
VISUAL ENQUIRY 1 (ADAA5008/C)

Natasha Roberts

2317127

SITE SPECIFIC

- The term site-specific refers to a work of art designed specifically for a particular location and that has an interrelationship with the location. (Tate,2017)
- A site-specific project is all about responding to the location, such as environment, religion, culture, etc. Everything about the location could become the creation of the project.
- Sun tunnels by Nancy Holt, Face to Face by JR and season's greetings by Banksy are all great examples of site-specific projects. I will be discussing the question, what is the impact of research on a site-specific project?



NANCY HOLT – SUN TUNNEL'S

- Nancy Holt's sun tunnels were created between 1973-76. The project consists of 4 huge concrete tunnels in the middle of Utah's great basin desert. They are arranged precisely so that sun is framed in the tunnels on the summer and winter solstice. There are also small holes in the concrete to project light in and form the constellations inside the tunnels.
- The tunnels bring down something from space down to earth and creates a unique experience for the viewers.
- Nancy holt put a lot of research into this project; to pull something like this off she needed a whole team of people to help her, from astrologists, architects, mathematicians and geologists. A lot of reseach went into this as it was such a big project, but also nancy wanted to give something to the audience. For this to such a unique experience, research is an imortant factor. To be able to walk into the tunnels and have the constellations project on you really makes the artwork connect to the people a lot more. There is also only two points of the yesr when you can see the sun framed in the tunnels which makes it a msut see experince drawing people in to see the work and sharing the natural beauty of the world up above down to us.

JR – FACE TO FACE

- JR created a piece of work, face to face which focuses on the conflict of the isreal and palestine. He went to isreal and palestine and spoke to people from each side to find out exactly why they hated eachother so much.
- The work consisted of huge portraits pasted on either side of the walls seperating the two cities. The images were of people doing the same jobs and same facial expressions. JR wanted to show that these people are almost identical twins. And see a relection of themselves on the wall. Their facial expressions were almost childlike, to which shows that they are all humans.
- JR did his research by just visiting israel and palestine and talking to them, seeing what it is that is the problem. From what he found out they were saying the same things about eachother on how they werent going to help JR with his work the other side.
- The whole work was created as an experice for the viewers, the reseach and time it took to do this was for the people in isreal and palestine to hopefully stop the fued and get along with eachother.

BANKSY – SEASON GREETING'S

- '*Seasons Greetings*' appeared at the end of 2018 on a wall of a common garage in a small town of Port Talbot (Wales). A happy child is catching snowflakes with his mouth, after all it is happy Christmas time for all! But then one realizes it is only half of the mural, as the other part is on the joint perpendicular wall... There burns a trash bin, and one realizes snowflakes are actually dirty ashes emanating from the trash bin...' (*Seasons Greetings, December 2018 2021*)
- This artwork was created to show the impact on the environment from the steel works in Port Talbot. Which has high rates of pollution which is showing the realities that the town is facing. Banksy's act was to wake people up and realise that there is a problem, and something needs to be done about it. I think it is clear to see that Banksy did his research on the problem in Port Talbot and wanted the viewers to see the issue more clearly. If you live in PT you are more likely to not see the issue everyday so for Banksy to open the eyes of locals was very powerful.

COMPARISON

- It is clear to see that all of three artworks have clearly done research to create these artworks. However, the impact from all three of them are a lot different for the viewers.
- Holt's work focuses more on the viewers experincing something new and surreal experince to enjoy art and the natural beauty of the world and environment.
- JR's work was hoping to show the viewers from each side of the walls that neither of them are bad people and that they should wake up and realise that this fued is pointless.
- Banksy's work was getting the people of Port Talbot to see what is happening in their town and things will have to change to help their town and impact on the environment.
- All three examples have shown important impact on the viewers experience, which would only happen with the right research and execution of the site-specific work.

MAPPING POTENTIAL TERRITORIES

- For our first project we have been given the task of putting on a site-specific exhibition. Which will be done in groups. For this we are going to need to come up with options for a site to use for the exhibition.
- I have been thinking about two places -
- **Salvation army**: The salvation army is based on Morfydd street in Morriston. I only live a few doors down and I know that there is a lot of history in Morriston and the building of the salvation army itself so I'm thinking this might be a good place to put on the exhibition. The only issue with this site would be difficult for people in my group to get to if they don't drive and people who come to see it from the Uni as it is out of the city centre.
- **Vue cinema**: The Vue cinema is also one of my options as there has a lot of space at the bottom. And I know there is a lot of history in Swansea so looking at the history of the building would be interesting. And it will be more accessible for everyone in Uni and the group.

ARCHIVE VISIT

- We visited the archive this week, we met Andrew who was very helpful and gave us a lot of information. In the session he was talking about different places in Swansea that he had ready to discuss. One of the ones he discussed was Vue Cinema.
- I learnt that where the Vue is today used to be small houses, with two floors, but very small rooms. Sometimes there could be 5/6 people living there which is a crazy thing to think of knowing how small the rooms were. In 1929 the houses were knocked down. It is interesting to see that where we go for entertainment used to be people's homes. And so many cramped into a small space. Following that visit I went online to see if I could find anything else.
- The picture on the right, I found on the council's website, her name was Bella Miller, and the photo was taken by Sir Edward Stafford Howard, in 1912. She used to live in one of the houses.
- If this space is possible to use The exhibition theme would be, comparing what it used to be like there to what it is now. Trying to represent the how small those houses were, what they were living in and the conditions they lived through, and how that compares to now. Showing how people used to live and the way they had to live, now where it is a big building with screens, heating and space!



