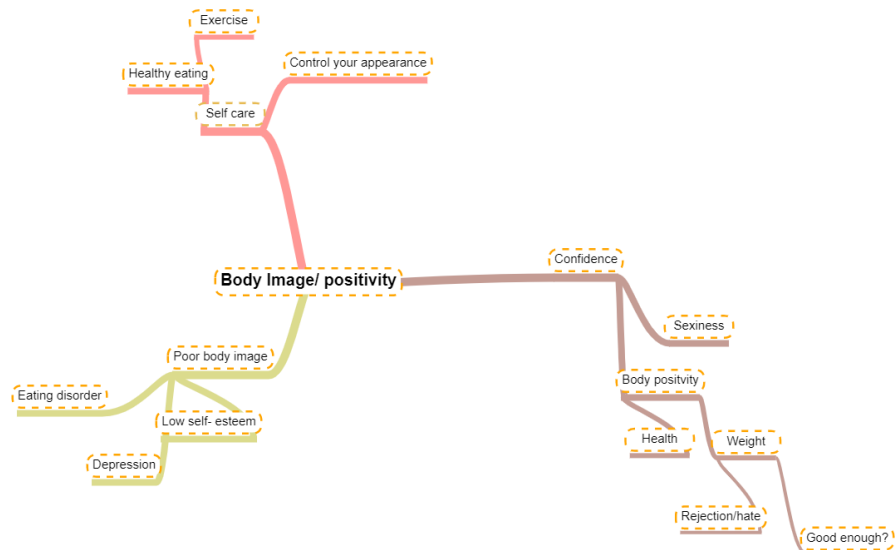


Brittany Wallace

Experimental Strategies/ Developing a unique voice / Body Image

Evaluation



After being given the assignment Experimental Strategies/ Developing a unique voice, I had to think about what exactly I wanted to do and how I was going to do it. My first thing to do was to pick a topic and I went with Body Image, I researched into photographers that I could relate into my project. I had some thoughts of what techniques that I wanted to experiment with and how I could do them at home. I wanted to focus mostly on my body as being in a lockdown during the pandemic it gave me a limit of amount that I could work with. I feel like this is a sensible place to start as I can explore and work with the topic body image. I looked at quite a few photographers, but I wanted to include artists/creative artists into my topic as that gives me a bigger range to work with. I looked at Ben Hopper as he does Photography portraits of women with body hair, I chose him because his work goes well with body image as some people do not find hair on women natural when it is. I was inspired to take some photographs of myself with my body hair as during lockdown I was not motivated to remove my body hair or do anything.



<https://www.therealbenhopper.com/Projects/Natural-Beauty/1/thumbs>

Another photographer I looked at personally was Sophie Harris Taylor and one of her works called the “Epidermis” showcases the skins of women which are not often seen. This inspired me to photograph myself with no makeup on, to show myself being natural and normal with my skin condition that I suffer with everyday which is acne.



<https://sophieharristaylor.com/Epidermis>

I also researched other artists/photographers that would inspire with their techniques and photographs. I also researched what Body Image is, how it affects us and why is it important.

<https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/body-image-0>

<https://www.psychalive.org/what-is-body-image/>

<https://kidshealth.org/en/teens/body-image.html>

For this whole project I used a Canon EOS 4000D, tripod, backdrops and an umbrella light and to edit the photographs I used two software's such as Photoshop and Lightroom.

Overall, I feel that doing Body Image as a topic it has given me a wider range of what other experimental techniques that I can use next time. There are a few techniques that I would do again like the image transfer and the cyanotype as I really enjoyed doing them and I love the outcomes of them both.



How I did the image transfer to wood was I first started off by picking what photograph I was going to use and I used two photos, once I picked the photos I then had to print the photographs off and then apply mod podge to it. I had to do a thick layer of mod podge so that I know it would have the



best chance of sticking to the plywood. Once I covered the image in the solution, I then turned the image over and faced it onto the plywood. I then left that sit for 24 hours on my window and I got a wet sponge, gently rubbing the image off with the sponge.

I also liked how one of my cyanotypes turned out and to do this I had to print of an image onto acetate and then grabbed a piece of a4 paper. I had to pour an equal amount of Cyanotype part A and Cyanotype part B so that it could mix. Once that has done, I then had to brush it onto the a4 paper and then used a hair dryer to dry it quicker. I got my acetate and placed it into a frame with the a4 paper and then placed it in front of a tanning UV light for 45 minutes so that it could develop. After the 45 minutes I then had to take it out of the frame and then wash the chemical away using cold water and then dried it. I wish I did more Image transfer on wood as they turned out good for my first time, but I ran out of the solution. I have a few favourite photographs that I have taken during this topic and I hope it will show that Body Image should not matter to other people. This topic has made me be more comfortable with who I am and my body image, it has also made me less conscious of showing my body to others. As this was a topic, I chose to do there are some parts that could be improved such as doing more experimental technique so that I can explore other artists that may do the techniques. Being in lockdown did give me a bit of trouble as I wanted to use other people other than myself for my photographs, I wanted to have a range of people but that would be part of something that I could improve on. I am happy with the topic that I picked, and I would love to go future with it as I want to be more confident with myself and it would boost my self-esteem a lot.

My favourite outcomes:

