into following the lines of soldiers into the back of the images. Also the building help guide your eyes to the back of the image. The image is quite dull in colour due to the timing of the event as during this decade, the majority of photographs were taken in black and white due to colour images not being created or being unpopular. This adds more dramatic feeling to the image as the dull black and white image creates an eerie feeling in the photography.



Moodboards

Research methods moodboards

Research methods: Excursion



From stags, Hens and Bunnies (dougie Wallace)



Saul Leiter, Taxi, New York 1957



Eugene Atget. Coin de la rue Valette et Panthéon, 5e arrondissement, matinée de mars. 1925



Anthony Cairns TYO2_080, 2016.



Daido Moriyama Tokyo, (1969)

Research methods: Image



Joe Timothy coleman, Artifacts of friction. 2025



Arwed Messmer- RAF. No evidence-2017.



Stephen Gill- Hackney kisses. 2014



Trish Morrissey- April 16th 1984-2003



Trevor Paglen, From Apple To Anomaly. 2020

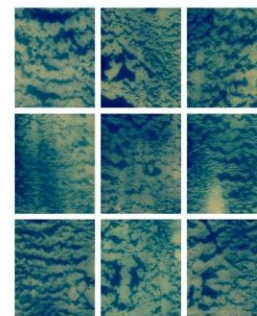


Erik Kessels - Apictorial History of the Empty Chair

Research methods: Object



Sophie Calle's Voyeuristic portraits of hotel rooms



To feel its touch (Alexandermourant.com)



William Eggleston-untitled.Circa 1983-86

Man Ray- Untitled Rayograph. 1922



Murdo Macleod-Donna and sam Luntley. 2022



Stephen Gill- Talking to Ants. 2009-13



Plan 1

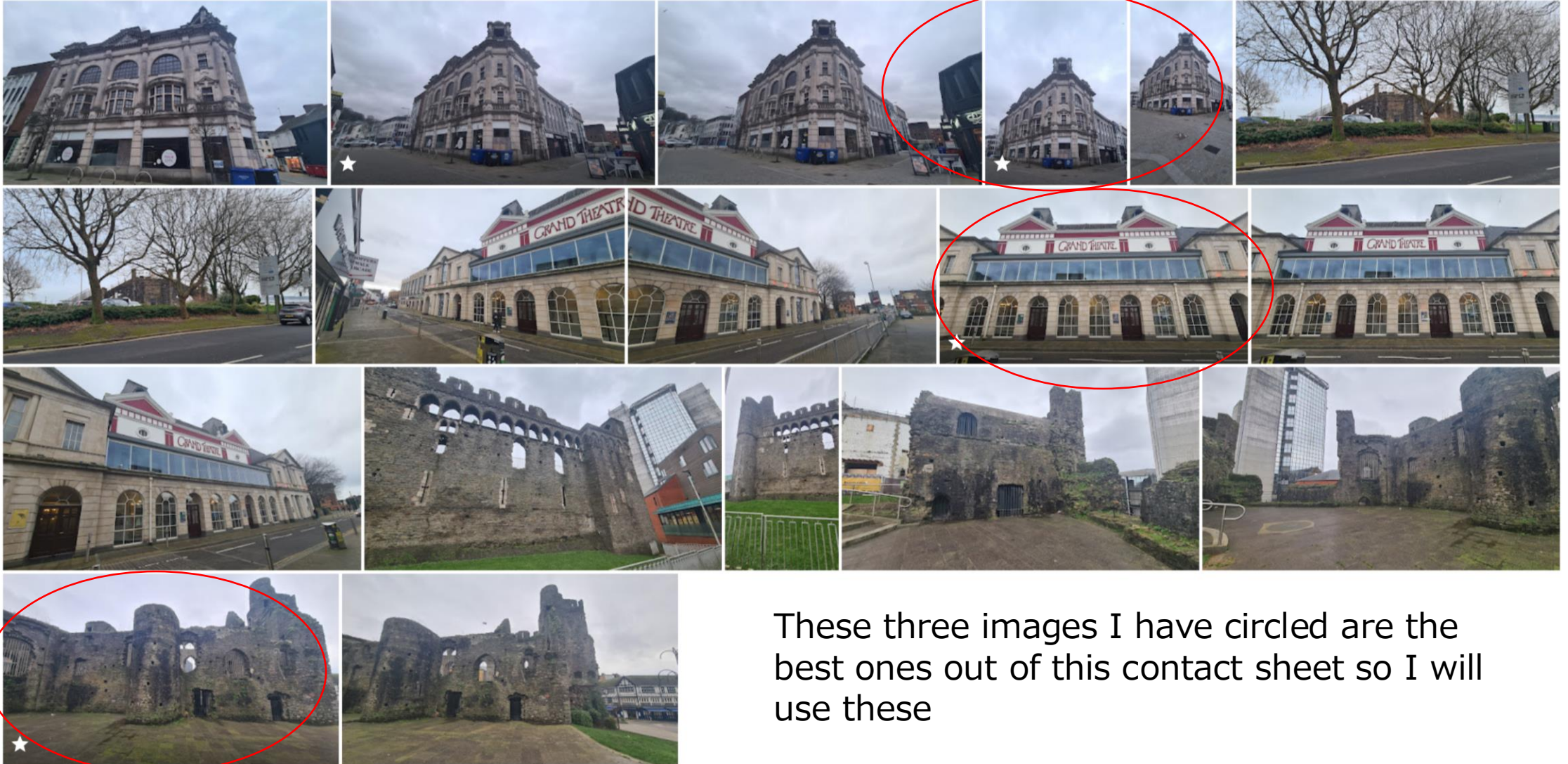
Plan using the research method excursion

