

Report: Site-Specific Exhibition

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Site Specific Exhibition Title: 3 Silent Nights

Rationale

- Clearly articulate why the chosen site is meaningful. What historical, cultural, or social importance does it hold? How do these attributes align with the conceptual framework of your work?
- Conceptual/Contextual Ideas: Discuss your group and individual interpretations of the broader themes your exhibition explores, such as identity, memory, community etc.

Our initial given site for this site-Specific project, was the No Sign Wine Bar on Wind Street, but because the place needed a payment for the space, we were not able to use it. This Site has a lot of historical, cultural and social aspects which could have been further explored, if we had accesses to the space. I have initially chosen this bar to use and talk about in the project proposal, which explored one idea which could have work for this site-specific project. This was our first challenge, and we had to act quickly to find another place on Wind Street which we don't need to pay for, and which works with the availability of the space as well as the period of the exhibition. As a group we have discussed and looked around Wind Street on the same day, to find an alternative site which works with everyone in the group and the place's manager. The final site which we all choose as a group was The Coach House on Wind Street, Swansea, we were fortunate enough to have the back room of this site which has given us some potential to work with. This site has a historical context which we looked at, which is the Swansea Blitz, but also more general ideas around the site or street but this event has led to all parts of Swansea being destroyed, apart from Wind Street. The cultural expect of this place and social importance are that it has always been a pub, it functions as a restaurant, and nightclub, for people to meet up and socialize, special occasions like Halloween or Christmas it's a busy place with a great atmosphere, but on most days it's quite with an odd couple of people having a drink or food. I have used these areas to reflect on the space by using photographs which engage, promote and bring the space alive by making a social commentary on how space functions during day and night, showcasing the old and new version of the site.

The contextual idea which we have all explored within this exhibition as group, is the way which city life has changed, within the street along with the buildings along and the people who use it. We individually concentrated and reflected on the site by

responding with how we feel in the space or find interesting about the sites or street's history. Another common theme which one of us has touched upon is memory of the booming, happened in Swansea. I have highlighted the enjoyable aspect of the site by reminding people what the place has to offer and bringing back the memories of events which people have attended. Other people have used the community as an influence, to highlight humour and indulgence with temptation. Another aspect of a work which been show is looking at what Wind Street will become soon. Lastly also looking at the filth and disorder of the pubs and the city life through capturing a and reflecting on the disorientation of intoxicated city life and people.

A Summary of the Research

- Provide a concise overview of the research you have conducted over the past semester that has led you to the production of your site-specific intervention.
- Demonstrate your understanding of primary and secondary research skills taught over the past 18 months in developing your ideas from concepts to final installation. (Site visits/ practical experimentation, data collecting etc.)

I have applied Primary Research which has led me to my final piece, by experimenting with different ideas throughout the project. Visiting and spending time in the space to observe and take notes on small details, along with making sketches and photographs of them for visual reference. As a group we have also used primary research by having meetings with the sites manager and just having group discussions inside and outside of the space. Visiting other exhibitions which include site-specific work can also be insightful and informative for researching purposes to understand site-specific works better there was one which I visited in the Glynn Vivien.

As a group we have also used Secondary research while visiting the Archive and library as we analysed a range of archival books and photographs. Part of my individual research for my work I collected information on musicians at the beginning of the project as part of Secondary Research which has further led me to source, data and photographs from social media platform such as Facebook and Instagram. As a group we looked at examples of other people's leaflets and poster which has led us to create our own and improve on areas which didn't work.

Techniques Developed for the Production of Your Body of Work

- Outline the tools, materials, or methods employed in creating your work. Highlight innovations or adaptations that you have considered to align with notions of 'site specificity'.
- Practical Application: Describe how these techniques contributed to the final exhibition and supported its conceptual aims.

Through the production of my exhibited work, I had to research for images and take them off social media such as Facebook and Instagram using an online tool which download images from a URL. The tools that I used to prepare these images is photoshop as they had to be prepared, along with using a printer to print them off. Cutting them up individually using a cutting matt not to damage the table and the prints by accidentally slipping, using a ruler which you can grab onto was useful because I could keep the print straight without moving anywhere while I cut the prints with a sharp craft knife. When researching and thinking about site-specificity, I wanted to create something that attaches to the site in some way and creating something that's recognizable but also unique to the place.

