

My idea stemmed from the emotions I felt during lockdown; confusion. I had no idea what was happening or if it was going to last forever. Even now the governments rules are confusing and the politicians often contradict themselves.

I wanted to approach this project in an effort to make sense of these times for myself, I want people who view this book to be as confused as I am. I began by creating poems from newspapers and magazines inspired by Tristan Tzara and Hugo Ball, there is a mix of poems consisting of singular words, phrases and syllables, this is to avoid predictability. These poems have no connection to the images they correspond with they are there in isolation to each other.

The pages of my book are not in order. I liked the idea of having this fundamentally unconventional book. The pages lead to different pages much like an adventure book, we are unable to travel around so the book is a substitute, however, the last page leads back to the first and the cycle continues, this shows the constant rigmarole we're all in. the book has a lack of structure much like our day-to-day lives during lockdown.

I used photograms for almost all my images, they are an effective means of displaying an abstraction of the actual, they feature elements of my personal experience during lockdown.

The vast majority of my images are of food, I didn't want viewers to know that immediately so not all of them are very literal. I felt a lot of eating pressures from everywhere around me whether it was 'how much weight the brits have gained' or ads on social media instructing me how I could lose 5 pounds in a week. The only time we could go out shopping was to the supermarket.

During lockdown I was reading more books, I read both animal farm and 1984 which both include references to the control and rules, I resonated with this idea of captivity. Some of the images I've created have objects that relate back to this.

When the second lockdown was announced my housemates left the day after, leaving me to clear out their fridge, they left so suddenly and without warning it was almost pompai where people just left their meals and ran. They also left their eggs, when I was photogramming the eggs I thought they looked a little flat so I dribbled some hand sanitizer and the shadows gave a more textured look. I tried to create eyes too, like the watchful eye of big brother. I did this by painting on different chemicals onto slices of pickled onions. I also used spaghetti to create some photograms, I feel this was a less literal approach. The spaghetti represents the beautiful ribbon on a horse's mane, it symbolizes consumerism in the novel, in contrast how ugly the spaghetti looks, like tapeworms.

The leaves and the flowers (at beginning and end) were inspired by Man Ray and his photogram of the leaf Skellington, they represent the deterioration in not only society but the mental state of people going through lockdown. Similarly the mask photograms at the end are inspired by Man Ray's photogram 'the kiss' (1922) they show the relationship between pre-covid and now, how it has all merged.

The photographs of flies represent how grotesquely we are trapped in the system and how we cannot escape. I feel they look a lot like photograms too, they were taken at night with a

backlight shining through the tape with the flies, it adds colour to the book and harmonise with the unfixed images and the salt scrub images.

I wanted to create images with only chemicals, I used salt on fibre paper, I wanted an image of nothing to look completely manic.

I didn't just want to photograph my work, I wanted it to be more of an experience not just a series of photos, I wanted people to view my photos in my own time, in the order I want them to. It would have been pointless destroying the liner sequence of my book otherwise. I was inspired by martin creed to make a video.

I overlaid sounds of chewing which I think this made it more engaging opposed to just flipping through, again martin creeds sick video inspired this I find the sound of chewing hard to tolerate much like other people don't like the sound of people being sick .