Proposal

Through my documentary photography project, I aim to shed light on the world of life modelling by capturing the experiences and stories of models and artists alike. By providing a window into this world, I hope to reveal the beauty and vulnerability of the human form, as well as the courage and creativity of those who bring it to life on canvas.

This project will feature a diverse range of models, including people of different ages, races, genders, and body types, as well as artists who work with a variety of mediums. Through photographs and interviews, I will explore the reasons why people choose to become life models, the challenges they face, and the impact that this unique art form has on their lives.

By displaying the human body in its most natural and vulnerable state, I hope to challenge societal norms and prejudices about nudity and beauty. My goal is to create a body of work that celebrates the human form and highlights the importance of artistic expression in all its forms.

Evaluation of Long documentary project 'A conversation with a life model'

My documentary photography project on life modelling is an insightful and thought-provoking exploration of a practice that has been historically misunderstood and overlooked.

I aim to highlight the diverse experiences and stories of models and artists and emphasise on challenging societal norms and prejudices about nudity and beauty in today's cultural climate.

The project's focus on the impact of life modelling on the lives of the models and artists involved provides a unique and intimate perspective on this art form, which is very engaging and enlightening for viewers. The use of photographs and interviews to tell these stories is an effective approach that helps viewers connect with the subjects and gain a deeper understanding of their experiences.

This long documentary project on life modelling has the potential to be a compelling and informative work that could challenge preconceptions and encourage viewers to see the beauty in the human form. However, the ultimate success of the project depends on the quality of the photographs, the depth and variety of the interviews, and the overall coherence and impact of the finished product.

Retrospective of my approach in curation of my first series 'I, Tonya'

Throughout the production of my first series, I was not sure about how I would approach interviewing my subject. Initially, I had a set of questions to act as prompts for the Life model.

1. How long have you been modelling for Life drawing classes?
2. How do you prepare mentally and physically for a Life drawing session?
3. What is the most challenging thing about being a Life model?
4. What do you enjoy most about modelling?
5. How do you feel about being the subject of Somone's work?
6. Do you feel that art has the power to change the way people view the human body?
7. How has your experience as a Life drawing model influenced your own perception of the human body?
8. How do you think the art world can become more inclusive and diverse in its representation of the human body?
9. Have you ever noticed any differences in the way male and female models are treated in art?
10. How does being a life drawing model make you feel about your body?
11. How do you think the art of Life drawing can challenge or change societal norms around beauty and the human form?
12. Do you think there is a therapeutic or healing aspect to Life drawing, either for the model or artists, if so,

13. why?
14. Do you believe that our society has a limited or restrictive view of what is considered beautiful or desirable in terms of body shape?

I decided it was less about the questions and more about the individual I was interviewing, so expressed to the subject that I was interested in their personal experience and relationship with life modelling but also the opinions they have derived from life modelling around the human form and beauty.

I faced some challenges with the model cancelling, although this provided the opportunity to create a series on my experience as a life model. The life model has chosen not to sit for the class on this day, due to personal reasons, and therefore I sat for the class. This impromptu work resulted in my portfolio series 'EGO DEATH.' I plan to sit for another class soon to put myself in the shoes of the people I am interviewing.

The interview took place in the life drawing rooms in Dynevor Campus, planning the interview took around three weeks due to both mine and the models busy schedules. Set-up took around twenty minutes, and I got a total of 40 minutes footage from the initial meeting – I have arranged another session in a week's time and have also reached out to other life models in Elysium Gallery and UWTSD.

My equipment:

- 2x RODE wireless GO || QuickStart Mics
- 1x LUMIX Panasonic DMC-GH4
- 1x Tripod
- 1x Light Box

I intend for this Documentary project to carry on as a long-form project over the course of my degree.

Trailer for 'I, TONYA – a conversation with a life model'

The full interview will be released after Tonya has looked at the final cut and decided if she is happy with the topics raised.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3_PIg9F7T4