SITE – SPECIFIC GROUP

- Today we had our meeting with the lectures after we have submitted our site proposals. I have been put into a group with Carys, Oli and Hannah. The reason we got put into a group was because we all had similar proposals on what we would like to do.
- Since we are now in a group we have decided to try and get the old ragged school, which closed in 1956 and now is the Swansea spirit, for healing and physic development. We are going to contact them and try and secure the place before we start planning anything.
- Following on from this we have now contacted the old ragged school and unfortunately, we are unable to use this space as the don't rent it out in the winter. So currently we are exploring different options. We have contacted, The Bunkhouse, St James' Church, Waterstones. Hopefully, we can get one of these places quickly so we can start producing ideas as we only have 8 weeks until the exhibition. And all these places are in the city Centre so easily accessible for the group.

ST JAMES CHURCH

- Today we have had a call back from the vicar at St James' who said that he is very positive about us using the space and wants to have a meeting with us and our lectures on Thursday to discuss the details further. This is great to hear as we as a group have been a bit stressed over not having a space yet when most the other groups have already got theirs. But we have made a quick turnaround to be able to get this meeting with the vicar.
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- we went to the church and met Ian the vicar, and thankfully we have secured the place. He showed us around the church, which is bigger than what I thought it would be but has a lot of potential. We have gone around and taken pictures to get an idea of the space and potential ideas for the exhibition. And we are planning on going back again on Sunday for the service which I think will give us a better idea of how the church functions and the community within the church. And we have a visit for the archive on Friday to get some history and background on the church.
-

ARCHIVE VISIT.2

- We went to archive today as a group to find some history, information and old images of the church.
- When we got there, they handed us a lot of things that they have gotten together for us. While we were looking through all it there wasn't much information or images. We didn't learn much.
- They did get a folder of the people who made the stained-glass windows, while there wasn't information about the windows in our church there was a quote in there which was "the glory of glowing glass" which we all liked as a name for the exhibition.
- As of now I need to start looking for a different approach for my work. Which I'm hoping that the visit to the site on Sunday for the service will help spark some ideas.



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MG_3001.jpg



MG_3002.jpg



MG_3003.jpg



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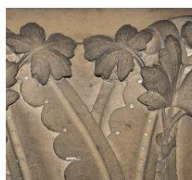
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IDEAS/CONTACT SHEET REVIEW

- When in the church I went around taking photos of the church, searching for ideas of what work I want to produce. As a group we produced a lot of ideas for what each of us want to do.
- **Yellow** - These images are different textures from the church. We have been discussing as a group and are thinking of using the textures of the church for a zine to go on the back of the pews.
- **Blue** – while walking around the church I noticed these little traces of human life within the church. Things that had been placed there by people visiting the church or who run the church I really like this idea for my work. This has given me an idea to start looking at the community within the church.
- **Pink** - the light within the church. After the archive visit, we started looking at the light in the church. I took images of the light for ideas to use the light for my work.
- Overall, after this shoot the images that stuck out to me the most were the human traces in the church. This can give me many oppurtunities to work with the community.



COMMUNITY

- While looking at my contact sheets I liked the pictures which has the human connection side of the church. Little things in the church like the chair with the songbook and the book under the pews. Which find interesting.
- For my part of the exhibition, I have decided to look at the connection of the people and the church. While looking around the church and taking photographs. There are parts of the church that have footprints of human actions. I think it is important to show this as, well when I think of the church I think of a building, weddings, funerals etc.
- Sunday I am going to the service so it will be nice to see how the service is, and how people interact. And most importantly meet them.

STUDY SEMINAR

This week in our lecture I took part in two study seminars discussing two questions.

- Question one – What is the impact of research on a site-specific project?

Before the seminar, I was convinced that research was essential for creating a strong project. I thought that without a deep understanding of the space, culture, and context, it would be impossible to create anything meaningful. But after the seminar, my perspective changed.

We talked about how research not only helps you make the work but also how it affects how people understand it. The seminar highlighted how research can shape how people see the work and make their experience richer. By understanding the cultural, historical, and social background of a project, people can appreciate the artwork on a deeper level.

This new understanding has really improved how I talk about the impact of research in my own work. I now see that research isn't just about collecting information; it's a powerful tool to shape the viewer's experience.

- Question two – How and why is site-specific art different to a framed photograph?

I wanted to do the first question for my task, but I was also considering this question so went to this seminar also. In the discussion we spoke about the work by Richard Wilson's work, 20:50. When I first saw a picture of this work, I had no idea as to what I was looking at although I seemed to be very interested. 'A walkway leads from a single entrance, leading the viewer into the space until they are surrounded by oil on all sides. The impenetrable, reflective surface of the oil mirrors the architecture of the room exactly, placing the viewer at the mid-point of a symmetrical visual plane.' (Wilson [no date]). With work like this we discussed that there is a different experience by looking at the picture of it and being in the room with the smell of the oil and seeing it in the flesh. You don't get to experience it how it is supposed to be. It is all about experience and how the perspective of this can change when you see them in real life compared to how you see it as a picture.

