Visual Diary 2



My aim for my project:

My aim for this project is to try and reinvestigate identity by talking to different people. I want to be able to create an atmosphere of a person in one picture just as this picture does. This is a group of cheerleaders in a carnival it looks like. This group of women are doing their passion and showing it off to other people, expressing their selves and their identities. This has inspired me to look into other women identities and see how people are different and investigate what makes people who they are.

Generic Assessment Criteria	Marks available	Marks awarded
1. Engagement with Literature Skills	20	12
It is clear that you have conducted very good research in the finding, selecting and researching of artworks. For example, your study of Hannah Darabi is independently selected and excellently responded to. However, the research conducted is not supported by your referencing process. You must make it clear where you have sourced information from by including (for example) a website link. Further to this, you should use quotes where relevant to directly quote the source writer (this will help to show if it's information/idea/opinion from the artist, or somebody else's, as there may be difference) using quotation marks and a citation. Alternatively, if it is more generalised, you can paraphrase, providing a citation to the author at the end of the paragraph containing researched information. An example of this from slide 27: This series of images is about how dance helps express resistance and power and represents cultural change in the Iranian society. Hannah wanted to express the element and idea of freedom within women and how dancing allowed them to have freedom of movement in life and allowed dance to be used as a way of resistance. Is this a direct quote (needing quotation marks) or does this need a citation at the end as you have paraphrased the researched information?		
2. Knowledge and Understanding Skills	20	15
Well done Mia, you have shown excellent attention to each week's work, using the template slides as starting points for extended research and contribution. Your artwork study slides are comprehensive, with significant attention to detail in the visual analysis, from content, through composition to context. You use impactful and descriptive writing to make extended points, highlighting how images work. These skills are even more apparent in your exhibition review, where you carefully select work, using the format to organise and develop a convincing exhibition review that made me want to go and see the exhibition again! Well done. Your project cycle slides demonstrate an excellent understanding of the process and purpose of properly documenting your work. You plan, document and evaluate very well, using the various formats appropriately. Utilise these in the development of your project in semester 2, doing so will see logical progress, well documented.		
3. Cognitive and Intellectual Skills	20	15
Well done Mia, you are confident in using your skills in visual analysis to make sound judgements and give subjective opinions about work. In both your artwork studies and exhibition review, you connect content and composition well, using colourful and descriptive language to write convincingly. As mentioned below (section 5), drafting your work and reorganising it into paragraphed sections will help significantly in developing a narrative/argument in your work and allow you to discuss it logically. Consider a format of headings for yourself which you can reorganise your notes through- visual analysis, theme, research, practical skills etc. In the Project cycle, you are describing your activities well, however you should apply the same skills in visual analysis to discuss the purpose and progress of your work. Most images in your visual diary are technical so this will hopefully be a straightforward process when you are documenting the development of your own themed project (like the artworks you have studied). I look forward to seeing you apply these skills in your own evaluation.		
4. Practical Application Skills	20	15
Your own studies are well documented (pinhole images, film roll, darkroom printing). You are descriptive and show control over your image making which reflect practice, skill and excellent understanding of both the basic principles of photography and the equipment you are using. In the analysis of other's work, consider further analysis of their methods. You have discussed this in some areas of your exhibition review, however as mentioned above maybe include a heading in your future artworks studies to remind you – practical skills/technique/editing for example. This will encourage you to analyse and discuss the methods employed by photographers in the making and editing of work and crucially – how this contributes to their project theme/meaning.		

Feedback task:

1: This improvement talks about introducing referencing into my slides, which I will do in this slideshow. I will add reference links into my slideshow and will add citations when I can. I will also add in quotes to support my ideas, referencing these appropriately. I will also work on my spelling and really checking over my work.

2: I will make sure to carry on documenting my plans for each shoot and will show and express my knowledge throughout. I really enjoyed writing my exhibition review as I love expressing my opinions on different art works and I will be sure to do this in my project.

3: In this project I will start making headlines and organizing my information into paragraphs and I will analyze my planning steps and relate it to my chosen research methods.

4: I will make sure to include others' methods of creating atmosphere for example and creating different themes and ideas in my planning and analysis of my own work.

4. Practical Application Skills	20	15
Your own studies are well documented (pinhole images, film roll, darkroom printing). You are descriptive and show control over your image making which reflect practice, skill and excellent understanding of both the basic principles of photography and the equipment you are using. In the analysis of other's work, consider further analysis of their methods. You have discussed this in some areas of your exhibition review, however as mentioned above maybe include a heading in your future artworks studies to remind you – practical skills/technique/editing for example. This will encourage you to analyse and discuss the methods employed by photographers in the making and editing of work and crucially – how this contributes to their project theme/meaning.		
5. Transferable Skills for Life and Professional Practice	20	13
Please use paragraphs! You have written in detail, synthesising multiple ideas for each image studied with colourful writing and researched viewpoints. However, without paragraphs the writing becomes almost unreadably dense. Paragraphs help to organise ideas and develop a flow which makes writing accessible. The process of drafting an idea into paragraphs can help to shorten sentences, strengthen an argument, focus writing, avoid repetition and balance writing. It's worth noting that where you follow the format in your exhibition review which encourages focused writing through paragraphs your writing comes alive. Please proofread your work more closely and consider using freely available tools like Grammarly to help organise and improve grammar/structure, as well as avoiding syntactic and spelling errors. Nonetheless Mia, this is an excellent visual diary which shows sustained effort and commitment to visual studies as well as a perceptive, engaged and impassioned understanding of how photography works and how and why it has impact. Well done.		

4: I will also mention who I have been inspired by in my project and what style my work is going to relate to in terms of different artworks.

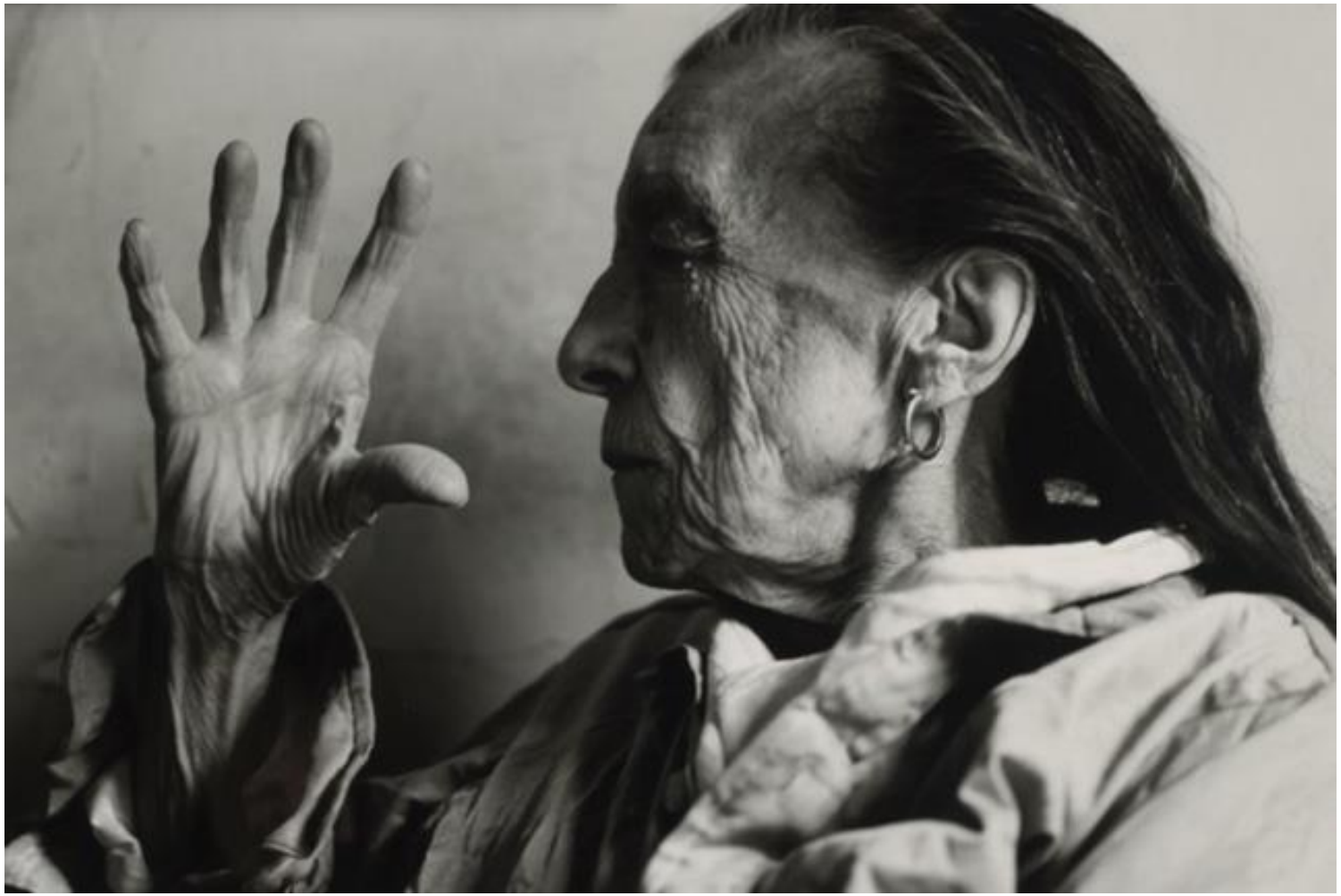
5: I will make sure to structure my writing better by adding in different paragraphs and make each one short, so it is easier to read. Each of them will be in depth with ideas and creative thoughts about the artwork and my own ideas, but I will make them less complicated and easier to understand. I will try and focus on one idea at a time, avoiding repetition of the same point which I tend to do often.



Annie Lebowitz

Annie works with a lot of people in her photography, and I would say that her main method of research is through discussion with lots of different people through portraiture. I want to try and follow the same path and focus on portraiture, allowing me investigate different people and find out what makes them who they are, expressing their individual identity just as this artist does herself.

Annie Leibovitz, Louise Bourgeois, 1997



This is a very powerful image, filled with lots of detail in the skin and in the atmosphere. On the left side of the image as you look at it, the hand is almost looking and faced right at the audience, making that the focal point before you look towards to the woman's face. The woman almost looks like she is talking to her hand or trying to read something off of it. The picture is black and white with subtle graining, making the detail quality high. The woman is wearing some sort of jacket full of wrinkles like her skin.

The image is taken at eye level, making the audience feel more connected and absorbed by the image. The candid but set up element of this image is inspiring to me as it is half natural but controlled, allowing the photographer to get what they want but have a free element to the photograph. All of the image is in focus meaning this is a wide depth of field as all of the parts of the image are in focus. The character is a woman called Louise Bourgeois who is an artist herself.

According to the research (ariannacaddeo, 2024) we can infer that the image was to reveal an extension of the artist in the image's own thoughts and visions, allowing deep emotional value to be connoted in this piece of work. This image was a way to connect other artists to this one, showing a peak into this artists way of thinking and her deep influential work in the 20th century. This piece is very imitated and really allows the audience to ask questions about the person in the frame.

The hand expression could also suggest that she is putting her hand up to people so not letting them in, or it could be seen as a wave to bring in the audience closer to peak into the wonders of the artists life.