I was able to stick each strip onto the wood panels of the Bar and DJ booth perfectly as they been individually measured, using white tack I stuck each of them on which was an easy and quick processes because I numbered them based on the measurement of each panel. The result of the overall work looks neater than I expected because I thought using white tack would not keep the work up to long, but it held up well through the exhibition period which was 3 days, and it's still holding strong. This work has made the site look more vibrant and interesting because i brought back things that exist in the space, back onto the surface of the pub, highlighting all the things that they did and doing now.

Individual and Group work overview

- Provide a summary of your contribution to production of a final site-specific exhibition.
- What role did you take in the group?
- What have you found challenging throughout the process?
- How have you overcome any hardship that you have delt with both in the making of your work and working with others.
- what team and personal skills have you learned/practiced that might be useful in your professional development for future career opportunities?

I have contributed to the final site-specific exhibition by arranging a time the day before exhibition to display our work, in time for us to open the next day. I have made, printed, cut the posters and displayed them in university and the site, as well as send it to the manager to share it on social media. I also asked the leaflets to be printed out, and I brought them to the site on Monday the day of the exhibition by 12 o'clock ready for the opening. I helped listing some risks on the risk assessment and assisted with displaying other people's work in the group.

I have taken up the leader role with Amber, making sure that we are organized, and all tasks are being completed throughout the project. We kept the communication maintained in group chats. I also found challenging to do tasks like the poster, and leaflet along with producing independent ideas because I'm not as skilful and knowledgeable with using different Adobe Software's but i have overcome these by just forcing myself to learn certain areas of photoshop.

Through the process, I have found challenging to work in the group of 5 because we are all different people, working different ways. At the beginning of the project there was a lack of communication, and we didn't start producing physical work until later in the project, because there was a diversion on the theme, as it seemed too broad to research into. It was a challenge to complete tasks in time because of lack of contribution.

As a group we have overcome the challenge of securing a site at an early stage of the project. As a group we have also solved the debate on the work we like to make, by having a meeting with the lectures and coming up with a common theme that connects all our works together. I have overcome to be patient with people and myself when it came to group meetings and the production of my final work.

Through the project I have practiced and learned how to use a range of Adobe Software's which will help me in future jobs, that needs skills in using Photoshop, or Lightroom, etc. I deal with multiple of tasks simultaneously and kept the workload organized but I learned that sometimes you need take a step back and take yourself out of situations and allow other people to contribute or continue tasks. I realised that being open to a range of different ideas that are being discussed is important and as a group we need to pause and reconsider all ideas, so we don't make rational decisions, that will lead to delaying of the project.

Evaluation of the Exhibition

- Execution: Assess the success of the exhibition in addressing the site's history, community, or spatial dynamics.
- Audience Interaction: Discuss how the audience engaged with your work and the site.
- Reflection: Identify areas for improvement and potential future directions for your practice.

The overall success of the exhibition went well, as a group we have scattered the site with our individual works, which has created a dialogue looking at the history of the Blitz, social interactions of community on Wind Street through interaction with humour or the disadvantages of detoxication, as well as looking at industrial dynamics using photography sourced from social media platforms, along with images of Wind Street's future through the eye of AI.

The audience has engaged with the work by freely walking around, there was no order in which they viewed our work, but they walked back and forth to look at more closely each of them, individually. They had the opportunity to take a zine which was part of Suzzane's work and leaflet which included all our Artist statements along with the layout of the exhibition. There was more family and friends who visited the exhibition however they enjoyed being in the space and engaging with all the work and what the pub has to offer.

There are a few areas which we could have all improve on as a group and individually through the project. Such as communicating better when it comes to where our work will be displayed, how will it look and what it's going to be about, so we can connect them more and work more efficiently. We need to double check measurements of prints, so that it fits perfectly on the surface we intended to be displayed on. In the future we need to test that we can use the tv through a memory stick or something that allowed us to connect to the Tv easier, without exposing any wire to the audience. In my future practice i need to research more into different aspects of what I'm looking at and be more specific in my Artist Statement what my work is about. I like to take a much more convenient and comfortable route for my practice so that I don't overcomplicate or make my work irrelevant to my research.