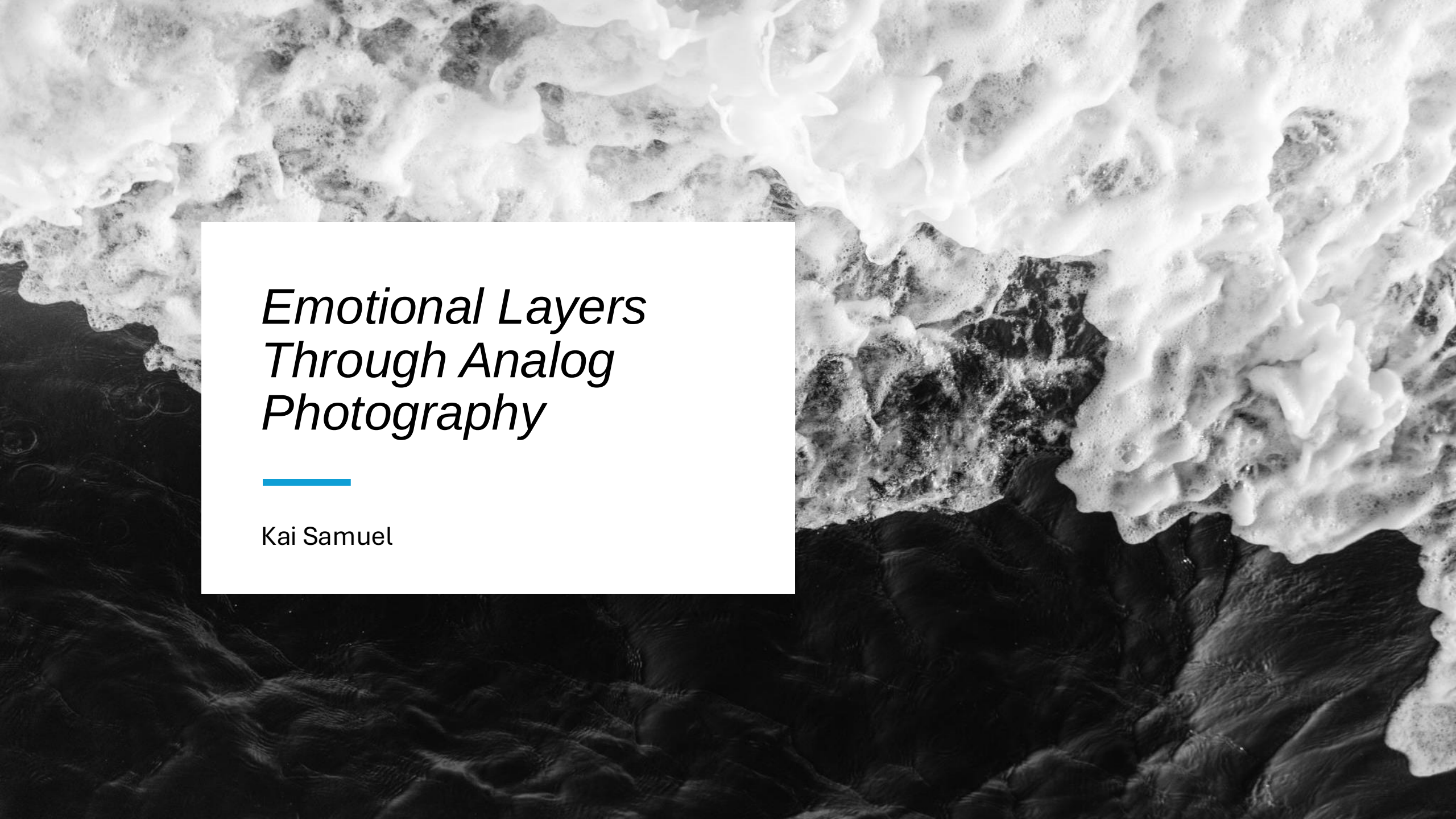




Emotional Layers Through Analog Photography

Kai Samuel

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Full name:	Kai Samuel
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Proposed name of project:	Emotional layers through <u>analog</u> Photography
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Describe your project using 5 key words:
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Emotion

Collaboration

Reflection

Interpretation

Connection

Provide a short summary of the proposed project: 100 <u>words</u>

This project looks at the emotional and creative power of analog photography. By giving participants open-ended themes like "comfort" or "identity," it invites them to explore personal feelings and memories through everyday objects or spaces. The slower, more thoughtful process of analog photography encourages participants to carefully consider each shot, unlike the fast-paced, instant nature of digital photography. Each photo becomes meaningful because of the effort and reflection involved. The project highlights how analog photography helps capture deep, personal stories and emotions, showing it as a unique art form that builds stronger connections and inspires thoughtful creativity.