Research methods

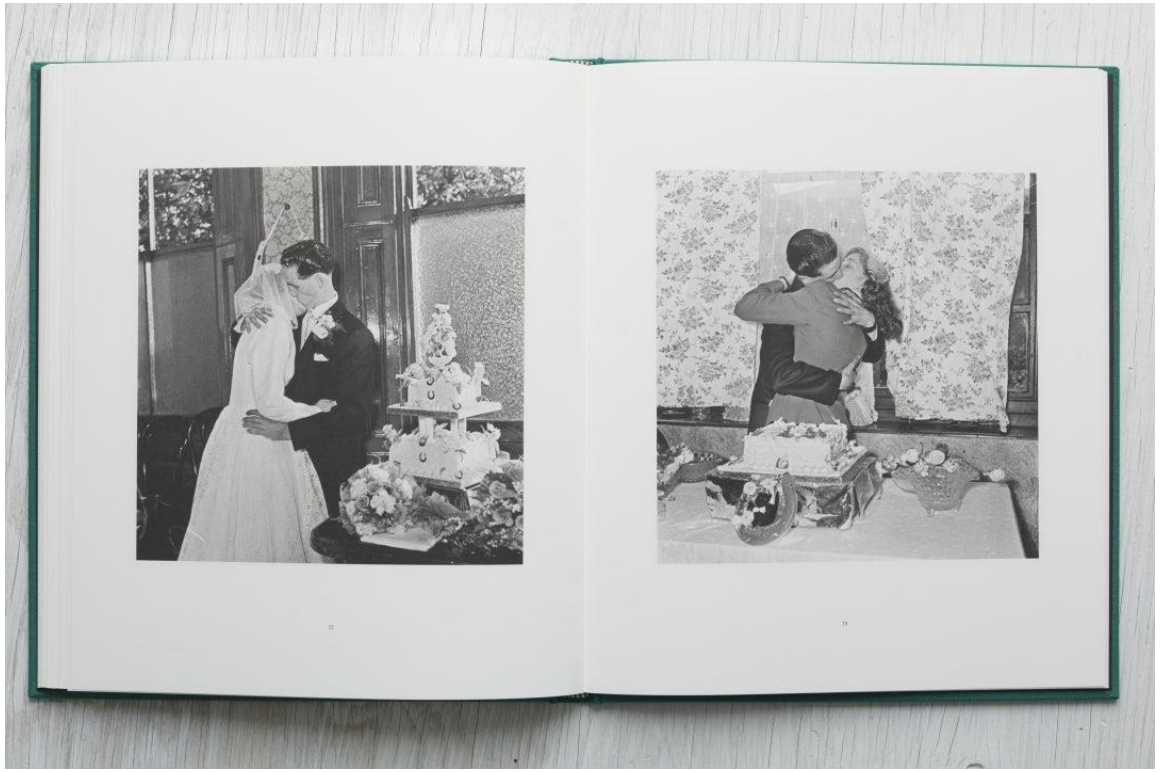




Object

Objects can be nostalgic, metaphorical historical or fantastical. They can be the subject of an image, or catalyst for exploration.





Image

Family photos or archive imagery, found passport snaps or appropriated memes. Others' imagery can be a wealth of inspiration.





Excursion

Sometimes it’s the journey, sometimes it’s the destination. Excursions require planning and offer spontaneity.





Discussion

Portraiture informed by dialogue you have with subjects, over seconds, minutes or a lifetime.

Writer and former Observer journalist Neal Ascherson reflects on an extraordinary life – beginning with a horrifying brush with a Luftwaffe machine gunner.

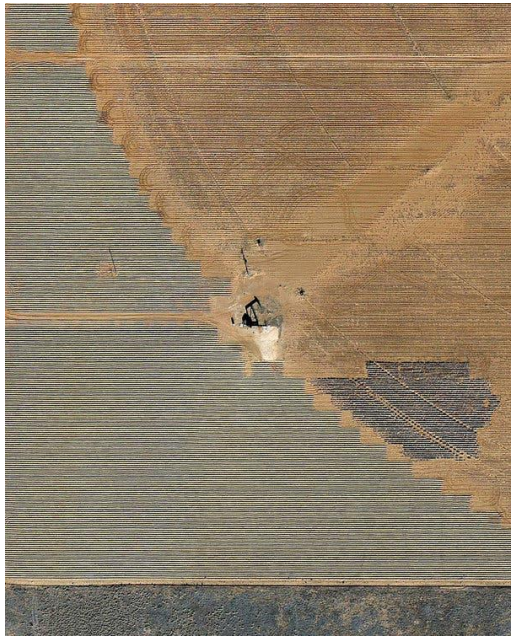
Photograph: Antonio Olmos/The Observer



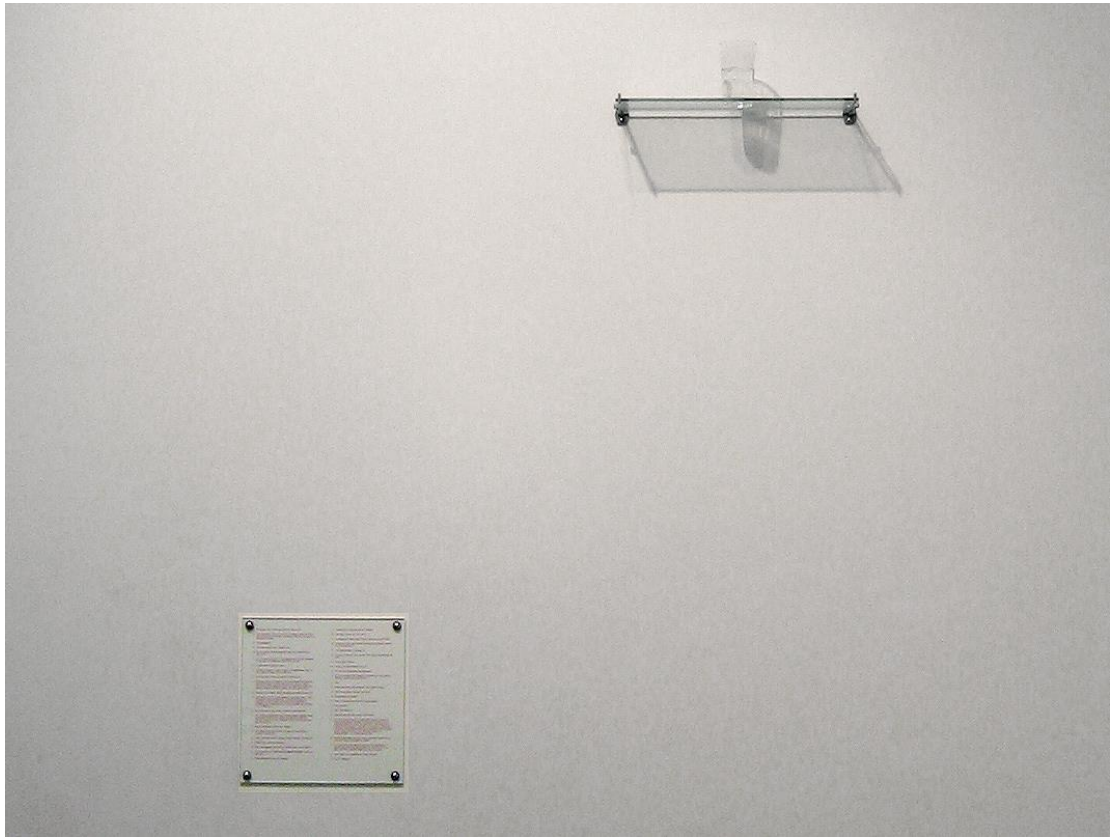


Information

Factual and statistical research provides solid foundations when we have a point to prove.









Theory as Research

Photographic theory is rich and influential in conceptual development.

Discussion Shoot 1:

I will be using the research method discussion by talking to my friend nell and asking her to wear an outfit that shows who she is and bring some objects to add to it. This allows me to be challenged by having to adapt with the things that I have to create a picture that tells us a lot about the person, making people try to figure out who the person really is, seeing if their perception of her in the images is who she truly is within.

Aim: My aim is to experiment with showcasing someone's identity in one frame and how colour and light can affect an image and the atmosphere of it.

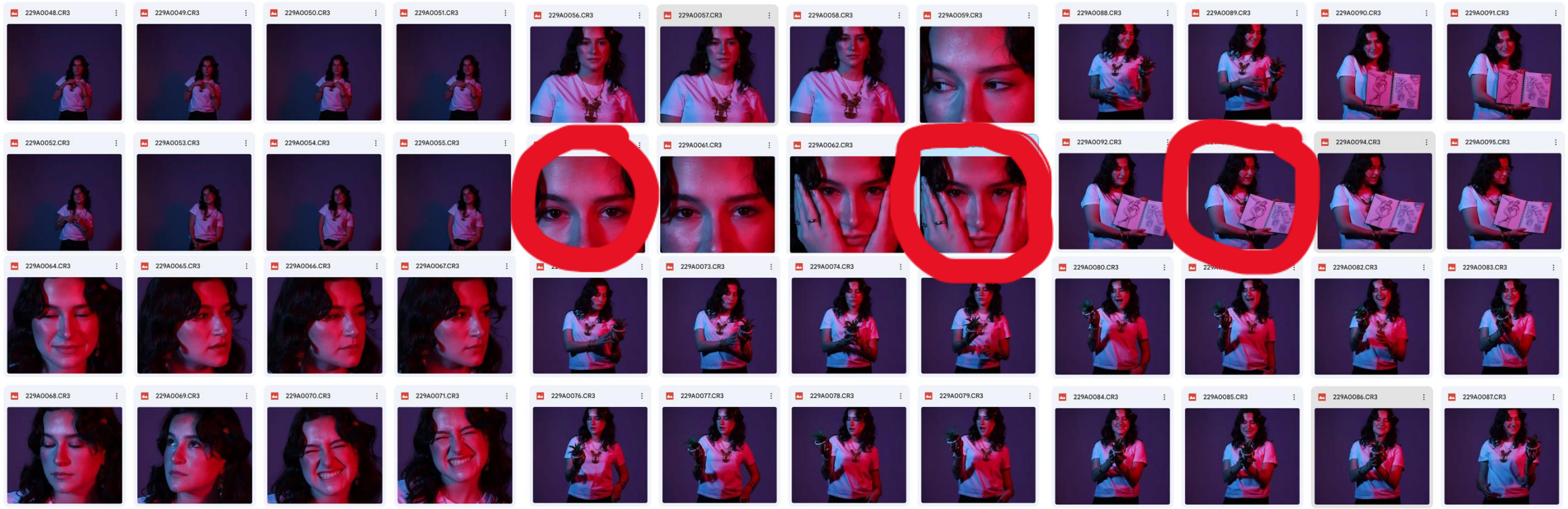
Location/lighting: This will be shot in the lighting studio in the afternoon, making sure there is no natural light and just studio light. I will be experimenting with different colours using gels placed on the lights to create the colour in the picture to add to the atmosphere and identity of the person.

People: My model is my friend Nell.

Outfit/props: I have told my model to wear what makes her herself and what she feels represents her identity so that it is truly real what is being shown in the photographs.

I plan to make this shoot set up, but also candid, so I will give her instructions to move how she likes and move around with the objects to create natural looking images, in a natural state. This allows the images to be more relatable as they look more natural.

Contact Sheets




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Shoot summary:

In this shoot I was able to reach my aim and goal for this shoot. I was able to capture the essence of Nell's personality in multiple frames. In the previous slides, I have selected images that I want to edit and focus on to present to Paul and Estephanie. I completed quite a large shoot, so I had a lot of variation with my images.

