

Eggshells:













Images what I wanted include in video but did not in the case to keep the
video in simple way.





Images what I took with medium format camera and used to work with in
the darkroom.







Some old, scanned films from my childhood what always reminds me about temporality - here we are only for an instant. During this project I felt that all my most beautiful memories and thoughts are only about one place-my Grandparents Village.









27

28



OKWOCHRON



The photos what I took with 35mm film camera and medium format camera.

Images of my children almost same age as I on the photos.





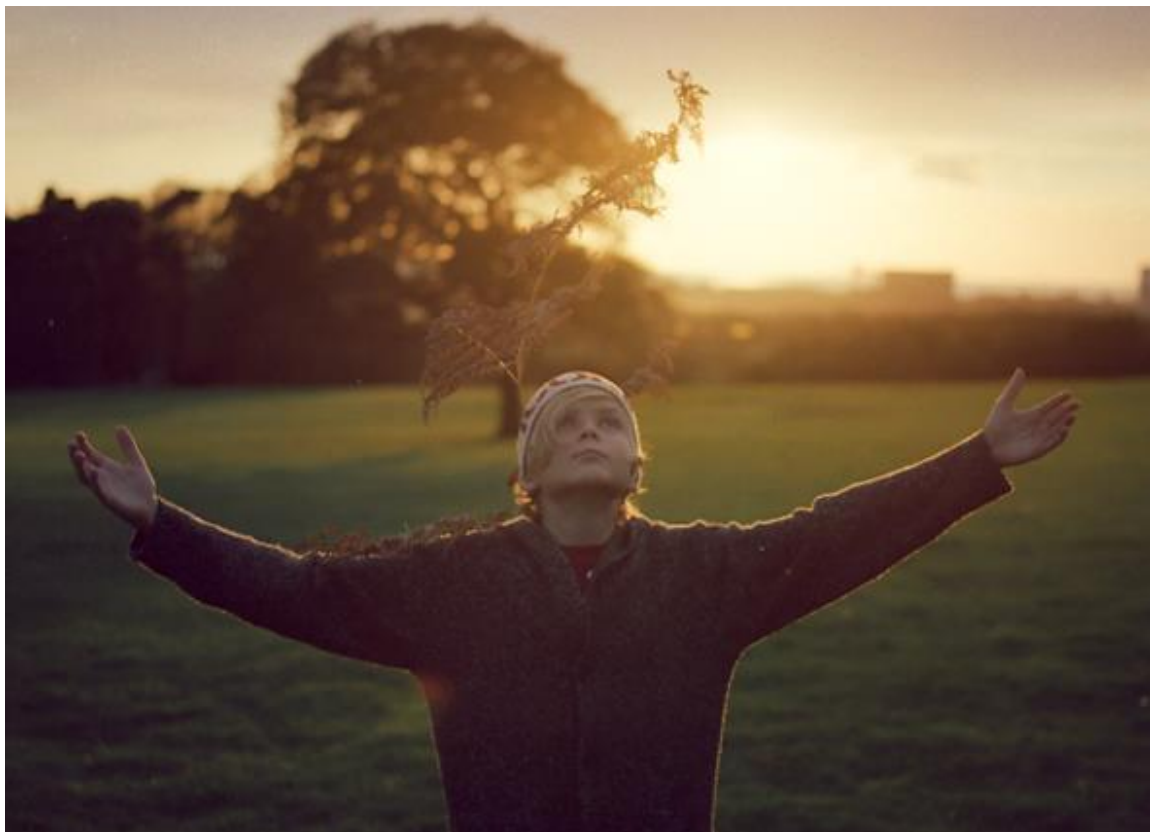












50

KODAK PORTRA



Experimental Strategies

- **Laurentina Miksiene**
- **1810605**
- **Ryan Moule, Dafydd Williams, Hamish Gane**
- **Programe of Study: Photography in the Arts**
- **Module: M5X01707**
- **Word Count: 616**

In my photography I am usually looking for a compromise between man and nature. In this series of portraits, I wanted to explore the spiritual connection between man and their native land. I started this project two months ago because I wanted to understand more, people like me and understand more my children too. Therefore, I was looking for testimony about why we relate to some specific place that we call homeland and found that one of so many reasons is because of the memories we had. But what if we are too young to remember something from our past and had not enough time to create memories in a new place. What we were supposed to call home then.

The vision to do this project is based on myself and my family experience and from people I met here in the UK who are living far from a homeland in a different country and attempt to accept different cultures, lifestyles, and rules. Doing research, my attention attracted strong and emotional movie " The Last Tree".