Provide a detailed description of the proposed project (250 words)

What is the subject/concept/theme that you are exploring? What are your motivations behind making the work? What are the medium(s) in which you will work? What are the methodologies you will be employing?

This project looks at how analog photography can express emotions and ideas through everyday objects and spaces that hold personal meaning. Participants are given simple prompts like "comfort," "nostalgia," or "identity" and asked to respond with photos that show their unique interpretation. The aim is to create a collection of images that reflect personal experiences and emotions while exploring the depth of analog photography.

The idea behind this work is to highlight why analog photography still matters in today's digital world. Unlike digital photography, which is quick and immediate, analog takes time and care. With limited shots and no instant previews, participants have to think carefully about what they want to capture. This slower process encourages meaningful and intentional photographs that feel more personal and layered.

The project uses analog film to focus on the value of slowing down and appreciating each moment. Each participant works with a single word as their guide, reflecting on its meaning before taking photos. By exploring the same themes, everyone brings their own story to the project, creating a mix of ideas and perspectives.

This project not only showcases the beauty and depth of analog photography but also demonstrates how working together can lead to rich and diverse results. It offers a way to show personal stories, emotions, and creativity in a format that feels thoughtful and genuine. Having it as a collaborative piece highlights how each person's unique experiences and creativity shape their response, showing the diversity of perspectives even within a shared framework.

Timeline and milestones

Include a breakdown of the plan and milestones of the proposed project for the academic year. Consider the tasks, processes or activities necessary to complete in order to create the proposed body of work.

START DATE	END DATE	ACTIVITY OR TASK DETAIL
01/10/2024		finalise participant list and distributed word prompts. Briefed participants on the project goals and analog photography process.
15/10/2024		Provide analog cameras to participants.
25/10/2024		Collect completed film rolls from participants and begin developing the negatives
05/11/2024		Review developed negatives and selected standout images.
15/11/2024		Begin sequencing selected images. Analyse how participant interpretations reflected the prompts.
20/11/2024		Prepare exhibition materials, including printed photographs and accompanying texts. Start planning the layout and presentation format for showcasing the work.
16/05/2025		Swansea Exhibition Opening

Budget

Add the expenditure and appropriate details of your proposed project on this page. Provide information about the quotes for services/ products/ fees in the description field. Though we cover your printing costs within the department for anyone wishing to use print as a final form for their major project, please cost them based on real world cost.

Description	Cost
Analog cameras	£21x2
~~Poloroid~~	£110
~~Pro create~~	£12.99
~~Poloroid Film (8)~~	£16x3
Sharpie pen	£2
~~Poloroid Lab~~	£20
TOTAL COST	£234.99

Describe the developmental opportunities, experiments and processes you have undertaken, what did you get out of them, and how will you use them to support your proposed project? (200 words max)

Initially, I gave participants analog cameras to explore themes like “calm” and “chaos.” While a few photos were returned, it became clear that the process was too time-consuming for most participants. To make the project more practical, I shifted to having participants send their photos digitally, which I then converted into Polaroid prints using a poloroid lab machine. This ensured their interpretations were still presented in the format, maintaining the project’s artistic vision while making it more accessible.

These experiments showed how the flexibility of combining digital and analog methods could still honor the thoughtful and personal nature of Polaroid photography. They also reinforced the power of open-ended prompts to inspire unique and creative responses. This learning will shape the full project, helping participants focus on expressing their emotions and stories while ensuring the final results align with the emotional qualities of the photography. This all helped me understand the unique qualities of Polaroid film, like its soft tones and physical immediacy, as well as its challenges, such as limited controls and unpredictability.

What are the main risks and challenges to your project meeting its aims? What will you do to manage these risks? Mitigation (100 words max)

A big challenge is keeping participants interested and making sure they have enough time to think about the prompts. To manage this, I will give clear instructions, set easy deadlines, and stay in touch to answer any questions.

A challenge could be receiving either too many photos or not enough from participants. If there are too many, it might be hard to choose the best ones, and if there are too few, the project could feel incomplete. To handle this, I'll set a clear limit on how many images participants should send and follow up if I don't receive enough responses.