I told Nell very little instructions in this shoot, letting her be herself in her outfit and capturing how she acts behind a camera. I wanted to capture a mixture of close-up shots, amplifying the detail in the models face and shots further away showing all of the clothes and bit and bobs that make up her personality according to her.

I mixed up the colored lighting to experiment with using this type of lighting and I also wanted to experiment by seeing how each colour affected the image. For my editing, I wanted tis to be very minimal, maybe increase the exposure and change the white balance a little bit. I am happy with this shoot as a whole and will experiment with this more in the coming shoots.

Edit 1



This image is mostly a wide depth of field. I have chosen this image as it shows parts of nells personality doing what her hobby is which is drawing, and this is partially candid and the element of this being shown as a more natural picture was important to me in this start to my project.

For this edit I only want to make small adjustments. I want to increase the exposure, to make it look lighter. I think next time I will move the lights nearer to her face so that the main part and focal point of the image is brought out more. I will also increase the detail and texture in the image as I want her to stand out.

Edit 2



For this edit, I again want to increase the exposure but also bring out the details in the image by increasing the clarity and texture, especially as this is a close-up image.

This means that the detail is especially important to me. The jewelry emphasize her personality and make people question what the bracelets mean to her, increasing interest in the images.



Edit 3



This image is by far my favorite image as the focus and details in the image are sharp, accentuating Nell's features.

The hands frame the focal point of the image nicely, the eyes and nose drawing the audience into the eyes of the model.

I increased the saturation on this image as well as the blue tones to split the image up with a bit more color other than just red.

I also increased the detail and clarity of the image to bring out the textures in her face.

In my next shoot I want to focus on more complex/diverse edits that I can explore and transfer some artists inspiration into.

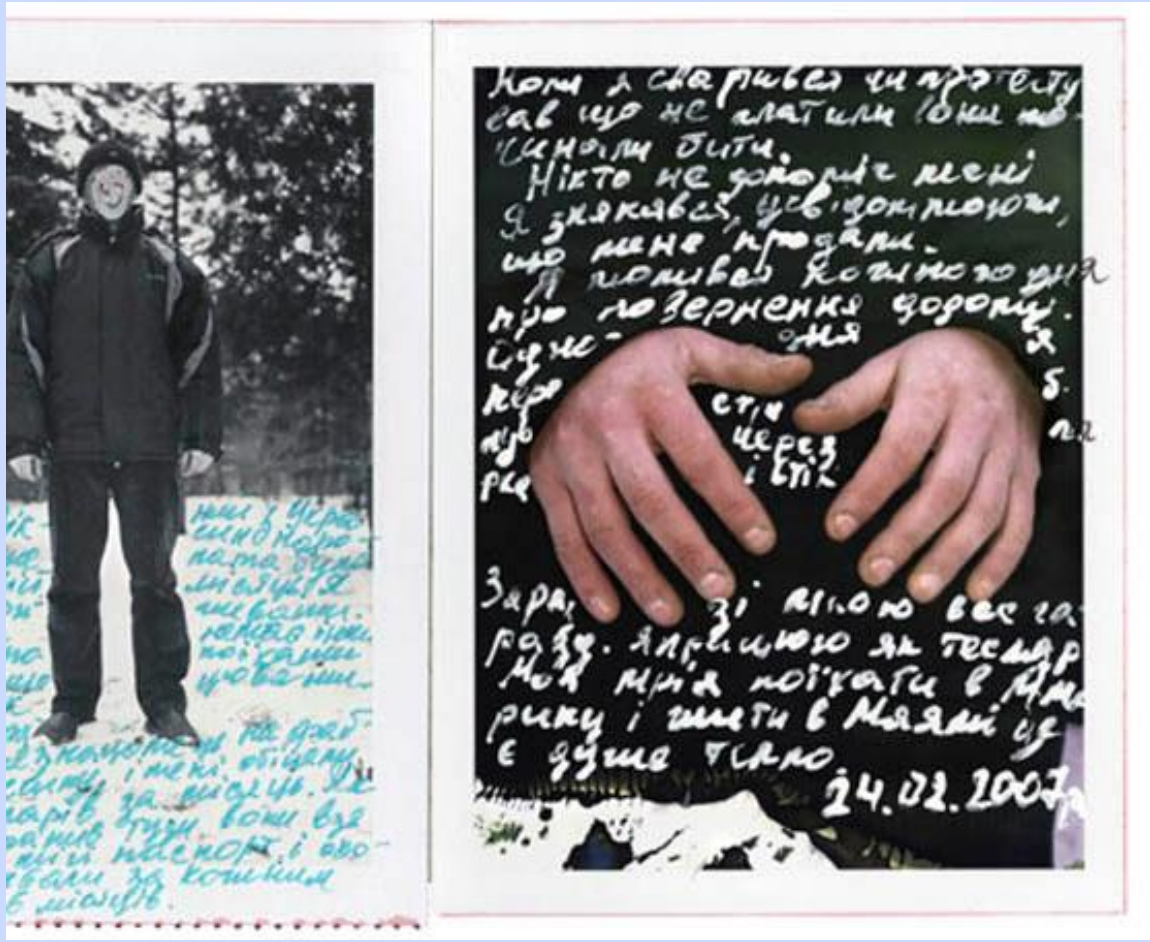


Jim Goldburg

Jim Goldburg is another artist that focuses on the research method of discussion, working with different people and documenting what he finds out. I am very inspired by Jim's work and will be using his style of edits in some of mine.

By the descriptions on the images below the people that he has had conversations with, you can really tell that he is getting to know them and not just asking them silly questions as the things that he puts under the people are random and usually aren't anything to do with what is happening in the image, giving the audience an incite into what the person in the image is really like as a person.

He plays with perspectives as people would judge this woman on the next slide totally differently before reading the comment and then just one simple sentence may change someone's option completely. This is one of the main ideas that is powering my project.



From The photobook series ‘Coming and Going’, Jim Goldburg, 2023



In this image there is a woman, laying and relaxing on a deckchair, wearing a colourful swimsuit. She is surrounded by blue umbrellas next to a pool with aqua teal water. In the bottom half of the image there appears to be a person which could be Jim’s hand taking the photo whilst reading a book and talking to this woman.

Brightness and colour beam from this image and from the person, making the audience perceive what this person is like. The colorful, patterned swimsuit suggests that this person likes to stand out and takes pride in their appearance even when they are relaxing.

The person is central and at eye level so the audience can look directly at her, making them feel like they are there talking with her, adding a sense of intimacy to the image. The foal point of the image is the woman.

This is a very raw image and looks like it has been taken on film a long time ago, maybe in the 2010s. The vibrance may have been increased after the film has been scanned but I would say this is a natural, semi candid image.

This image is part of a book that was made by Jim Goldburg called ‘Coming and Going’. According to research (Nevins 2023) Jim had been working on this book over the time span of 20 years, and it was published in 2023. This book is about snapshots of different people, travelling and getting to know different people and photographing them. This image is one occasion of where Jim is talking and getting to know someone whilst taking images of them. There isn’t much background information about this woman, however I think that was intentional.

The comment at the bottom of the image is a statement of the woman talking about her meal when she went back home and how much she didn’t like it. Throughout this whole book there seemed to be a theme of family values and childhood. By this one comment, we perceive this woman totally differently compared to not seeing the text and just looking at the image. By giving a small snapshot of someone's childhood, or a bit of their memory, we can start to infer what their personality is like. From this comment I think that she had a good childhood, was grateful for the meals that was provided but was fussy with some things as everyone is as a child. The fact that the woman felt comfortable telling a person that makes me feel like it is a funny, fond memory of hers, telling us that she has had a happy life.

This is the style that I have been inspired by. He gives the audience a peak into the person’s identity and allows them to perceive things off of this comment which interests me. I will be trying to recreate these types of edits in my future shoots, focusing on revealing identity in one image which is what Jim does in some of his.

'They always welcomed me’, Jim Goldburg, 2003





Shoot 2 Expansion on Discussion

For this shoot I want to expand on my idea of taking set up but candid images. I want the model to showcase elements of their identity through the images. In the editing process after the shoot, I will add on at the bottom of the images, some of the answers to the questions that I have asked them.

This is inspired by Jim Goldburg and his work with using discussion when taking photos of people and getting to know them at the same time, adding the model's personal touch to the images.

Plan for shoot

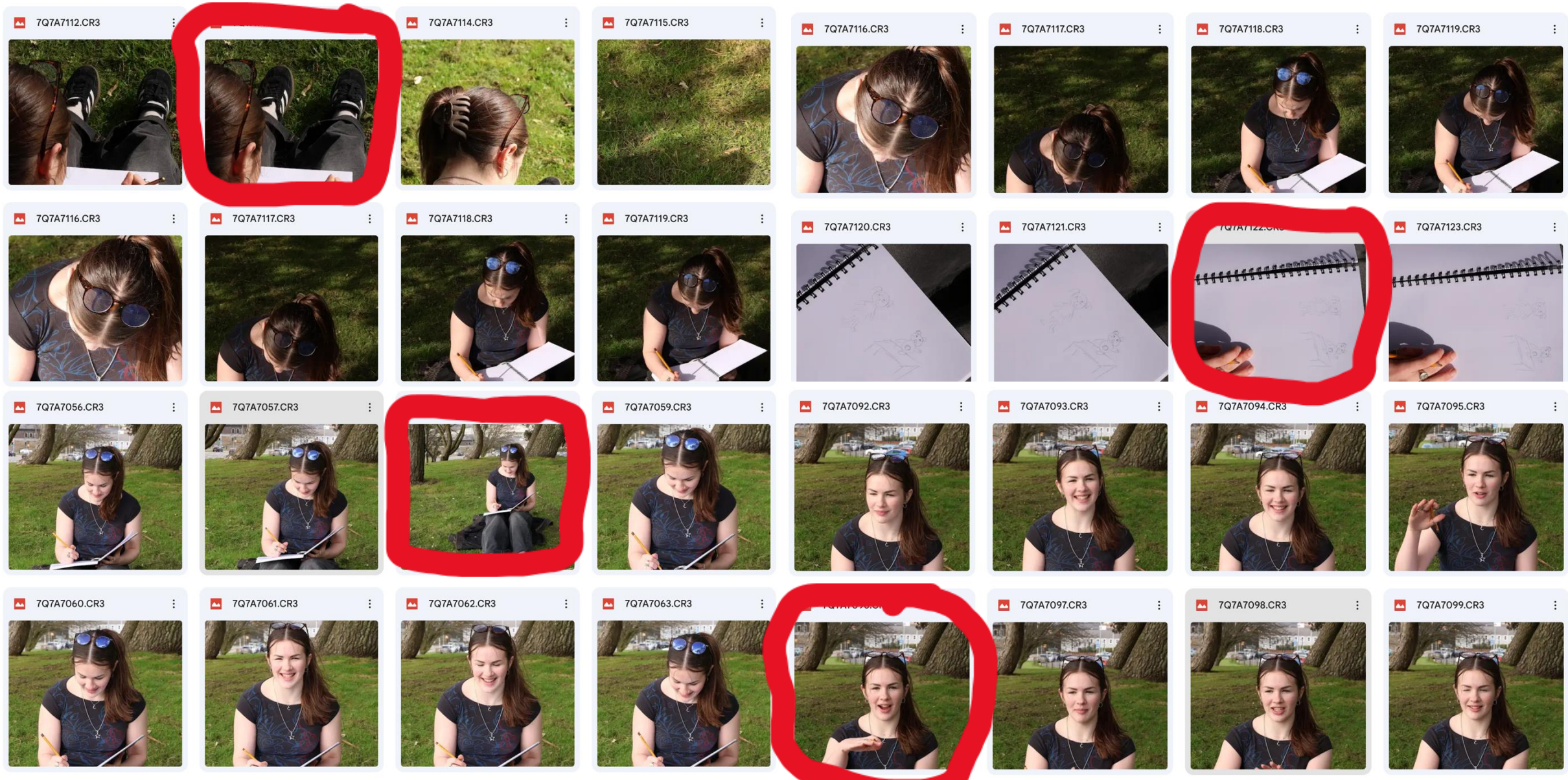
- Aim: My aim for this shoot is to get to know the person I am photographing by asking them questions whilst I give them an activity to do, making them feel more relaxed when being photographed. I will also ask her to draw something personal to her which will also tell me something about her identity and her as a person.

