

500 word evaluation of zine

Word count- 540

My zine is a brief tour of some of the best photographs I've taken of and for my friends and acquaintances over the years that I have been using a digital camera, at gigs I've covered in Swansea and my hometown. My favourite time to photograph musicians is not even when they are performing; rather, it is when they are creating music or thinking of melodies in their own environments. I wanted to document the journey from the making of the music to when it is performed as a show for the public.



1-Shot for SBC guitars.
Commissioned artists.

The zine itself is an old one I created for a college assignment; it featured pictures of a ex-boyfriend who, you guessed it, was a musician. I've always been fascinated by the close bond between musicians and their instruments, and I believe this is where I took my first photograph of an instrument. This is a collection of pictures that I never would have put together, but they show my development as a gig photographer. I spent money on better



2-Pip at 02 institute 2021

lenses and speed-lights, and I've also conquered my fears of drawing attention by carrying a camera.

I initially began photographing my most recent partner, a bassist, in a more serious manner. His appearance in Bass Player magazine and my photos I took of him for my own college projects gave me the inspiration to photograph other musicians.

I missed recording those moments after I moved away from him and my home, and as if it were predestined, I attended university, moved to a new city, got a new job, and my coworkers were musicians! which allowed me to resume attending concerts and taking pictures! I hope to meet more people in the scene even though I have only recently started attending shows at venues like Elysium that also have photo galleries.

My photos are mostly inspired by Antoine d'Agata, he uses a slightly longer shutter speed in his photos to create beautiful little movements and I loved doing that with drums and the way that a drummer's hair moves as they play.

Antoine d'Agata is mostly responsible for inspiring my photography; he uses lower shutter speeds to capture emotion and movement, like the camera can see the ghosts of the individuals being captured, and therefore the love for photographing drummers came from, they have the best movements, and drummer's hair moves really hypnotically while they play, and by using a slightly longer shutter speed



3-Shot for the band 'storm season' 2020



4-Antoine d'Agata | Mala Noche Mexico. 1998.

like d'Agata does in his images to produce lovely subtle movements, I started experimenting with musicians and their movements as they play.

Additionally, I wanted to capture the audience's energy, so I began adjusting my shutter speeds as people became more inebriated and began dancing. I adore how the lights and people's actions seem to be stuck in time, almost as though the music is being frozen. I want to keep trying out different variations of this.

I utilised my very first book-bound zine, which I made during my first year of college, to showcase this zine, it is a journey and first hand witness of my progress and knowledge as a photographer.

Figures:

- 1- 'Calvert Stephens', commissioned artist fro SBC guitars- Zobia Ahmed 2020
- 2- 'Pip' at O2 institute Birmingham- Zobia Ahmed 2021
- 3- Storm season- Zobia Ahmed 2020
- 4- 4-Antoine d'Agata | Mala Noche Mexico. 1998

References

Gavroche, Julius. "The Resistance of Bodies: The Photography of Antoine D'Agata." *Autonomies*, 3 Feb. 2013, autonomies.org/2013/02/the-resistance-of-bodies-the-photography-of-antoine-dagata/. Accessed 17 Jan. 2023.