- Practice Based Experiments

My next step

- For this body of work, I need to restructure each image into a Polaroid Themed template to ensure it matches the overall style and visual theme I'm aiming for. By doing this I can create a more cohesive and polish presentation that ties everything together. At the same time I'm planning to use these images as a form of data collection experimenting with how different word prompts influenced the responses. This will help me understand which would connect most efficiently with participants and produce the most meaningful or visually interesting results. It's really about testing and refining the process to see what works best and exploring how the product and images interact.



COMFORT



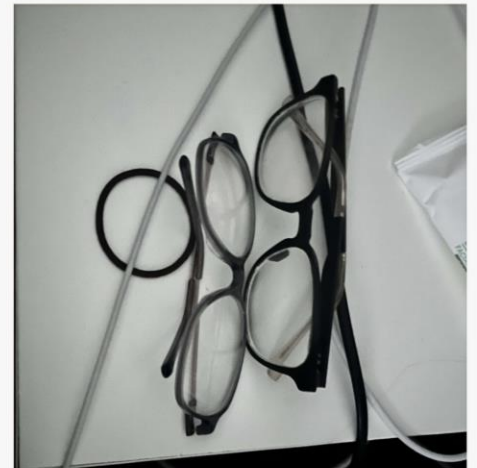
COMFORT

Comfort

- These 4 Images are very different, but they all create a sense of comfort in their own way. The candle provides comfort through the warm glow and familiar presence. The record player brings comfort by offering a soothing and timeless activity. The bookshelf adds comfort through its arrangement and reliability of space, the glasses on the desk offer a comfort in the way of connection to every day life. Despite their differences each image catches a unique way that comfort can be found in a small details of familiar surroundings.



COMFORT



COMFORT



Nostalgia



Nostalgia

Nostalgia

- The market brings nostalgia by showing simpler times, and memories filled with Familiar sights and smells.
- console, sparks nostalgia for many who spent hours gaming during childhood years.
- Worn cuddly toy tucked into bed is a powerful reminder of childhood
- Roasted marshmallow on the stick, recalls evenings around a campfire, sparking memories of stories
- These images highlight the different ways, nostalgia manifests from personal belongings and hobbies to sensory experiences and places.



Nostalgia



No Nostalgia



EScape



EScape

Escape

The shoes symbolises freedom, whether that's escaping into nature, running through a city or just going for a walk.

The endless rows of books in a library offers an intellectual escape.

The colourful buildings down tenby provides a literal escape where someone can use to go for a getaway.

The act of crocheting allows a creative escape, providing a focused activity helping disconnect from daily worries.

These images show that escape can be found in movement, learning or going to new environments, which represents a personal way to break away from routine and find peace



EScape



EScape



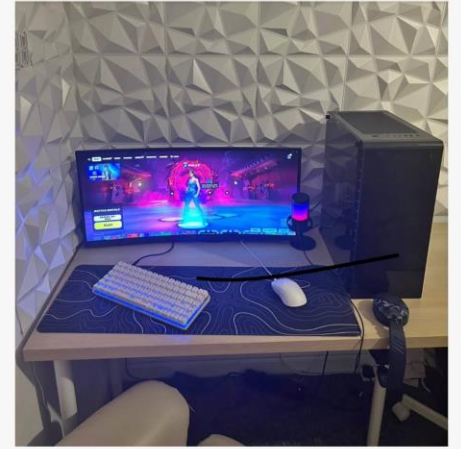
Joy



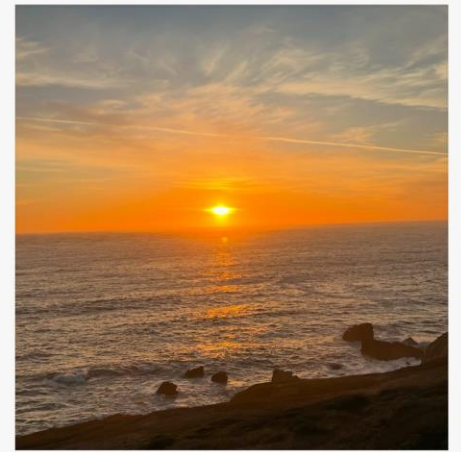
Joy

Joy

- The garden gnome symbolises joy found in a shared creativity and the pleasure of creating something.
- The vibrant colours of the PC setup and organised space shows the joys of immersing into a hobby.
- The sunset shows a breathtaking experience that can be seen by anyone.
- The bouquet of flowers captures the joy of appreciating small moments and gifts received by a loved one.
- These demonstrate how joy can be found in personal connections, hobbies and nature.