My aim for this first photoshoot of the fugitive testimonies module, I want to capture images of buildings that have some damage from the wars that happened in the 1900s as a first initial idea, or capture images of old industrial buildings that are still around from 1911. The intention is use the old buildings of Swansea as a response to the 1911 Liverpool protest image given to me in class. I want to be able to show what the buildings that were used mainly during this time look like now. My initial idea was to capture images of war memorials but I ruled it out after finding out that the image I was given wasn't during the war but during the Liverpool protests on transportation. However, after my second class for fugitive testimonies, I have realised that I was going about the project the wrong way and that researching the image more was unnecessary as the project is to respond to the found image which can be interpreted in my own way. During this class, this is where I was given the idea to look into Swansea during the industrial/ times during the wars. So after this, I have realised that my initial idea can still be used, which I will combine with this idea of capturing the old buildings from 1911.

I have started looking at what buildings are still up or still have some damage from this era. During this initial google search I have found a few building near by that could be useful. These are: Old central police station, formal central library and other buildings surrounding the castle in Swansea surrounding the centre of Swansea. I have also been looking at buildings that are still standing from 1911. Some of these include the mond buildings, the Glynn vivian art gallery, Albert hall, Kings building and the palace theatre building. I have also been looking at war memorials near by that I can capture images off. The locations of these are: boar war memorial, Swansea cenotaph, kilvey war monument, merchant Navy memorial and boy's brigade fountain.

Contact sheet

✓ Mon 9 Feb



These three images I have circled are the best ones out of this contact sheet so I will use these