- Location/ Lighting: This will be photographed outside in a neutral environment instead of in a studio, adding a bit more variation to the shoot, using natural lighting, making the image feel less staged.

- People: My model who I am using in my shoot is called Lily.

- Outfit/Props: I have told my model to wear what she wants just like in the first shoot. I have also asked her to bring a sketchbook and pen so I can ask her to draw something personal to her whilst I take photos of her and talk to her.

Contact sheets



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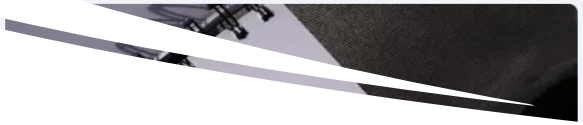
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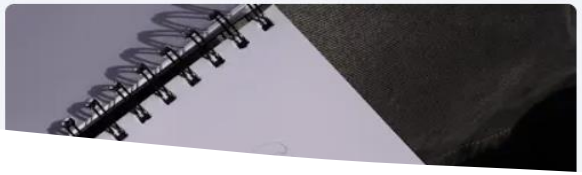
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Shoot summary

For this shoot, I am disappointed with the results as there is a lot of repetition throughout. There isn't much variation at all, and I would've liked to show more but there wasn't a lot to show. I did find some interesting facts about my model, and it was interesting getting to know her more, but I feel like we should've changed location mid shoot. For next time I will make sure to show more of the environment and I will defiantly add more variation by adding in different things to do while I am taking photos of them. I will also try and record what they say so I can remember important phrases to make edits with them. I will edit a couple of these so I can see what I need to improve technically in my next shoot. I will be doing minimal edits keeping the images raw and natural.

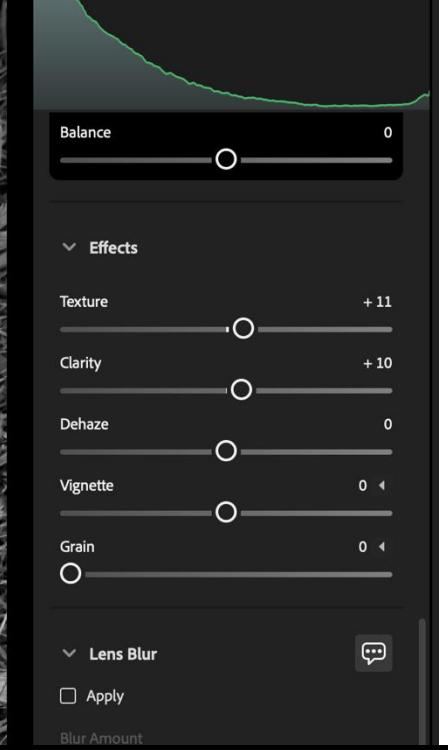




These images are the ones I would choose as my favorite of the hoot. Like I said in the last slide, this shoot wasn't my favorite, and I will defiantly try to improve in my next shoot.

The colored images show the colors in the background making the features in the environment stand out more, creating more atmosphere in the images instead of just a portrait. I this image I tried to capture close up images to put next to the other wider shot images, to create a narrative in a sequence of images. This is what I aim to do in the next shoot.



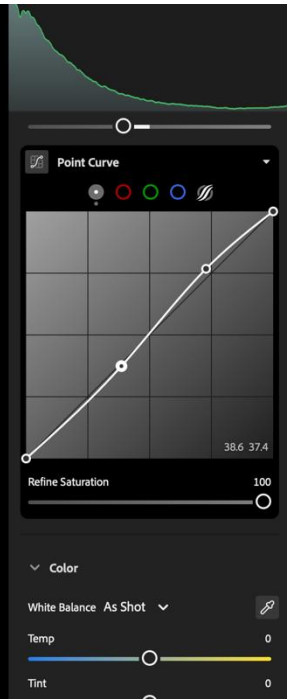




Even though it takes away from the background a bit, I feel like the black and white fits the images better and accentuates the details in the images. As these images are quite simplistic portrait style images, the monochrome tone suits it well as it isn't disregarding any major elements in the image which could be more important in colour.

In this image I increased the contrast to increase the depth in the image after decreasing the saturation to make the image black and white. Then to bring out the details in the image, I increased the clarity. I also played around with the curves, altering the temperature and levels of white and where the light is coming from in the image.










Raymond
Meeks

Untitled from Series Half story Half-life, Raymond Meeks, 2018



Raymond Meeks is a photographer I am inspired by in lots of pieces of work. He works mostly in a set up candid manor as this image is in.

It appears that this image is a candid image, and it looks like this has been taken at a particular angle, behind the rocks. It looks like the photographer is hiding from the models, making the image look rawer and candid. The people in the image are male and are diving into what we is assume is water off of some rocks. It looks like a fun day out with friends, messing around.

By editing this image in black and white, it creates the feeling of nostalgia, like this image is a memory to these people. The editing of the contrast isn't too harsh either, making the image look softer, like a snapshot of a dream would be potentially look like. The focal point of the image is the bit in focus in the image, which is the people. This image expresses emotions of happiness, nostalgia and childhood memories.

This image is from a documentary series called Half story Half-life which is about Raymond going with a group of people who are from New York and following their lives capturing different elements off what their summers are like. According to research (Choosecommune.com 2018) we can determine that a lot of his work focuses on "memory and place and captures daily life with his family." A lot of the images in this series are set up but candid at the same time, so the models know that he is there, but it is a natural image as they are just carrying on with what they are doing, meaning it is shot in the moment.

I have always liked Meek's photography as the candid, real element of this is something that I like using in my images. This also shows the characters' identities as a hobby that they might like doing, telling the audience a little bit about their personalities just like Jim Goldburg does but in a slightly obvious way.

Shoot 3 – Discussion

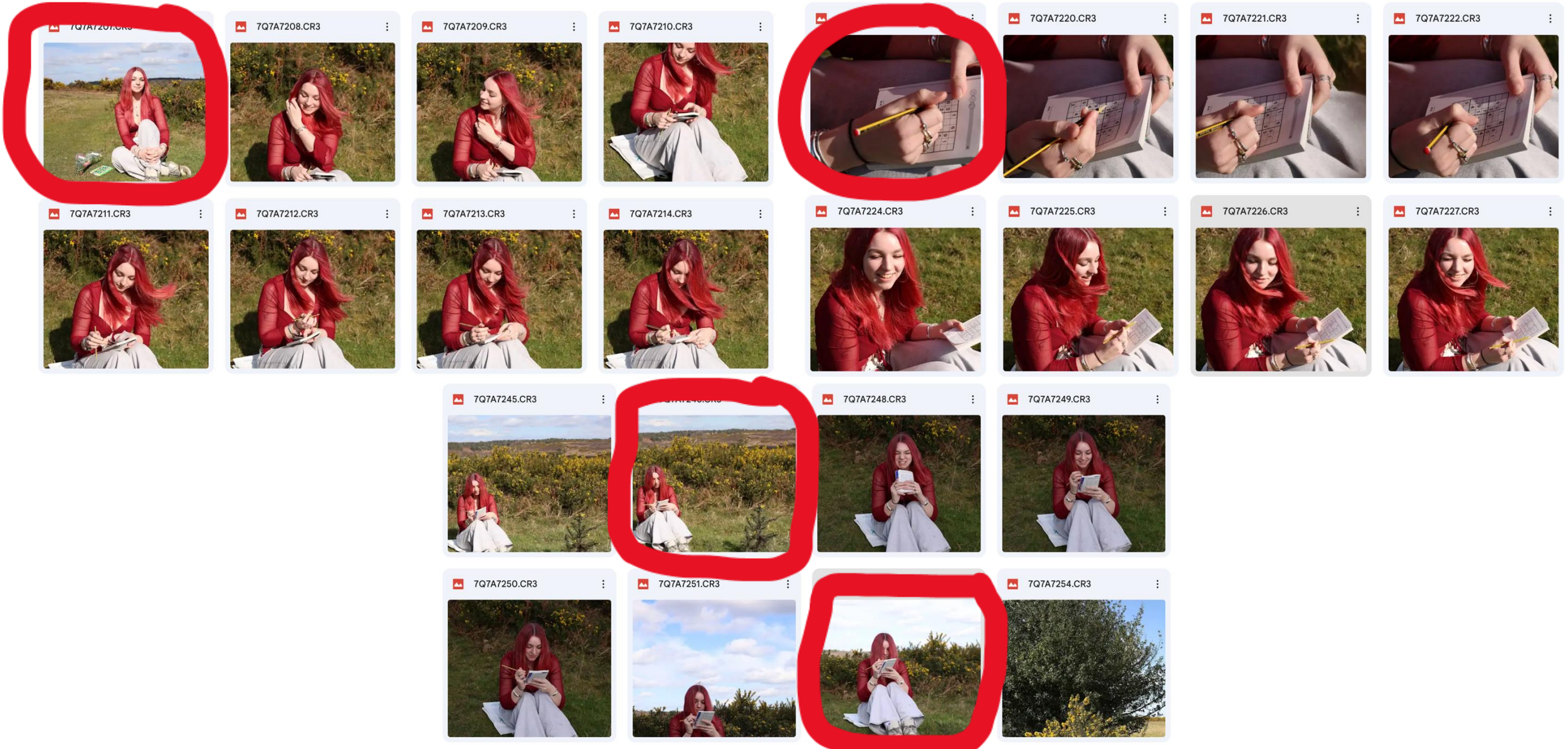
- For my third shoot similar to my last shoot, I will be focusing on identity and sitting down, talking to the person I'm photographing.
- However, this time, I will be giving them something to do while I talk to them. I'll also be asking specific questions as well as having a conversation with them. Using some comments that the model says, I will later on make some edits of an image with a phrase that they have said next to the picture, inspired by Jim Goldberg.
- In this shoot I'm also aiming to focus more on the atmosphere by capturing more of the environment which I didn't do in the last shoot.
- This is important to the person's identity as this is a place that they're going to choose that they feel most comfortable in, as well as letting them wear what they want to.
- I will also record them and document their responses to my questions, while having a normal conversation. I will also ask them to complete activities that I have given to them.
- One of them will be doing some sudoku which I know the model enjoys. The other one will be arranging flowers as this has proven to be an enjoyable activity that you can focus on whilst also having a conversation.