It is a semi-autobiographical story directed by Shola Amoo. “Leaving somewhere you thought was home to go to this place that is apparently your real home, and then there’s this whole other place everyone else knows and you don’t,” he says. (Danie Leigh 19th September 2019 “The Guardian”). “The Last Tree” is a search for identity, a story about 11-year-old boy Femi, a British-Nigerian boy who lives with his English foster Mother. All idyllic looking life changed his birth Mother because she decided to take him back to a tiny flat in South London. He needed to adopt a new place and a new lifestyle.

To work with film camera I felt inspired by Emmet Gowin, an American photographer, who beautifully and intimate photograph his wife Edith with their children and her family.







“And, finally, this is what I need to say to you. There are things in your life that only you will see, stories that only you will hear. If you do not tell them or write them down, if you don’t make the picture, these things will not be seen, these things will not be heard.” —Emmet Gowin.

Everything we do has a reason the only not everything we have done make a sense. To find this reason we need to do good research not only in physical world but in ourselves.

Therefore, my images and short video about the feelings, difficulties, and adaptation we go through when living in a different country, as well as about support, love, and strength. Do we feel connected or accepted in our new home? although it gives us different opportunities, at the same time we sacrifice our relationship with family and friends that we

leave behind and the feeling of longing for them never leaves us. Even longing for what we cannot touch but we can feel. Or maybe what we are looking for is always with us and never leaves us. Despite all the difficulties of learning to live in a country with a different culture and language, I am very grateful for the opportunities I have and for the wonderful people I have met. Creativity is International and Photography do not have language barrier; photography is my voice to communicate to be heard and to be seen by the viewer.

In my series of portraits, I was using eggs as basic material and as part of my project because the egg is the symbol of the beginning of the world. Also, the egg associates with hope and is a symbol of rebirth. The white eggshell symbolizes purity and an innocent beginning. To develop portraits into the eggshell I was inspired by the Artist Shoshana Zambryski-Stachel.



Shoshana Zambryski-Stachel's work I found one year ago, and I thought how wonderful it is! Only because of how fragile the eggshell look and the contrast with the image in it. It was not easy to do because of a lack of experience and time limit.

But my experiment was successful, and I manage to develop portraits of my children into the eggshells. I will continue this project and experimenting with the eggs because I want to do more nicely and more delicate.

I cutted the eggs in half with small drill and in the darkroom painted with photo emulsion.



The goose eggs are big.



Delicate work requiring a lot of patience



So many possibilities in photography



My new love 120mm film camera.



Working in the darkroom with Sarah and photography friends.



First ever experience with photo emulsion. I can see what mistakes I have done but because of time limit I am happy with the results. Shoshana Zambryski-Stachel was using nature to work with but my passion is portraits.



<http://www.sho-zs-photo.com/>





I used cheap photo frame and birch bark for the background to photograph final photos of eggs. Birch tree is my favourite tree. Birch is the "The Tree of the World" which connect the presence of the Gods and the world of people. It is purpose of life symbol.



35mm film camera. I really felt in love with "real" photography. It is reminding me of my childhood. My Grandfather and my uncle had darkroom at home and everywhere walked with their Zenit Cameras.





To do film camera portraits I was inspired by Emmet Gowin (American Photographer born 1941). His Muse was his wife Edith Morris. Emmet Gowin likes to say: "If I never met and married Edith Morris, you would never have heard of me." (By Chris Wiley January 10, 2017)

Available:

<https://www.newyorker.com/culture/photo-booth/the-most-intimate-photograph>

<http://www.artnet.com/artists/emmet-gowin/>





Emmet Gowin's work is very close to me. His wife and children seem utterly at ease in front of camera. To photograph my family was very hard to me I could not find the way to capture something real. The only when I started to put children or my husband in some situation and letting them feel free with emotions, I am managing to capture unposed and natural moments. I never ask artificially feelings for the artificially created situation. This is my point of view how I see them true. Also, I will continue work with film camera in memory of my Grandfather and my uncle who showed me the beauty and importance of photography. Emmet Gowin had ability to make the daily life luminous and mysterious and his work inspired me a lot.





My treasure box...the old positive films what gave us uncle. When I remember myself all the time with big pleasure, I was looking at these films again and again.



“The Last Tree” the movie what inspired me to explore more about the connection between man and specific place. I could say that emigration helped me more understand people, to change my mind to many things, to be more open and more tolerance. Things are happening with those who are kicking themselves from comfort zone.

<https://www.theguardian.com/film/2019/sep/19/shola-amoo-the-man-behind-the-british-moonlight>

<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2019/4-october/books-arts/film/film-review-the-last-tree>

<https://www.theupcoming.co.uk/2019/09/23/the-last-tree-movie-review/>