SUNDAY SERVICE

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REVIEW

- When visiting the church today, at first it was pretty scary going into a foreign place, especially on a sunday. However, when we got there, we were welcomed by everyone.
- A lot of people were asking about the exhibiton and what we were going to do it for it. But we explained that at this miute we aren's sure as to what each of us are going to do yet. It was nice of them to engage into a conversation with us.
- The images from the contact sheet are to see how it was in the service, how busy it was and the different types of people that came. I don't think I will use any of these images. Afterwards we had tea and coffe with them and spoke and a bit more!
- I feel like today was a successful day meeting the church goers and getting a feel of church life.

JIM GOLDBERG

Success for John is terribly important.
It tantalizes him — he likes the good life.
He isn't into that Sixties stuff.
Nan Cooke



I want to live my life
without any obstacles,
and become successful.
Then I will be happy.

John Cook (m. x m)
1966-?

To Jim



MY LIFE IS PERSONAL, BUT I WILL TELL
YOU ONE THING IM TOO FAT. SAMUEL
T.
DAVIS

- After showing Joe and Ryan the images from the contact sheet today. They liked the images of the human parts of the church. We started talking about Jim Goldberg.

Jim Goldberg did a collection of work called 'rich and poor'. "From 1977-1985 Jim Goldberg photographed and interviewed occupants in their homes in San Francisco, and asked the subject to comment on the photograph in their own hand. The inclusion of the subject's language inserts their point of view, subverting our notion of what the photograph could depict through the photographer's eye. The work presents a powerful assemblage of perspectives and stories that show a range of experiences among both rich and poor. However far apart these two worlds seem to one another, they both share their possibility for individual misery, dignity, and love." (*Rich And Poor* [no date])

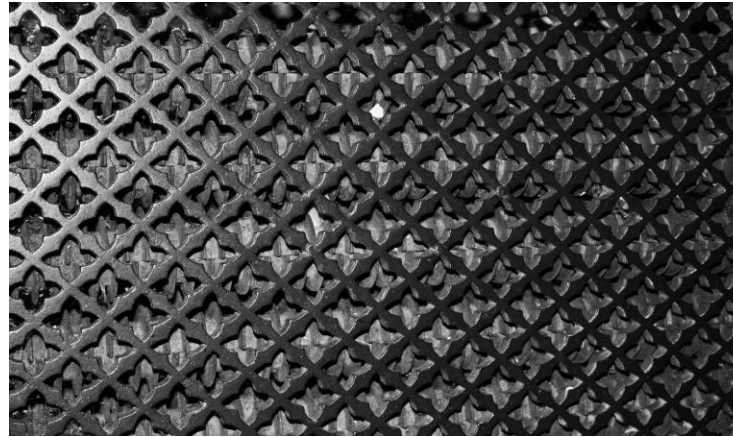
So, he adds the stories told by the people he works with images he has taken of them. The way he presents this is a great way of storytelling and is definitely something to think about while creating my own work.

VISUALISING THE EXHIBITION



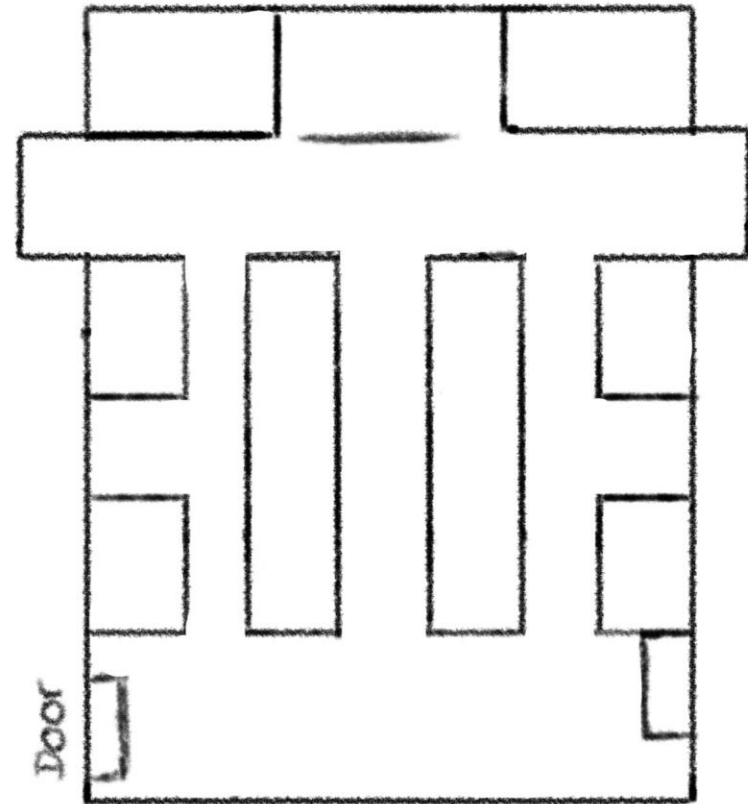
ZINE

- We are planning on making a zine for the back of the pews with possibly our artist statements in them. These will be for people to pick up and take around the exhibition. For the images in the zine, we are going to use the texture from the church as there is so many and it's what shapes the church. These are my images I have chosen for it. Which I have taken from my prrevious shoots