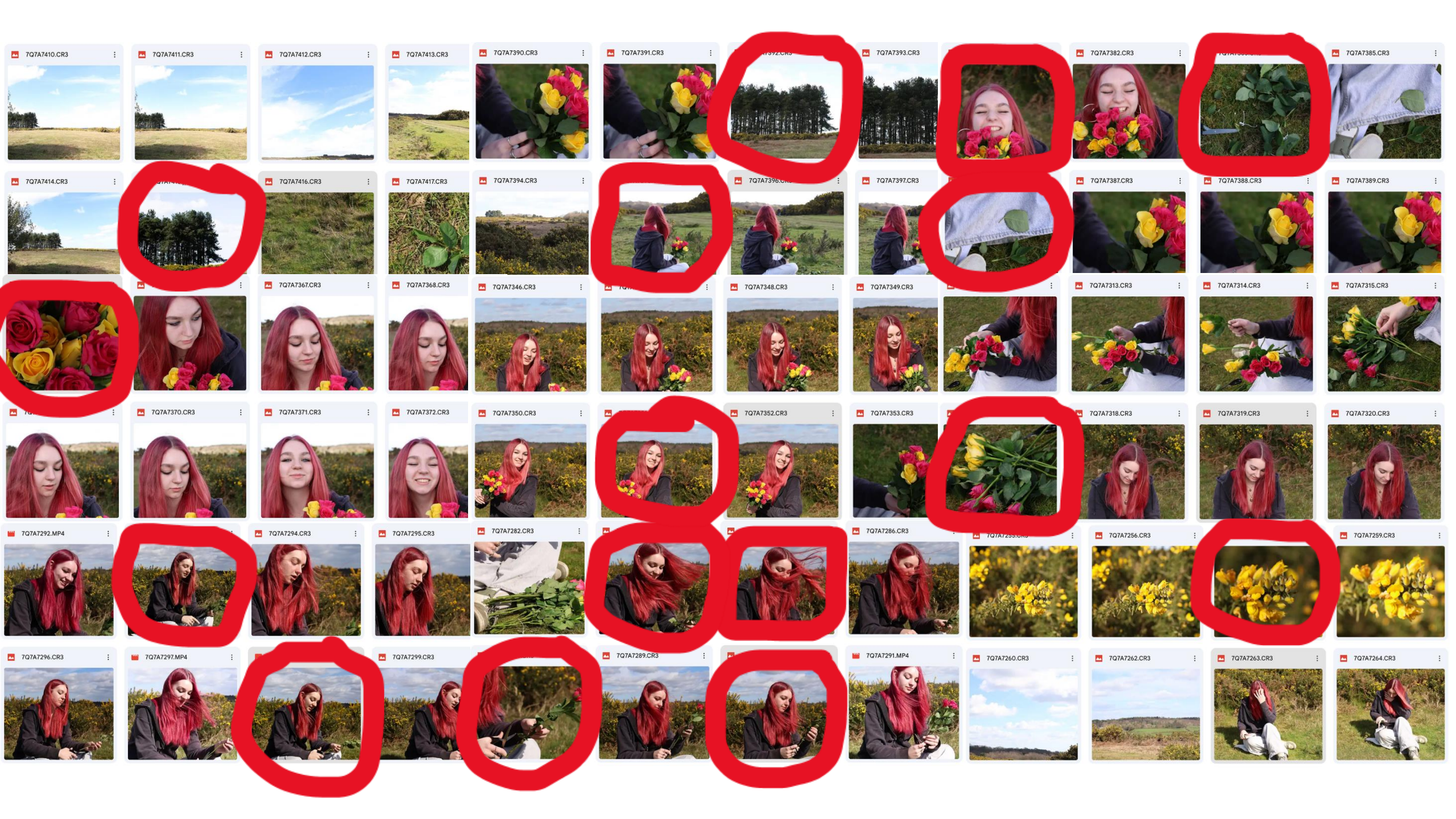


Plan for shoot

- Aim: My aim for this shoot is similar to my other shoot in capturing someone's identity in one frame but in this shoot creating more of a narrative by including more of the environment in the shoot and sequencing the images. Keeping this in mind when shooting will allow me to organize my edits better afterwards.
- Location/ Lighting: This will be photographed again the same as the last shoot in an outside environment, in a place called 'Ashdown forest' as this is the place that the model has chosen, where she feels the calmest and happiest.
- People: My model who I am using in my shoot is called Emmie.
- Outfit/Props: I have told my model to wear what she wants just like all of the other shoots. Progressing on from my shoot before hand, I have asked my model to bring something she likes doing, that takes her mind off of things to do while I take pictures of her just like the last shoot. However, I will also be bringing flowers for her to sort and arrange after she does her activity, so she has something else to think about while I take pictures of her and have a conversation, getting to know her more as a person.

Contact sheets



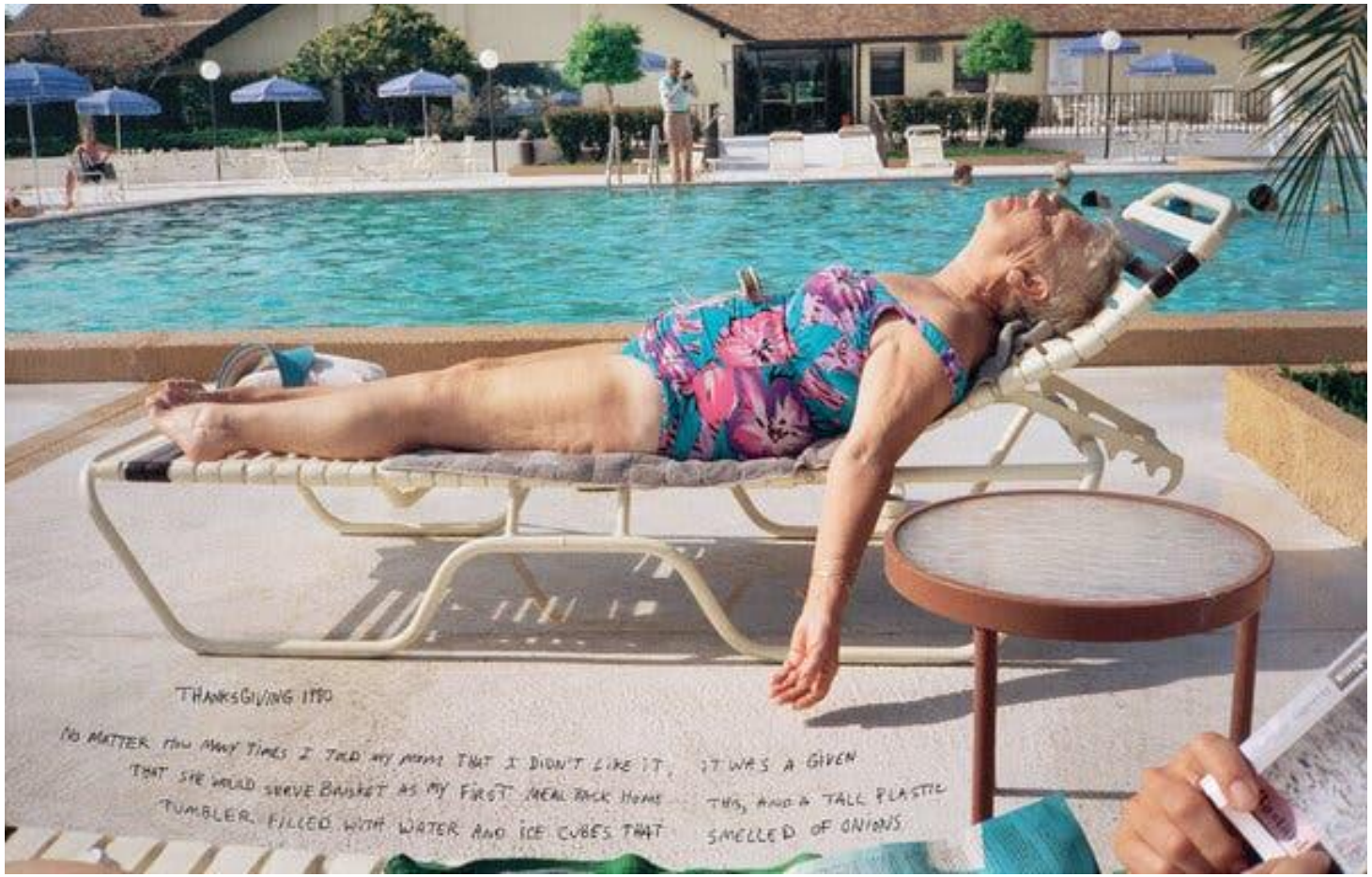

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Shoot summary

Overall, I think this shoot went well and I was able to meet my aim of including more of the environment in my shoot. In my edits especially, I want to create an atmosphere and a type of narrative in this shoot by sequencing the images, sorting them so they give the feel of the environment and then what's going on in them.

I asked Emmie (my model) questions throughout this shoot, and we had a conversation about multiple things that were interesting. With this information, I will then create some edits inspired by Jim Goldburg's edits, by adding text underneath some of the images.

I am inspired by this image in particular as what they were talking about has nothing to do with what's going on in the image, which shows that they were having a genuine conversation, showing the research method discussion in this shoot.


















These images are the only ones that I like and think work in colour as well as in black and white. The slide before shows a collage of some of the images in colour. Below that shows them in black and white which is what I prefer because without being distracted by too much colour, it allows you to be able to see the person for who they are, fully taking in the details in the image. They also look neater in black and white and bring out the contrast in the image, emphasizing the depth within.





