Thu 5 Feb

Selected images

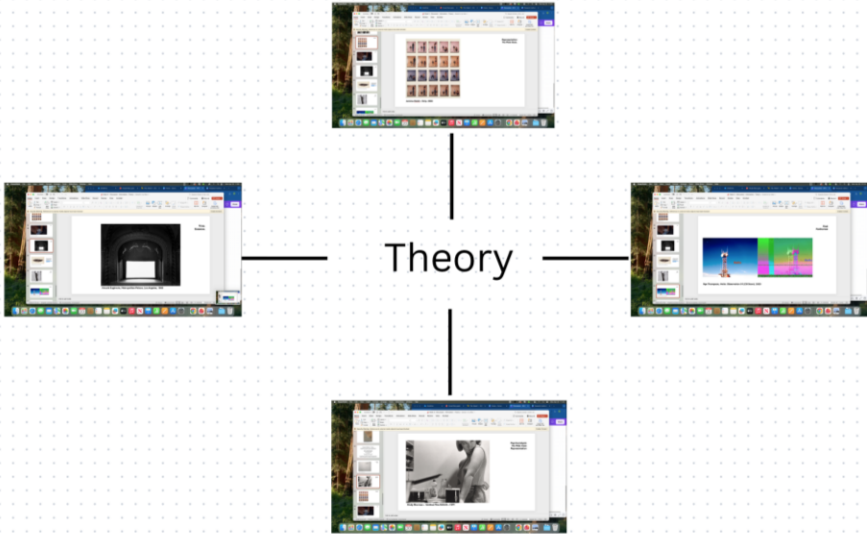


Review

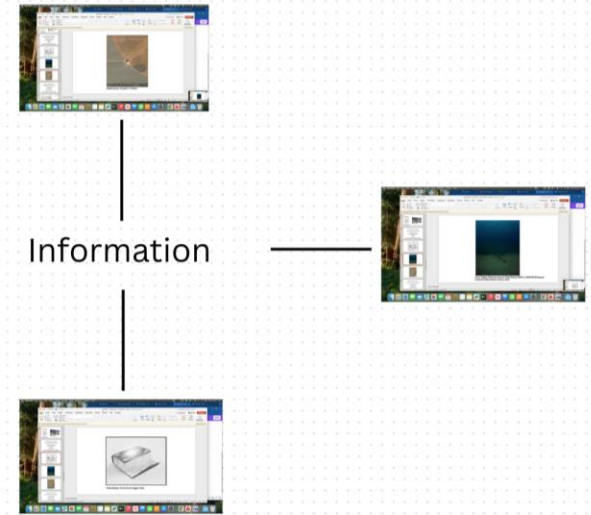
During this photoshoot I struggled to get an idea of what to take photos of, so I ended up googling what buildings were up in 1911. I was also supposed to go to the copperworks industrial state to take photos, however I did not end up going as it said it would be closed by the time I get there. I used my phone to take these images so the quality is not the best. The feedback I got from class after presenting these was to use a camera next time, and to go to the copperworks as that would better represent the found image.

Moodboards:

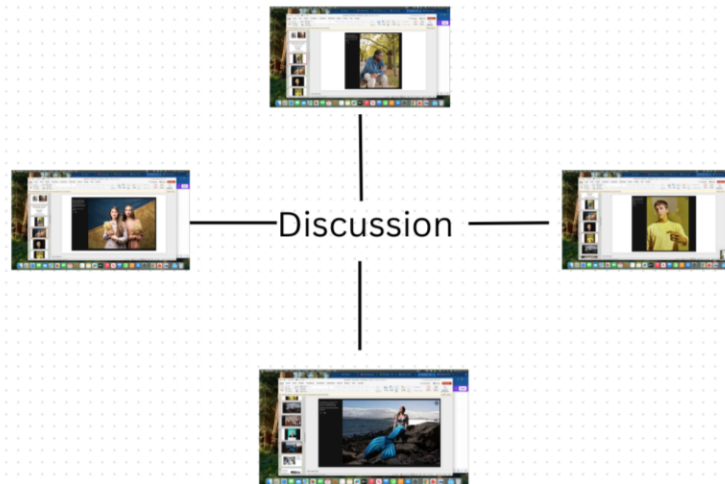
Theory



Information



Discussion



Plan:

The plan for this photoshoot is to go to the copper works and capture some images of the building and inside the building. I hopefully will be able to capture some images of the old machine things they used. I also want to take photos of the scenes around the copperworks.

Contact Sheet



The images I have circled are the ones I think are the strongest ones

This is my contact sheet of the images I took on my phone and camera

Selected images

My files > industrial buildings images



20260214_144246.jpg
February 17



20260214_144354.jpg
February 17



DSC_0046.NEF
February 17



DSC_0059.NEF
February 17



DSC_0064.NEF
February 17



DSC_0083.NEF
February 17



DSC_0087.NEF
February 17



DSC_0089.NEF
February 17



DSC_0090.NEF
February 17

I used all of these images to
show the tutors what I am
working on.

Drag files and folders here to upload.