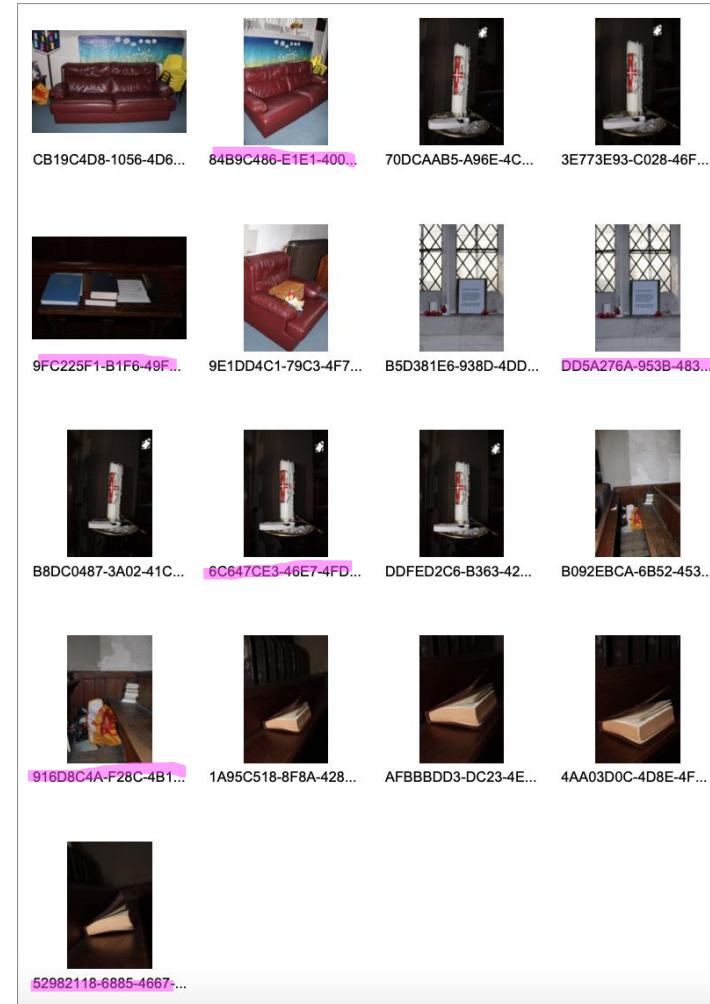
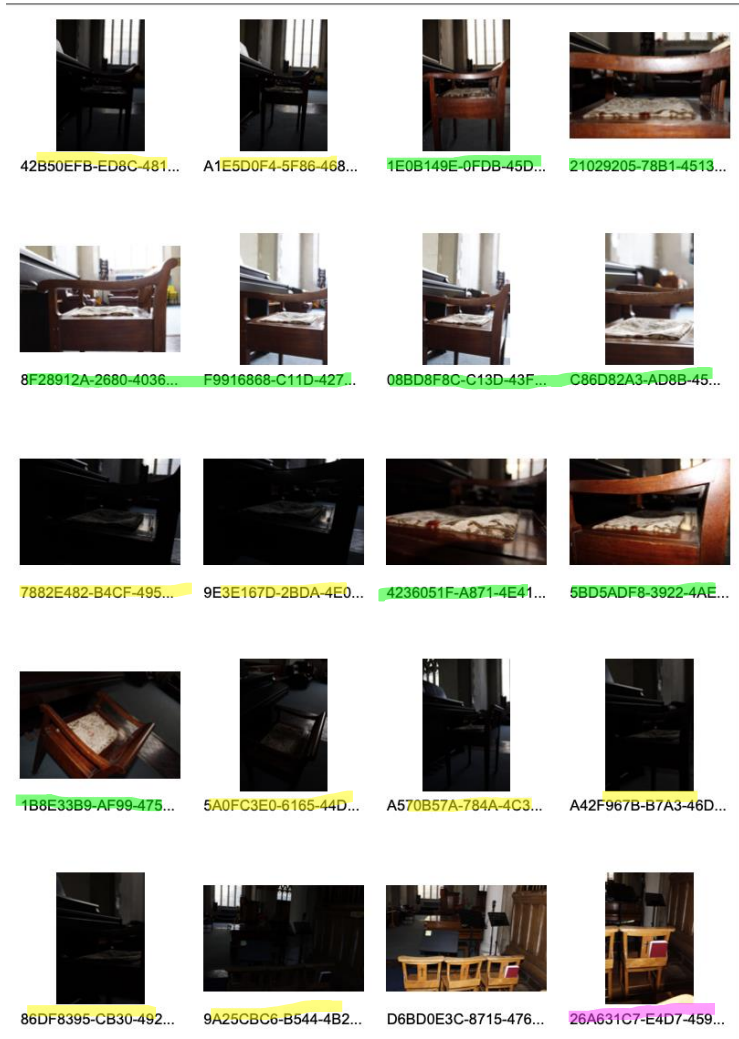


MAP

This is the map I have drawn for the church which is going to go into be printed for people to take to walk around and navigate themselves around the exhibition. We still need to put a key onto it but that will be done when we've all decided where everyone is going to put their work.



CONTACT SHEET – HUMAN FOOTPRINTS



REVIEW

- **Yellow** – These images turned out much darker than I expected. I tried taking them without the flash because I didn't want the flash to be so obvious on the chair. Since I shot them in RAW, I'm planning to adjust the brightness in Photoshop to see if I can bring out the details and make them work. Hopefully, I'll end up liking how they look after editing.
- **Green** – I was really drawn to this particular chair because of the dip in the seat—it shows how much it's been used over time. There's a story in its wear and tear, and I'd really like to include one of these images in the final outcome.
- **Pink** – These are my favorite shots from this shoot, and they're likely to be the ones I choose for the exhibition.
- This may be my final shoot as the deadline is closing in. And I still need to go to church service and ask them questions about their connection with the church.