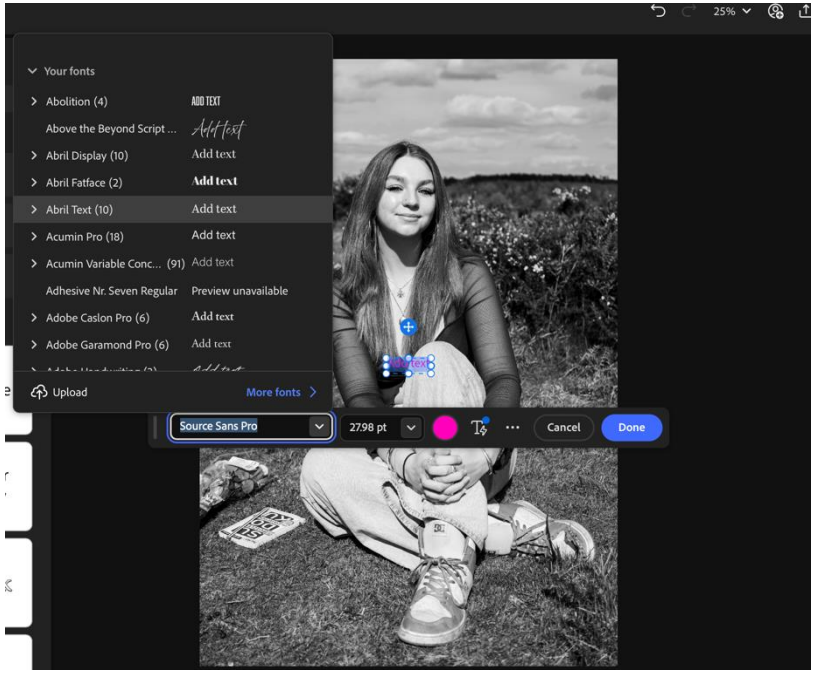


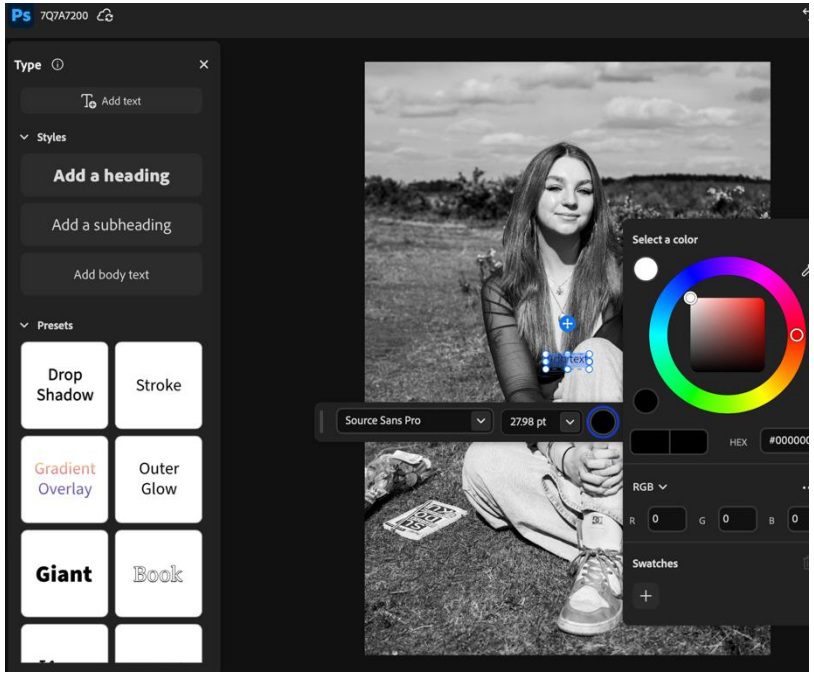


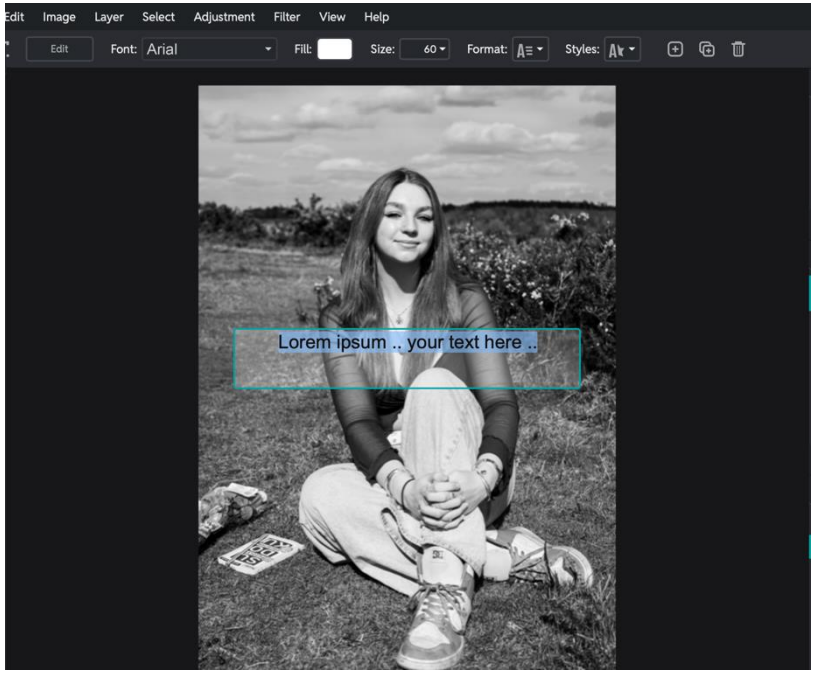


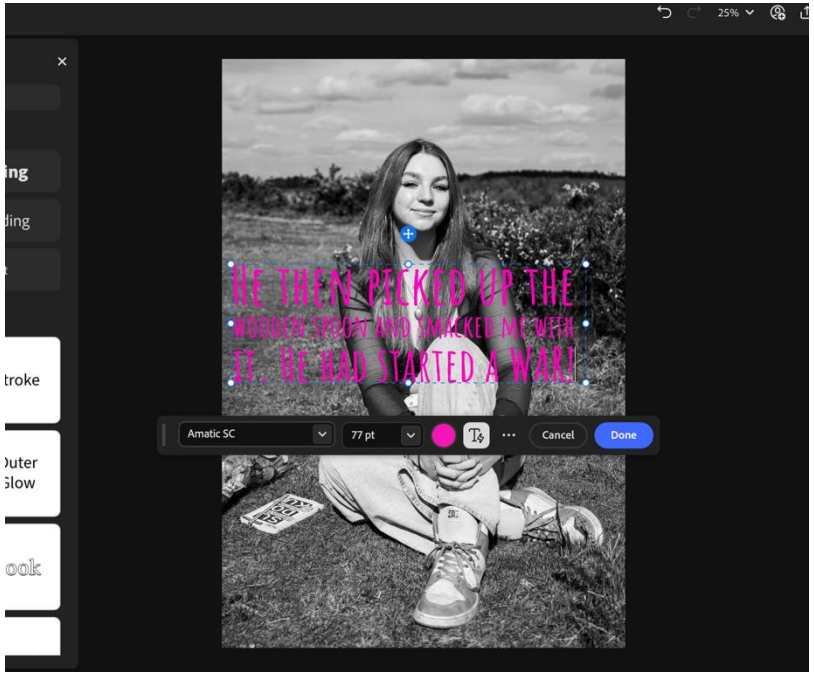


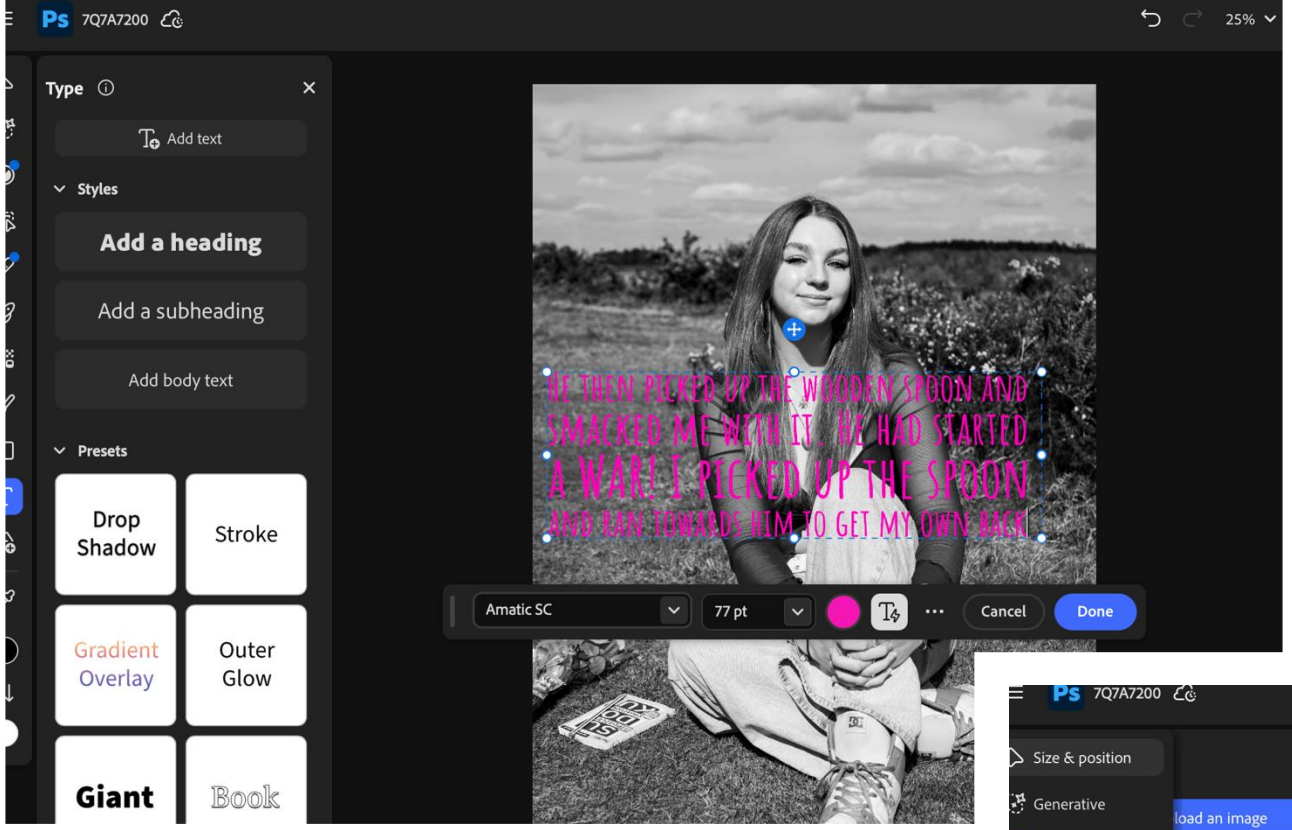


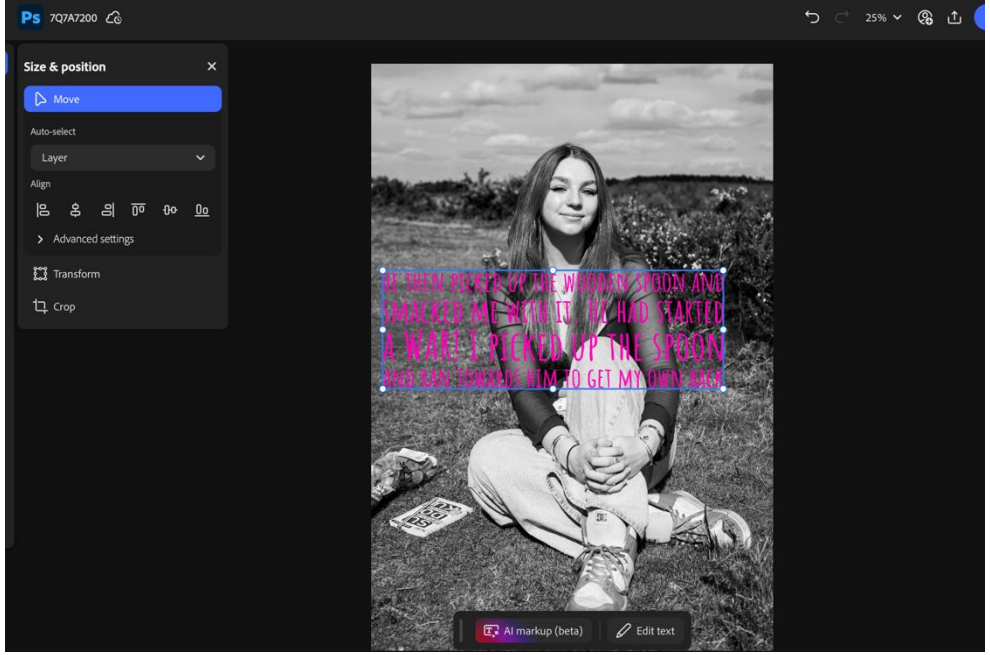

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Abril Text (10)
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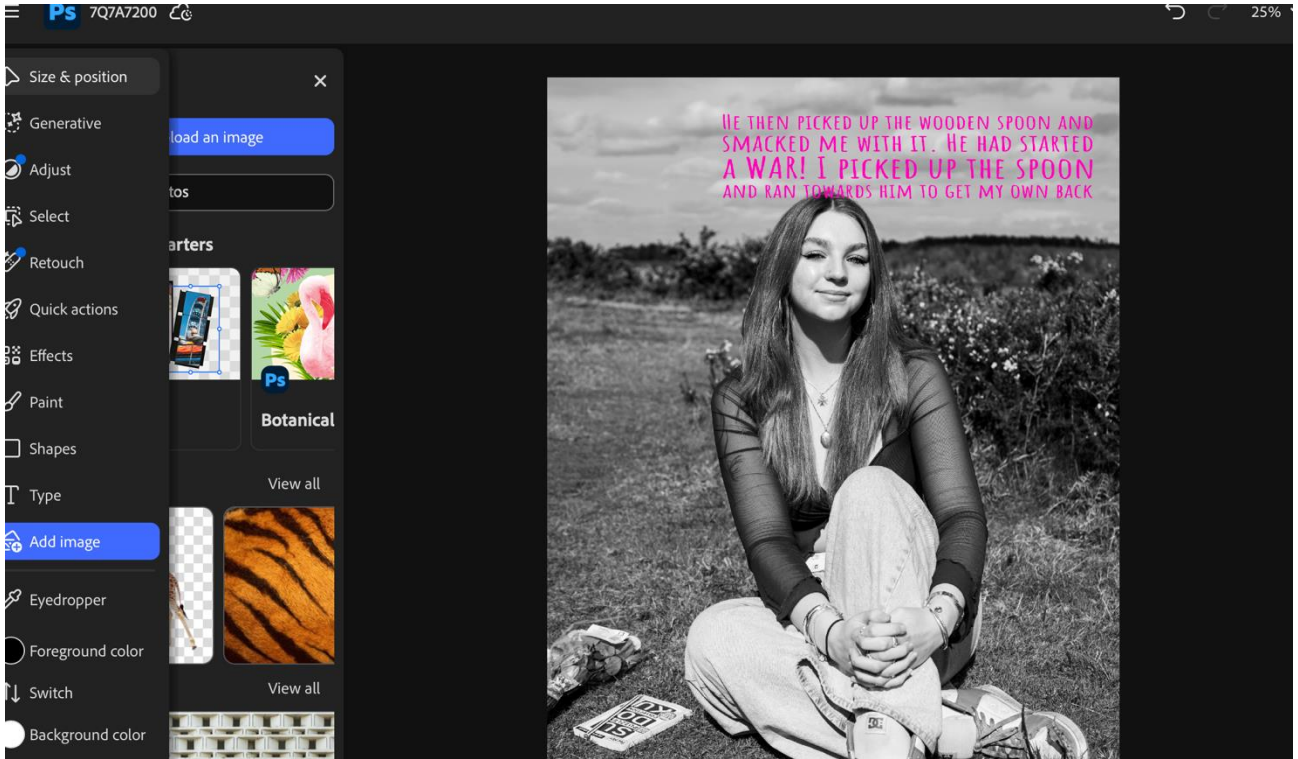

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HE THEN PICKED UP THE
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IT. HE HAD STARTED A WAR!
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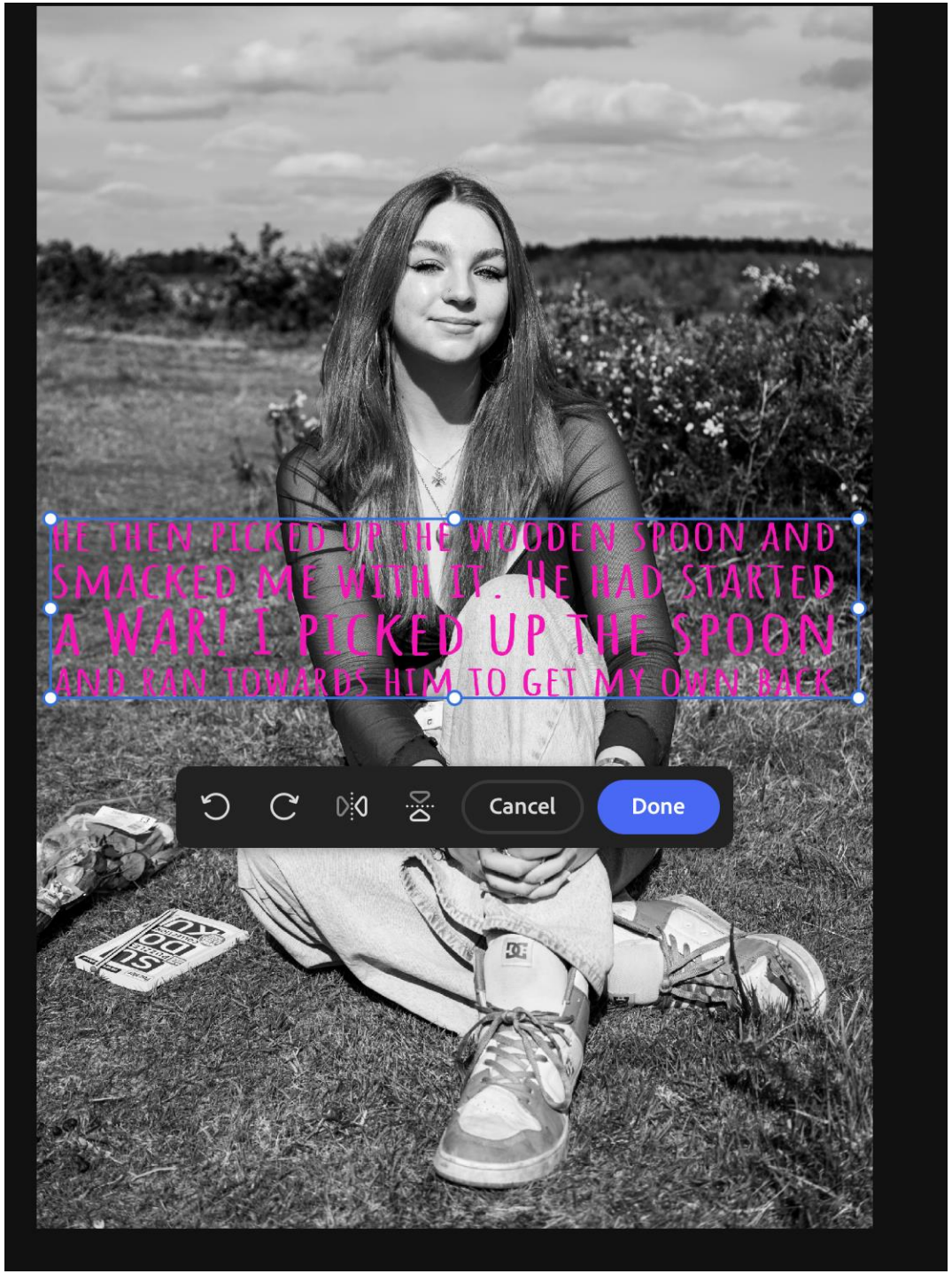


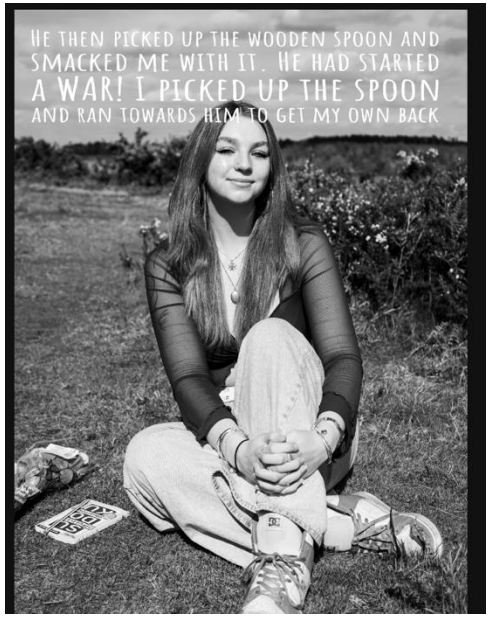


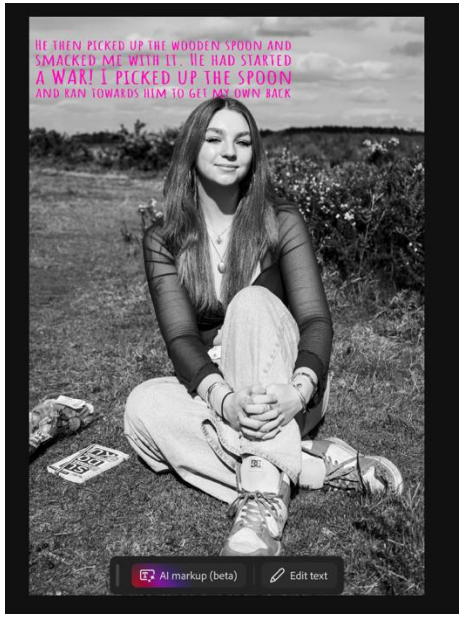