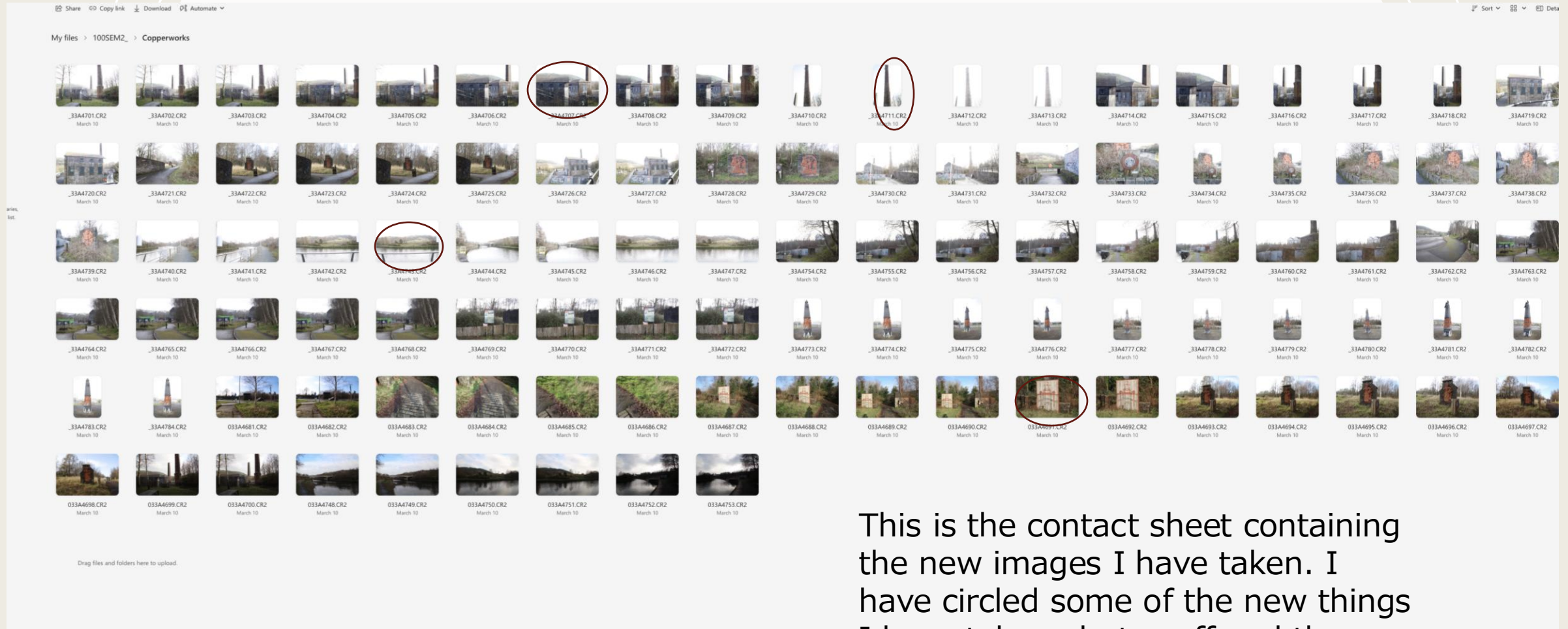
Review

These images turned out better than what I thought they would. However when I went to the copper works the building was closed of for renovation, so I could not go in. However, I could still walk around the area and I managed to capture some images of the building behind the wall and some of the monuments they built. I think I will borrow a camera from university for my next visit as my camera does not have a wide enough lens to camera all of the building or monumets at a close distance

