

Research Documents

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In April, I had been tasked with an assignment to create a photobook. Focusing on the photobook, I was told that it could be anything. So my first idea was to have the photobook based solely on my current relationship with my boyfriend but I decided against it. This is because I feel I can add so much more to my work and I felt as if the subject of it was getting a little bit repetitive for a while now so I wanted to test new waters with a new idea instead. I wanted to expand and grow from that area rather than use it again so this time around I racked my brain back and forth for a while trying to figure out what I wanted my new subject to be for my photobook. After a lot of time thinking and planning, I finally decided to land on the subject of my family and hometown. Throughout the rest of this document, I will be explaining exactly how and why I made these decisions and what the process withheld.

When I first got the assignment brief, as I said before I was battling the different ideas in my head. A lot of them were still to do with my current relationship but some were to do with my family and nature. Way back at the start of April when I wanted the photobook to be about my relationship, I took a lot of my inspiration from my previous projects and researched artists. The main artist my research was based on was Pixy Liao and the reason I chose her was because she had created a photo book about her relationship and I loved the aesthetic and how quirky and different it was compared to some others I'd researched. Some of the pages were just plain text and some of them were filled with various photos and it was so much fun trying to figure out just what they meant. That what I like about it, it was completely different and each person who looks at it will have a different interpretation of what it all means.

During that time I also looked at different photo books. Some were nothing like what I wanted mine to be though. I looked through them because I just wanted to get a feel for how different books were made and to see if any inspiration came from them. I have looked at the book 'Parkinson Photographs 1935-1990', his book was nothing like I wanted mine to be like but it was filled with mostly black and white images and various other images in random places and a tonne of writing which isn't my style, but it did help knowing what I didn't want. I also looked at photo albums because at this point my main idea was my family and I thought the best places to look were photo albums which is kind of what I wanted my book to feel like. I also wanted it to be A5 in a square and have two rings attached to it so it's almost like a flip book.

In the near future, I am planning to do a photo book in a similar sort of style. This will be focused on my relationship with my boyfriend as it was my original idea so I'd still like to do that. My plan is to go around Swansea with my partner and take photos of our faces and add text in the images, symbolizing our journey as a couple.

Finally, when I had my group tutorial, I had gotten feedback that I think was honest. This is because what had been said was that some of my photos clashed due to the quality, and therefore stopped the flow of the book. I agree with this feedback because some of the photos were very pixelated because the best way I had contact with my family at the time was to video call them, but because of the quality of the video, it looked bad. Luckily, once travel restrictions were lifted, I was able to see my family again and get some amazing photos of them. Now with the new photos, it flows with my book.

Bibliography

harrison, martin. *parkison photography 1935-1990*. conran octopus ltd, 8 october 1994.

<http://www.pixyliao.com/experimental-relationship>