ACETATES

- Since thinking of the work of Jim Goldberg and how I could integrate his style of work within my own. I thought to take acetates to church on Sunday and asked them what their connection with the church was or why they go to church. I was very pleased with the amount of people who were willing to do it. In total I got 16 people. I took acetates with me as I can do more with that than if they wrote it on paper. I can either use them in the darkroom or I can use them digitally. I'm not entirely sure yet what or how I'm going to use them.
- I'm running out of time and have now decided I'm going to scan them in and use them digitally. As it is going to be the most efficient and quickest way to start working with them.

ACETATES

Welcoming
like home
close to God.

Coming to worship
at St James'
makes me feel
safe.



Welcoming
Feels like home
Pray with others
Be close to God

I'm felt confident
happy and
healthy in my
mind. Thanks
Franck.

This is just a few examples of what the acetates look like scanned in. I think they turned out great. I love how everyone writes them differently. And expresses everyone's personalities. Next I'm planning on overlaying them on the images I have from the church. Ann has showed me how to do this today so that is my next plan of action.

IDEAS FOR EXHIBITION.

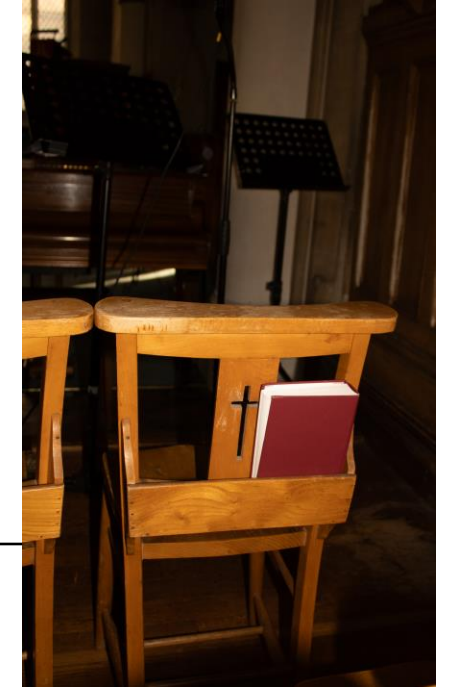
- From the images of my past photoshoots, I have chosen the final images I have done them in both black&white and colour. And currently deciding which ones I prefer and what will be the best fit for the exhibition.
- I have also been thinking about how I am going to present it within the church. There is a section in the church where the choir sing. There is a few music stands, which I want to use. I as the work is all about connection and community, I really want the work to reflect that as much as possible. I am going to print off the images on A5 matte paper. The reason I have chosen A5 is, so it symbolises the size of the hymn books they give out during the services.
- The choice for the music stands, music is a huge part of church life, and something the people form the church said is a why they are connected to church. Music brings people together and brings joy to people which is why the music stands seem like a great option.
- I also want people to interact with the work. Originally, I was thinking of putting the images into a zine. But I don't want it to seem as though there is an order to the work. So, I am going to lay them out onto the stands overlapping so people can pick up the prints, being able to pick up the work and have it in their hands I think will make people feel more connected to the work. Which is the what my whole work is about.

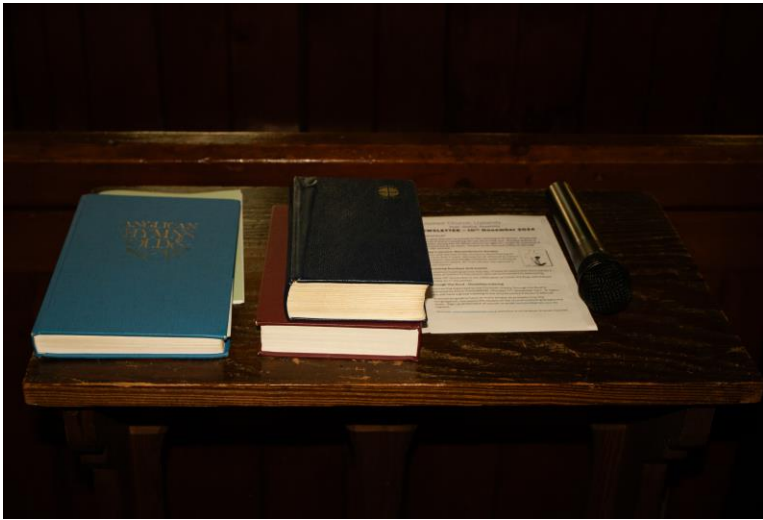
FINAL IMAGES



Here colour image and a black and white image of one of my final images. Although I like the the black and white. I feel as though for my work it doesn't work. I feel as though there is so much more personality in the colour images. And I don't want it to feel as though I'm making the church feel dull, I want to show all the colour in the church that the people experience every week.