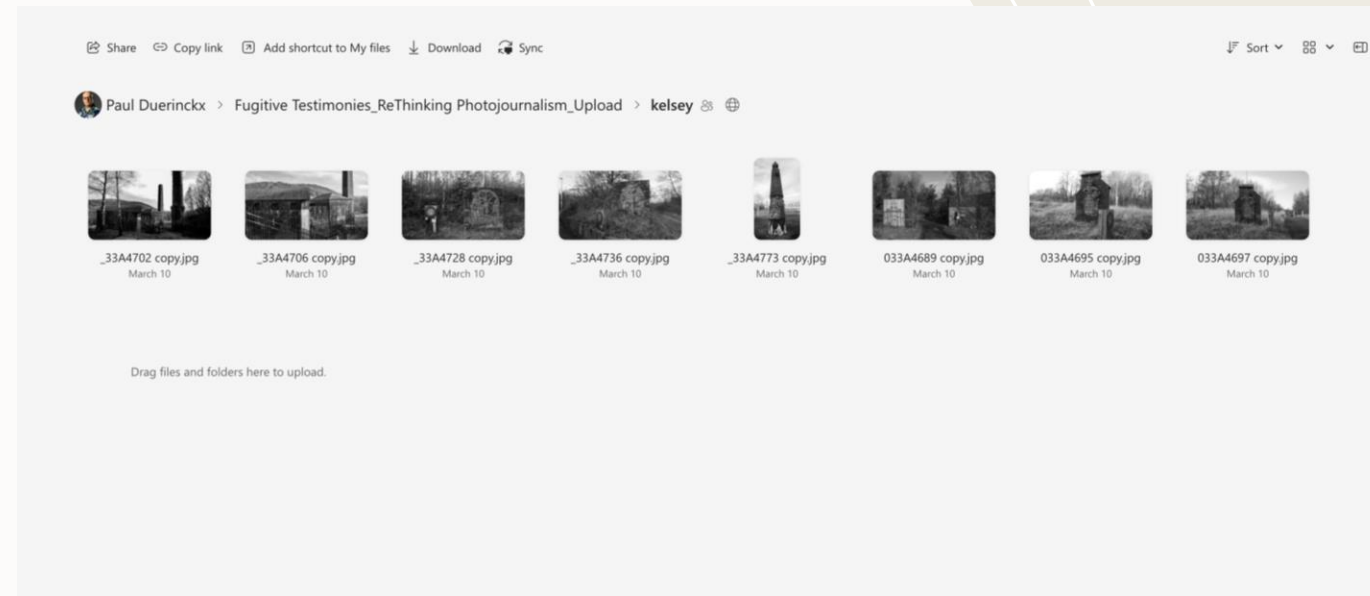
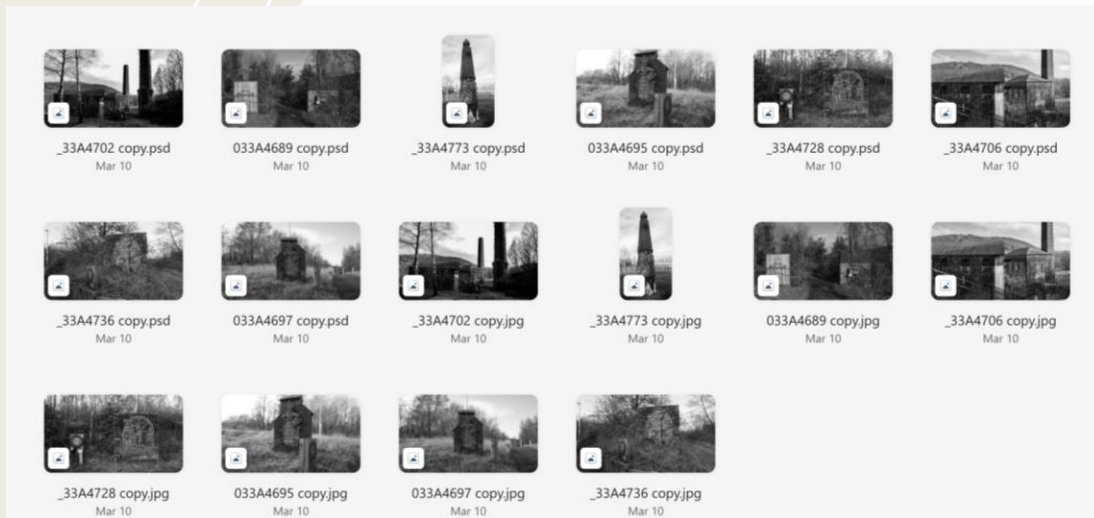
Plan:

My plan for this photoshoot, is to capture wider images of the monuments to get some background in. I also want to explore the area more as I may be able to get some different angle images of the copperworks and the surrounding area. I also want to use a different camera to build a better quality. I want to take more photos of each subject at different angles as it will give me more options.

Contact Sheet



Selected images



These are the images I have chosen from the photoshoot from this week. I have tried black and white as it was suggested during the last class talk we had. I think they turned out well. The screenshot on the right is the images I selected to send to my tutor, to show what I am working on as, to me, they were the better ones.

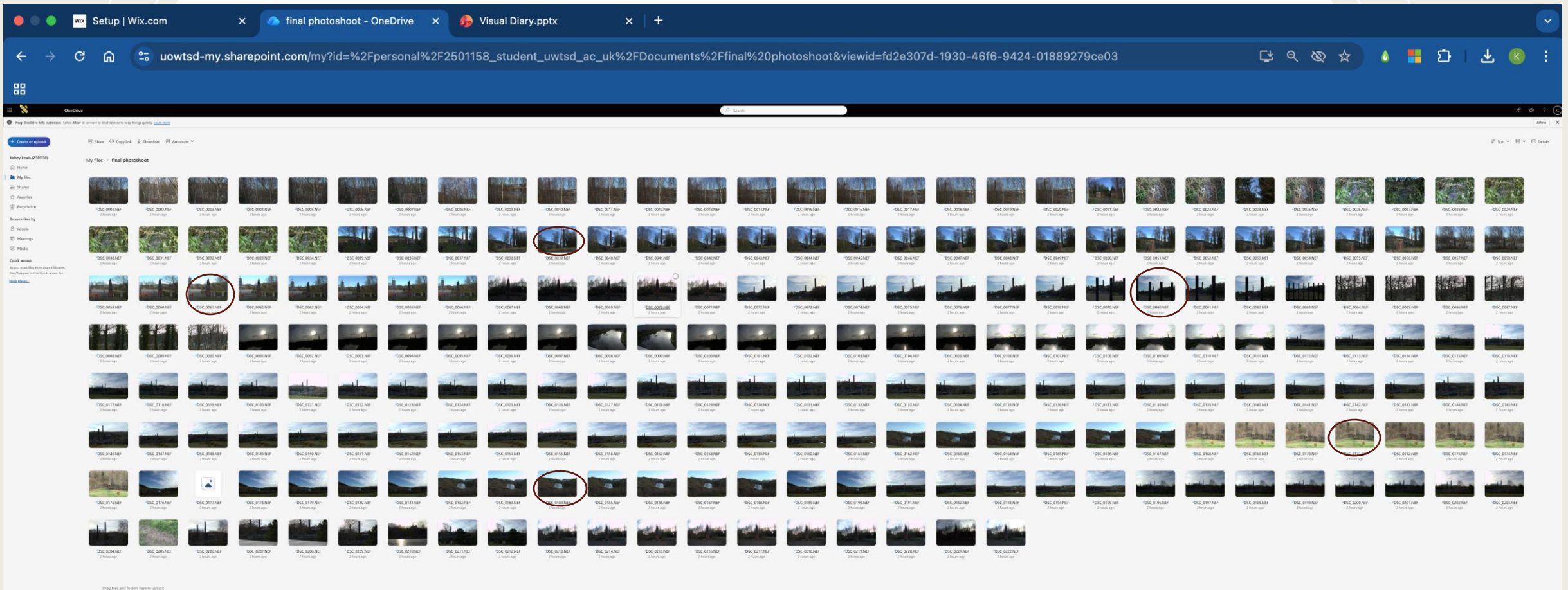
Review

I think this photoshoot is the best one so far. I have managed to find new angles to capture of the copperworks building which I am grateful for. I like how the black and white highlights the age of the building. I have expanded the amount of images I capture during the photoshoots which allows me to have a bigger selection and more options. During the feedback from the tutors, I have been told to use a tripod, which I will do for the next photoshoot. I have also been told to widen the lens so it captures more of the subject. I will also take photos of the tall monument from further away to capture it at a better distance so it will look straight and not at an angle.

Plan

My plan for this photoshoot is to take photos from the other side of the river of the copperworks. I also want to take more photos of the tall monument from a further distant. I want to capture the copperworks building and the river as it would make a good image.

Contact sheet



This is my contact sheet from this week, I have circled some of the new images that are different from the ones before.

selected



These 4 images are the ones I will be adding to the final selection. I like these because they show the different angles and areas of the copperworks at a wider lens.

Final selection



Review

During this unit I have tried something new. I have never based a project around a found image before and I did struggle to come up with ideas for it. However, once I found the copperworks I started to enjoy it. I have created some good landscape shots, while some were quite bad. I have chosen the best images for the final selection with help from the tutors, while also adding new images from the new photoshoot into the selection.

From this last photoshoot, I have captured some good images that show the calm view from the other side of the river. However, I did have a hard time changing the settings of the camera to suit the changing light from the sun going down, so I will need to practice using the university camera that I borrowed for this photoshoot. I also never did end up using a tripod which I will be using on the next project to get straighter shots. I also want to explore more with black and white images as they look nice and would add a variety in my own portfolio.