Joy



Joy



Identity



Identity

Identity

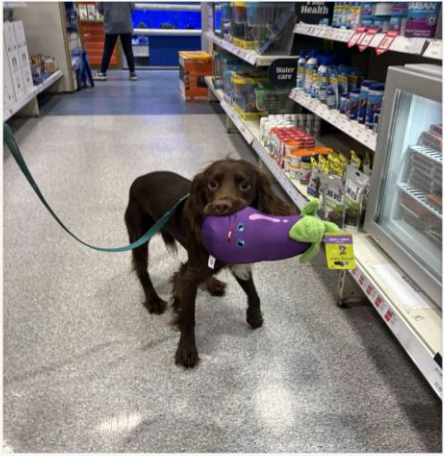
- The headphones represent a connection to personal interests, music or podcasts can become a part of someones identity.
- The unique charms in the crocs personalise the shoes. That reflects the persons personality or favorite characters.
- The close up of the cat highlights a connection between the person and animals as pets are an extension of someones identity.
- The cider taps hints at a social aspect of identity, representing a favorite drink or place in someones routine.
- These image showcase that identity can be what we wear, what we enjoy or the spaces we spend time in. Each object is a personal marker of self expression.



Identity



Identity



TRUST



TRUST

Trust

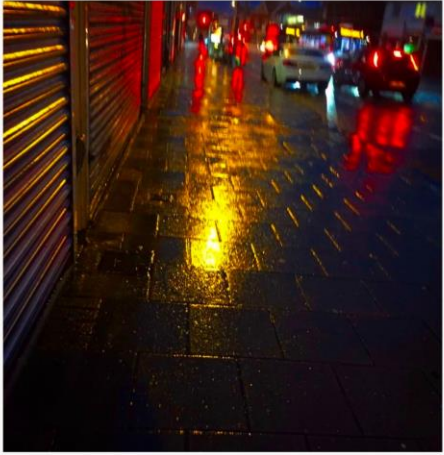
- The 2 player game is a cooperative game that requires trust from the other players choices and ability.
- The interlocked hands show a deep emotional trust, symbolizing the bond between two people.
- The playful dog carrying a toy conveys its trust in the owner, relying on their care and companionship.
- The cup of coffee represents trust in the barista's skills by creating a moment that connects to personal enjoyment.
- These images show how trust is built through shared connections and a mutual understanding in both small and meaningful moments.



TRUST



TRUST



Calm



Calm

Calm

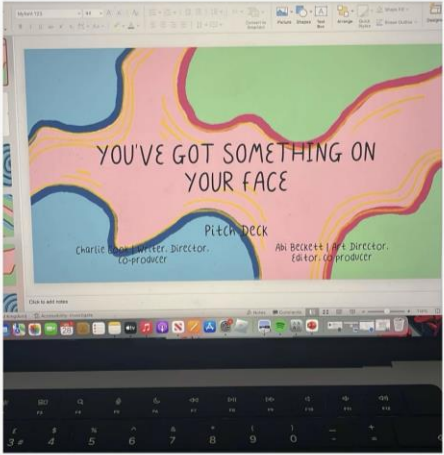
- The quiet act of fishing conveys peace and focus, capturing the calm from nature.
- The reflection of lights on the wet pavement brings a moody atmosphere but perfect for a quiet reflection.
- The warm drink topped with marshmallows represents a cozy calm moment often shared with others.
- The golden orange leaves under a blue sky highlights a calming beauty of a crisp autumn day.
- These images explore how calm can be found in weather or activities, each offering a unique experience.



Calm



Calm



Chaos



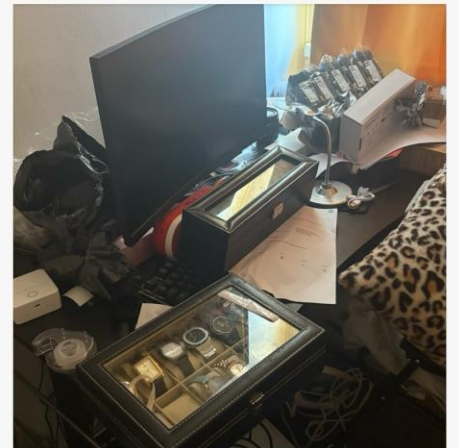
Chaos

Chaos

- The city scene is a crowded street with bright lights and energy of an urban life, capturing the chaos of constant motion.
- The cluttered desk filled with papers and rubbish portrays personal chaos, reflecting the overwhelming nature of multitasking.
- The tightly packed christmas bags on display, overlapping and clashing colours and sizes shows the chaotic energy of holiday shopping.
- The colourful, abstract slideshow suggests creative chaos, where ideas and visuals collide in a lively, unstructured way during a brainstorming session.
- These images highlight how chaos can emerge from daily life, creativity and public spaces.