FINAL IMAGES





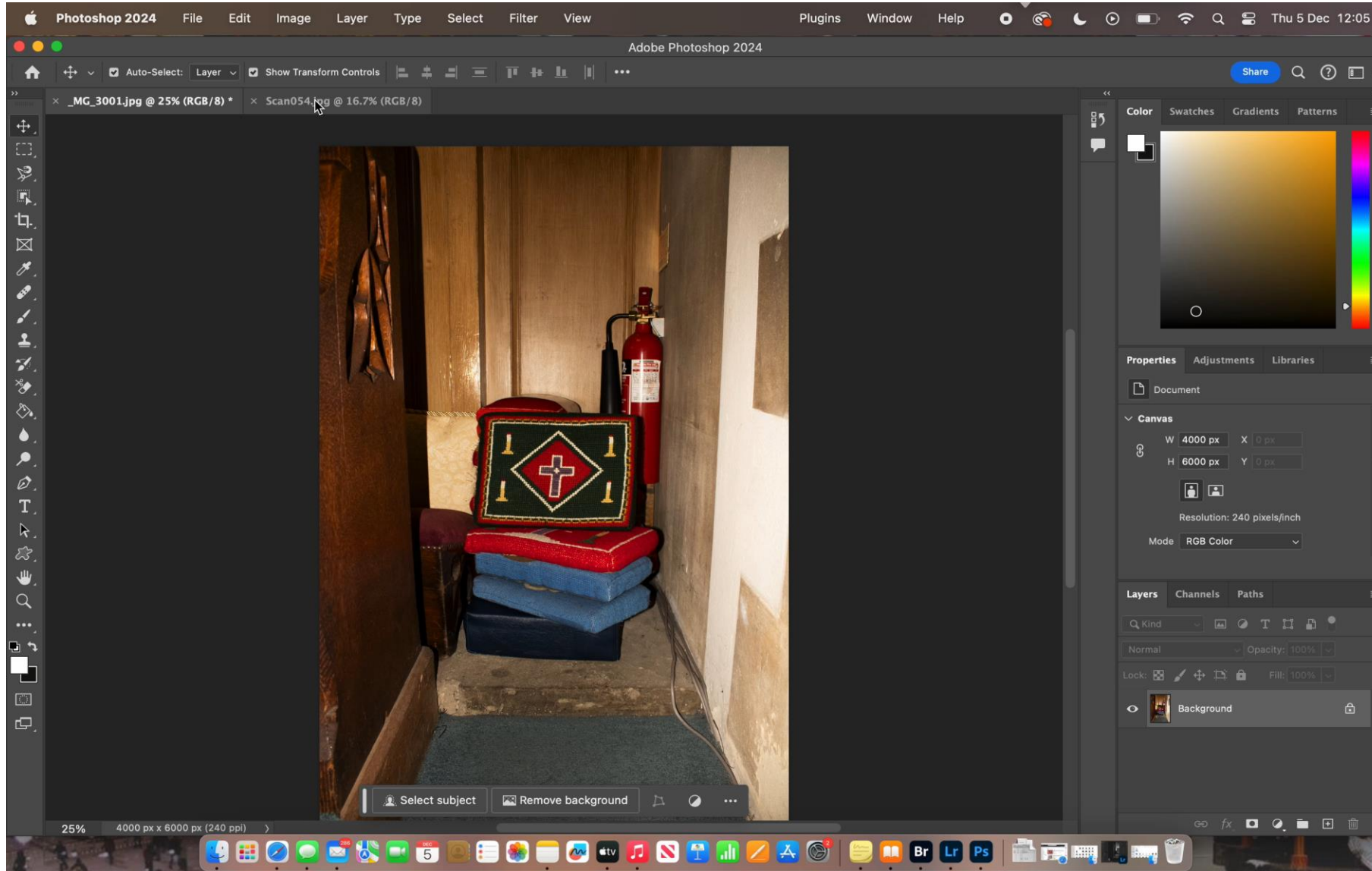
REASON FOR FINAL IMAGES

- The reason I have chosen all these images is each of them have human footprints in them. Which is what I wanted to achieve.
- Unlike in Jim Goldbergs where he has images of the people he work with I didn't want to have just pictures of the people from the church. There needed to be a connection to the church and the people. And I think I have done a good job.
- Next, I need to overlay the acetates onto the images and get them printed.

Zine Update

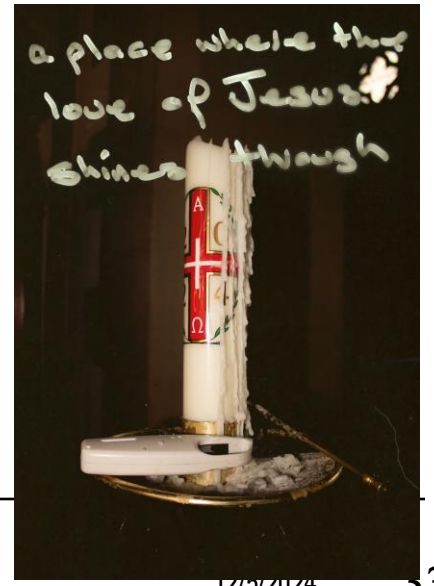
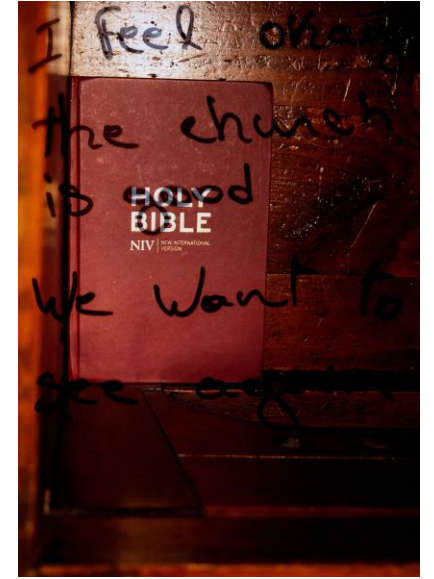
Today we have been creating designs for the zines and how to print them. But we have decided that instead of doing zines which is going to take a lot of paper and a lot of time. We are just going to go to the print shop across the road from uni and print the map I have drawn on card and then the images on the back, each one is going to have a different image on it. And artist statements are going to printed out on foam board and placed by our work.