Overall, I think this project has turned out well, however, I do have areas to work on with the camera.

Penny Hallas Sighting REVIEW OVERVIEW

When I attending Penny Hallas's exhibition named Sighting in the Elysium gallery, the first thing I noticed was the lighting in the room. The lighting was quite dim which created a mysterious atmosphere in the room. When you walked in you could see things hanging from the was and large boards with coal painting on them placed either on the wall or on the boards that split the room. Walking around the room you could see a mix of coal paintings, photos, videos on computer screen or being projected onto the walls. The artist also created basket things that were hanging from the walls which was close to a den that was created in the space, that had sticks and natural grass things covering the top of the den. This added a natural touch to the man-made structure underneath which went will with the overall theme of her exhibition. The hanging baskets on the wall was hollow at the bottom of them which allows the viewers to put their heads into take photos of themselves or friends. The artist also used a projection over images which created contrasting textured look but was also confusing to look at. Looking at the Elysium Gallery website, I found out that she created her own viewing devices for this exhibition, which "explores the complex nature of our perception and experience of place". After learning this, the pieces I saw in the exhibition made more sense to me and it has allowed me to appreciate her dedication to her multimedia project. The hole exhibition is quite playful and interactive which is something new that I haven't been to. Overall the exhibition was quite nice, and calming.



<https://www.elysiumgallery.com/events/event/penny-hallas-sighting/>

I have used the template from last semesters exhibition review, and I have had to copy and paste it into this powerpoint which is why it looks different.

Materials from the garden, 2024, Penny Hallas

This image shows how the artist has chosen to split a landscape painting into 6 different sections. She then decided to place them along the wall with gaps in between which makes the viewer walk along the room slowly at their own pace when they look at it. The first painting is what I will be focusing on for this review of the work. In this image you can see a bird on a pole that is connected to a fence which makes the viewer assume or think that this painting is off a farmhouse or a field. You can see a chair or maybe an animal looking figure behind this birdhouse that slightly covers some of the lake that is behind the bird house and gets bigger toward the left of the image. There is also another wooden pole on the left of the image. You can see the grass in front of the bird house and a different shade of grass behind it which you can assume it has been mowed or it is dead. The sky looks empty which could mean that the image shows a sunny cloudless day.

The composition of the image is very straightforward, meaning the centre piece of the image is the birdhouse which you could say is the main object of the piece. However, you could say that the rule of thirds is used in this image as the brighter/ fresh looking grass is on the bottom line of the rule of thirds. If you start looking at the bottom of the pole that the bird house is on, and look up from there, it leads you to the back of the image which could be seen as leading lines. This image was posted online on her page in December 2024 as part of her project, Materials from the garden.

Looking closer into the image you can see the texture of the wooden poles which is quite nice and highlighted using coal to create the darker shades. You can also see the lines of the individual pieces of long grass at the front of the image. You can also see the detail of the wood grain of the bird house. The background of the image is very bright which highlights the birdhouse but washes out the details of the mountain and lake in the back of the image.



<https://pennyhallas.co.uk/wp/artwork/materials-from-the-garden/8bird-table/>

Our picturesque Landscape Myriorama, Penny Hallas, 2023.

This painting is like the other one, however this is from a separate project. Looking at the blog post on, what I assume is her website, I have learned that this series of work, is a response to “diverse sites, combining views of iconic features alongside elements, structures, objects and natural processes that may be hidden or more easily overlooked”. This is taken from the website that is linked at the side of the image. What I take from that small paragraph is that, the artist wants to bring attention to abandoned, crumbling buildings that can be found anywhere. This information does create a better understanding of why they chose to paint these structures.

The first image in this photo is what I will be talking about.

In the first image, you can see a crumbling, circular building that looks like it was built in the field. In the background you can see fog covering the bottom of the mountain which I assume, means that this is based on a cold evening or morning. The sky does look like it has clouds in the sky which adds a small amount of texture in the sky. The building is very textured, and you can see the details of each individual brick, which draws you in. If you look closely into the image, you can see what looks like a desk with books and some metal objects which makes me think this is being used as a little hide out of study space for someone. In front of the building you can see a bush, in which the artist has captured the shadows and details of the leaves and different plant. You can also see good detail and texture of the mountain behind and the trees on it. The artist has done well to capture the dark and light shadows in all the image and done well to capture the texture of the building.