Chaos



Chaos



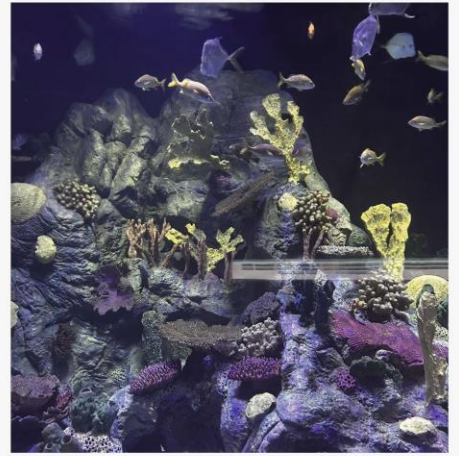
Fear



Fear

Fear

- The dark, shadowy depths of the aquarium evokes a fear of the unknown, where hidden dangers might lurk beneath the surface.
- The decaying structure, surrounded by overgrown nature, reflects isolation and abandonment. Creating an eerie atmosphere.
- The fallen tree symbolises sudden destruction and fear of nature's unpredictability.
- The mould spreading across the food creates an unsettling image of decay and contamination
- Together these images illustrate how fear can arise from pretty much anything playing on our discomfort with the unfamiliar or unexplained.



Fear



Fear



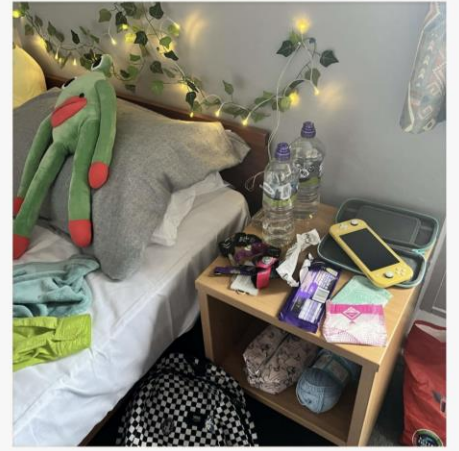
Pride



pride

Pride

- The graduates achievement reflects the hard work and determination. Sharing the moment with their loved ones beside them.
- The christmas tree, surrounded by gifts captures pride in tradition. Each ornament and gift showing care and preparation for the season.
- The car reflects a sense of pride in a significant milestone. Its presence embodies reward and personal growth.
- The bedside table reveals pride in a curated space, blending essentials with personality, showcasing a sense of comfort too.
- These 4 images showcase pride in different forms such as personal achievement or meaningful possessions. Together highlighting how pride manifests milestones.



Pride



Pride

What I would like to do

- I'd like to narrow the project down to just one word instead of 10, focusing on the word, the feels most effective and meaningful by choosing this word, I can create a stronger more focused collection. To showcase it I'll gather more images connected to the word, each showing different perspective and interpretations. This will allow me to explore the word deeply and show how it can be expressed in every day objects, places and moments while still encouraging creativity and personal meaning from participants. The expanded collection will help tell a more powerful story around the chosen theme.



Method

Polaroid lab turns digital photos from your phone into real Polaroid prints. You place your phone face down on the Lab, and it projects the image onto Polaroid film inside. The film is exposed to light, like how a Polaroid camera works. After a few minutes a Polaroid print develops.

For my projects this tool lets me turn participants digital photos into a Polaroid style print. It keeps the unique Polaroid look soft, colours, imperfections, and the nostalgic feel. It also brings back the slow, thoughtful process of Polaroid photography, even when the original photos were shot digitally.



'Identity'

- I feel the best word for my project is 'identity'. It is simple, powerful and deeply personal. Identity connect to who we are, how we see our self and how we want to be seen by others. This makes it relatable to everybody allowing for diverse and meaningful interpretations.
- Participants can capture objects, places, or scenes that symbolise their unique stories. This could be something as simple as a favourite book or as deep as a place that represents home. The concept of identity invites participants to think about themselves in a deeper way, which fits perfectly with the reflective, intentional nature of Polaroid photography.
- Unlike other words, like comfort or nostalgia, which evoke specific meanings and feelings, identity is broader, it allows for more creative, freedom and emotional depth. Since my project is about storytelling and connection. I feel identity encourages participants to create images with deep, personal meaning.