Just like Jim Goldburg's work, I wanted to create edits similar to his by adding text onto it. The text are all quotes that my model has said to me whilst I was having a conversation with her. I started off by putting the quote in and then started playing around with fonts and colours that I would want. I chose the pink as it stands out and as the quote is happy, the brightness of the text emphasizes that.. The colour also contrasts the black and white which I like because it makes the text stand out. I then started seeing where the text would look the best and the best sizing for it.

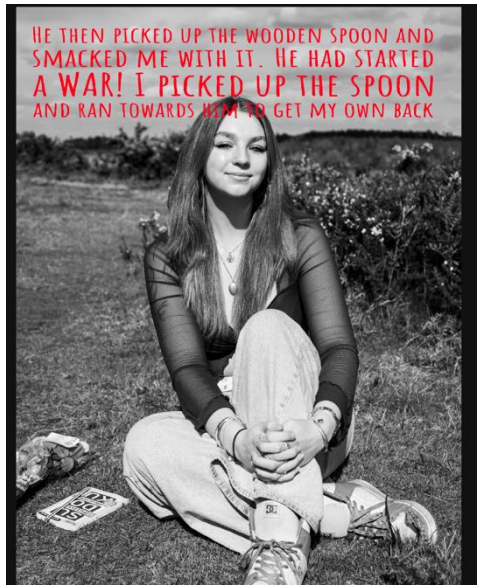


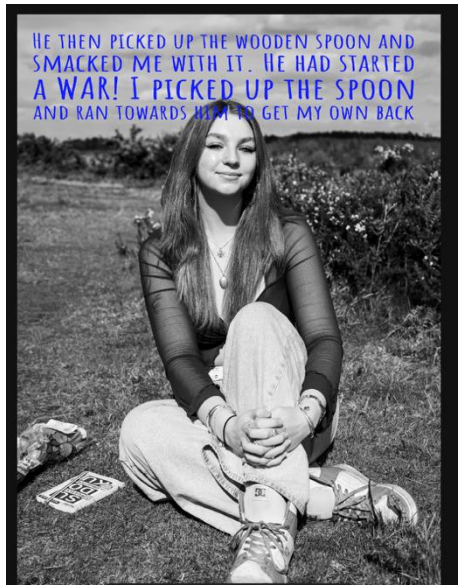

HE THEN PICKED UP THE WOODEN SPOON AND SMACKED ME WITH IT. HE HAD STARTED A WAR! I PICKED UP THE SPOON AND RAN TOWARDS HIM TO GET MY OWN BACK
Cancel
Done