The composition of the image is like the first image of this exhibition review, where the main subject of the painting is placed in the middle of the image. However, with this one, you can clearly see it is placed at the bottom third of the images which means she used the rules of third composition technique. Using this technique, also lead to the top of the image being empty which you could say is negative space.



<https://boxingthechimera.blogspot.com/>

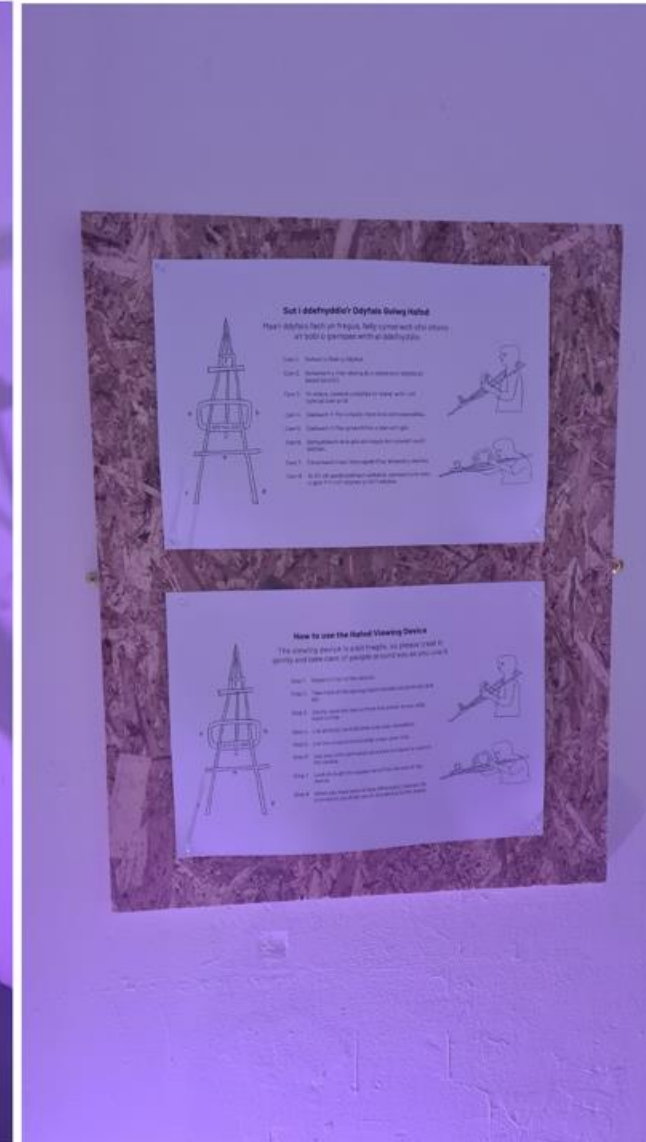
<https://pennyhallas.co.uk/wp/artwork/our-picturesque-landscape-myriorama/>

Hafod Viewing Device, Penny Hallas

This is the Hafod viewing device that Penny Hallas used in some videos she showed in the exhibition. This is one of the interactive objects she had in the exhibition which added some fun to it. She placed instructions in both English and Welsh which is inclusive. The instructions are easy to follow and there are even diagrams on it to make it easier to follow.

It is made of wooden sticks, probably found already broken on the floor somewhere, and string to tie it together. It also had a lens that would make everything look upside down or smaller, I can't really remember, but it looked fun to use. It also had a hand that looks like it was made from material and metal.

What I like about this object is, that it is environmentally friendly as it is made from wooden sticks. I also like that it added some fun to the exhibition as most, if not all, exhibitions have been just looking at walls or cases, whereas this allows the viewers to get involved in the exhibition.



CONCLUSION

Overall, this exhibition was better than what I expected it to be. I did enjoy the aesthetic of the exhibition, with the lighting of the room and the theme of the exhibition. I like how the artist included some interactive pieces as it was different to see. She utilized the space greatly even though she did have to overlap a video over a painting, which could have been intentional or unintentional.