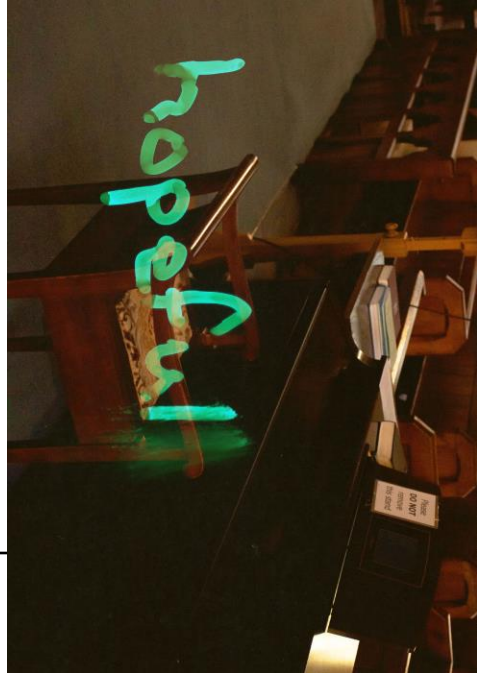
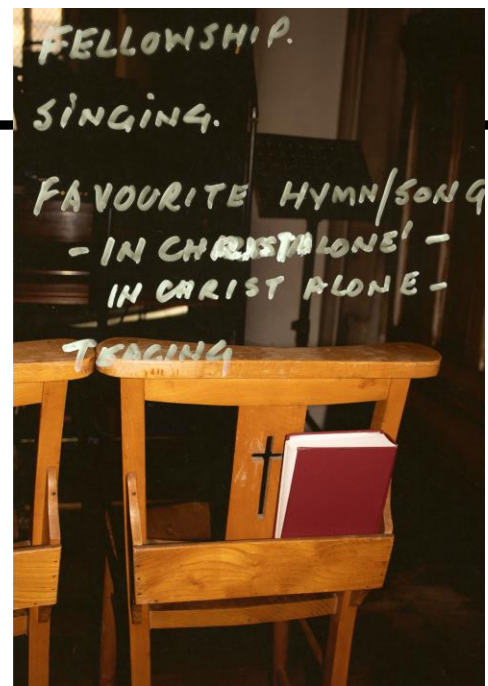
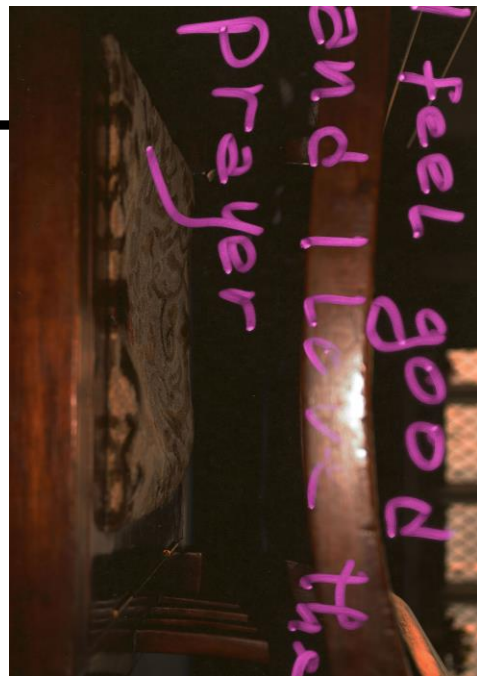
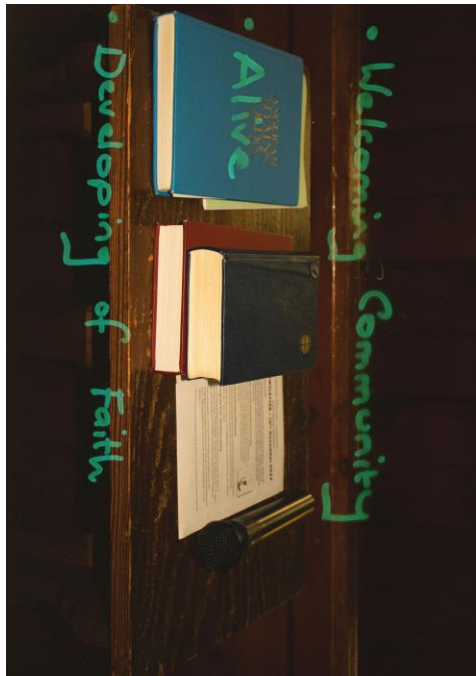
ACETATE PHOTOSHOP



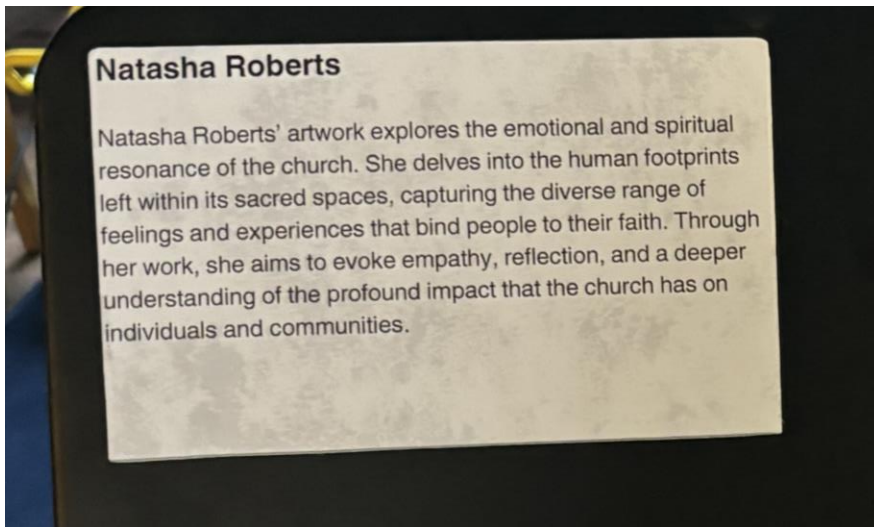
This is how ann showed me to over lay the acetates onto the images. I really like this way as there is many option on how the result can look. Trying to figure out how to do this took me way too long by myslef so thankfully ann was there to help me.

FINAL RESULT





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- Now the final images are done. They have been printed on matte A5 paper. All that is left to do is cut them. And set up the exhibition on Monday. Everyone's work is printed/ready to set up and Carys has been working on printing out our personal statements on foam board.



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

		Severity of Incident				
RISK MATRIX		1 - Insignificant	2 - Low	3 - Moderate	4 - High	5 - Major
Probability of Occurrence	5 - Certain	5	10	15	20	25
	4 - Very Likely	4	8	12	16	20
	3 - Likely	3	6	9	12	15
	2 - Unlikely	2	4	6	8	10
	1 - Highly Unlikely	1	2	3	4	5
Substantial / Intolerable Risk (15 - 25)		Work must stop until suitable control measures have been implemented. Additional resource / cost likely required.				
Moderate Risk (8 - 12)		Further consideration to be given to reduce risk. Additional resource / cost potentially required.				
Low / Acceptable Risk (1-6)		No or limited further risk reduction measures required. Monitor existing controls. Additional resource / cost unlikely to be required.				

EXHIBITION

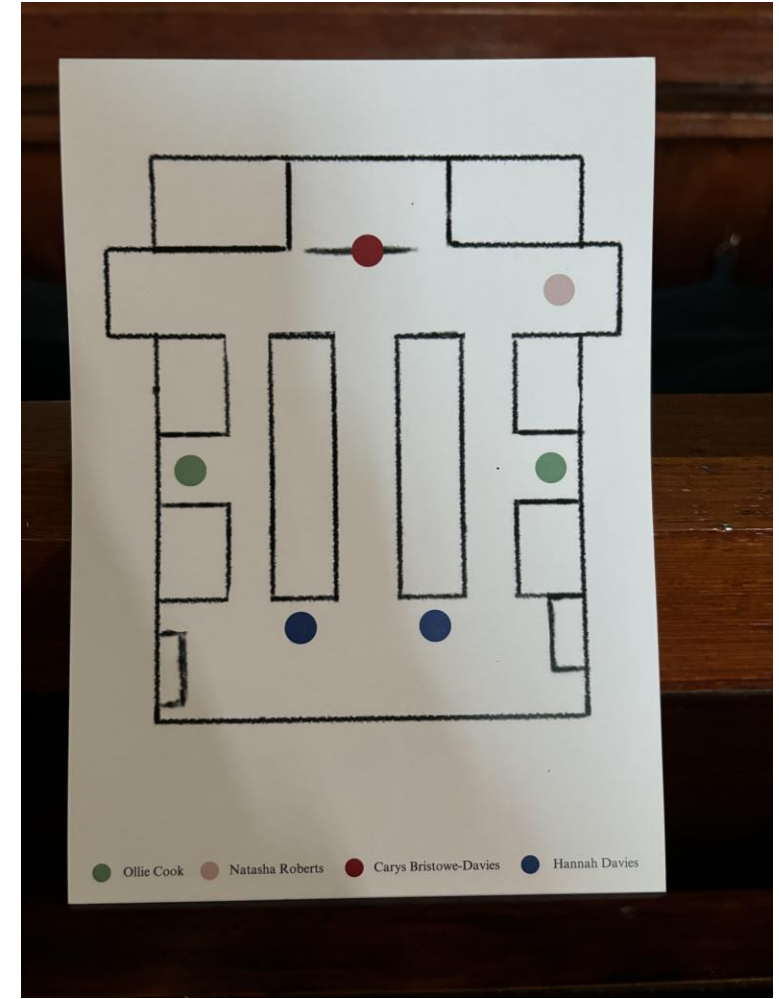


This was the final result of my exhibition layout. It worked great loads of people were picking them up, taking the time to look at them. I am proud of what I have created, I feel as though I made something meaningful to the church, vicar and the church goes. The exhibition as a whole was a great success lots of people came and said they enjoyed. I'm glad that as a team we all worked together to put on a successful exhibition.

The next slide is the work of my group mates, and I think their work was also successful. I'm quite thankful for the project as I've learn a lot on the way and been pushed to do things that I wouldn't usually do.



MAPS/IMAGES



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