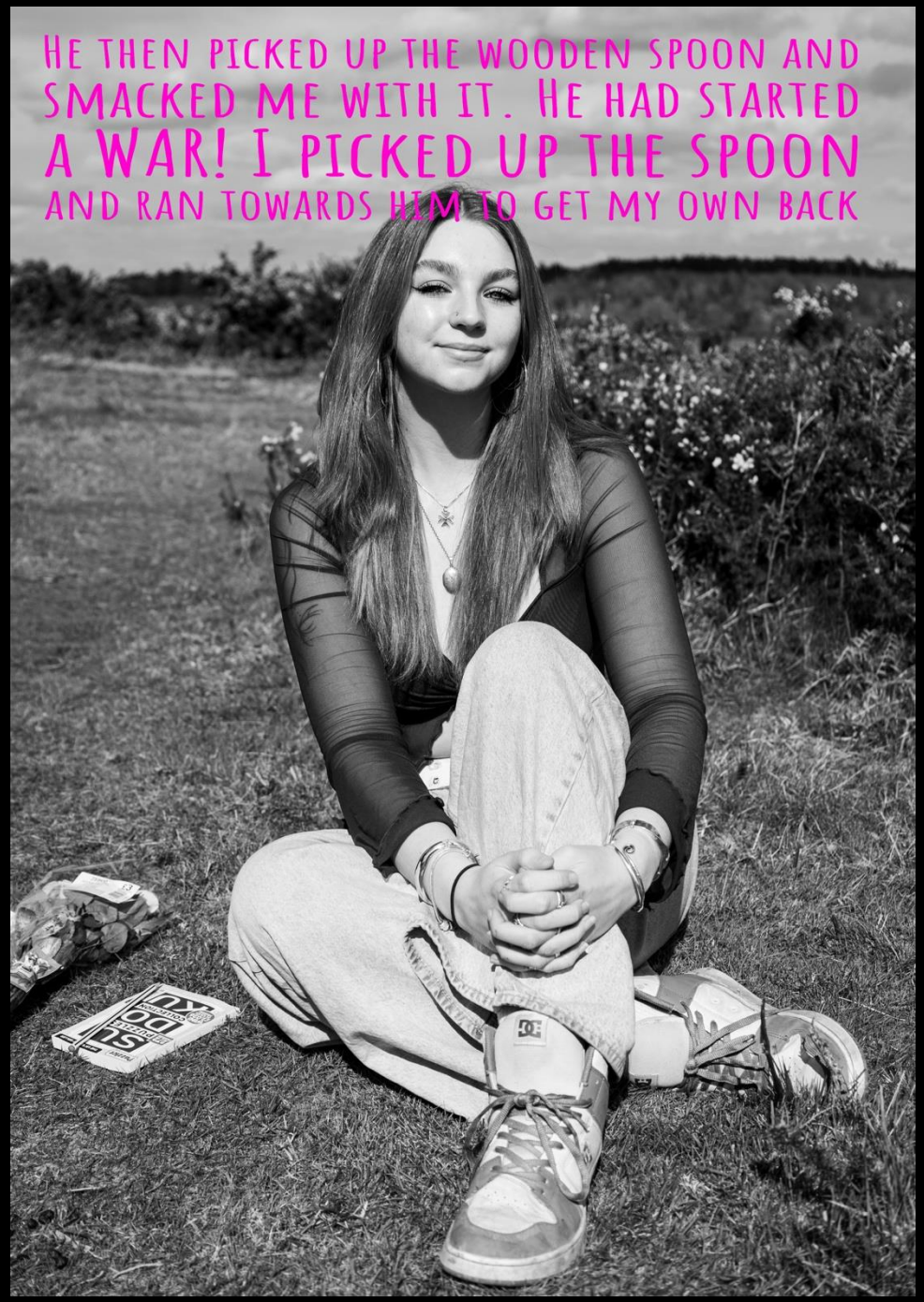

HE THEN PICKED UP THE WOODEN SPOON AND SMACKED ME WITH IT. HE HAD STARTED A WAR! I PICKED UP THE SPOON AND RAN TOWARDS HIM TO GET MY OWN BACK
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He then picked up the wooden spoon and
smacked me with it. He had started
a WAR! I picked up the spoon
and ran towards him to get my own back

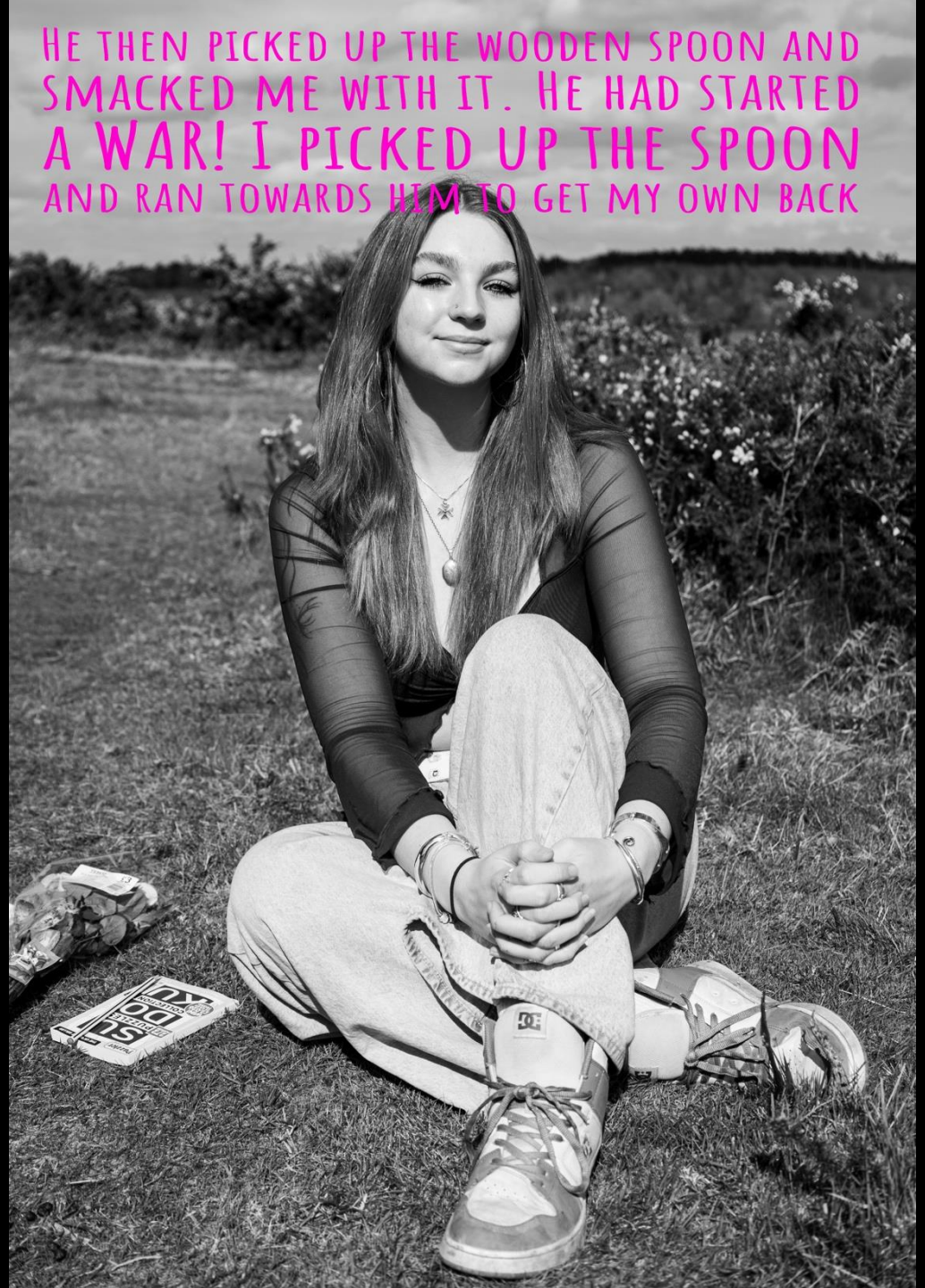

He then picked up the wooden spoon and
smacked me with it. He had started
a WAR! I picked up the spoon
and ran towards him to get my own back
AI markup (beta)
Edit text


He then picked up the wooden spoon and
smacked me with it. He had started
a WAR! I picked up the spoon
and ran towards him to get my own back


He then picked up the wooden spoon and
smacked me with it. He had started
a WAR! I picked up the spoon
and ran towards him to get my own back



I experimented with different colours I think would look good with the image and I ended up picking pink. It brings a bright and happy atmosphere to the image, reflecting the quote.


He then picked up the wooden spoon and
smacked me with it. He had started
a WAR! I picked up the spoon
and ran towards him to get my own back


Me and Charlie would sit at
the back and play games, while
listening to the girl in fronts
bad attempt at flirting with the
boy next to her.


Me and Charlie would sit at
the back and play games, while
listening to the girl in fronts bad
attempt at flirting with the boy
next to her.
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Me and Charlie sat at the back and played games, while listening to the girl
in front attempt to flirt with the boy next to her.


Me and Charlie would sit at
the back and play games, while
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bad attempt at flirting with the
boy next to her.
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Done

Me and Charlie sat at the back and played games, while listening to the girl in front attempt to flirt with the boy next to her.

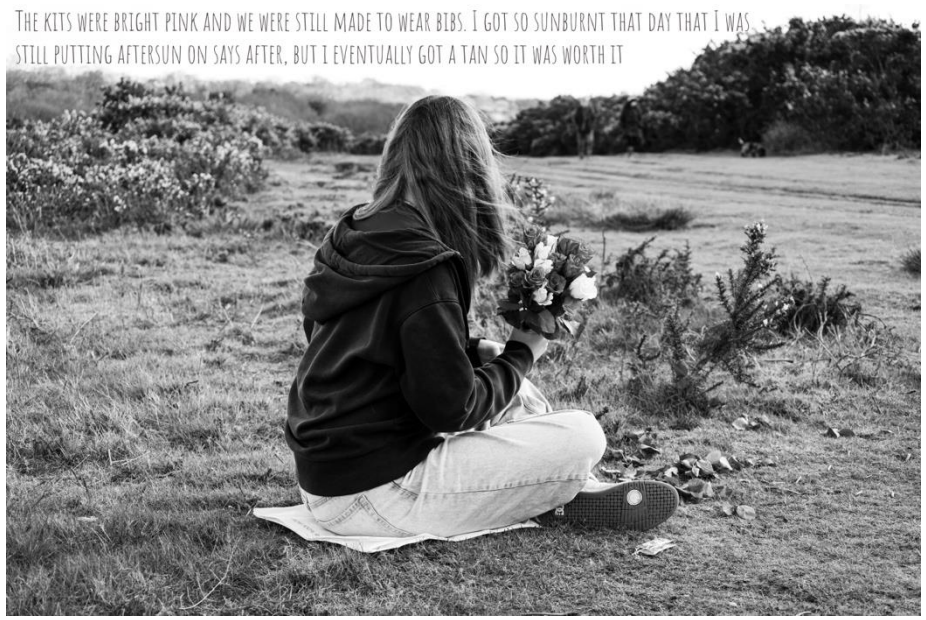


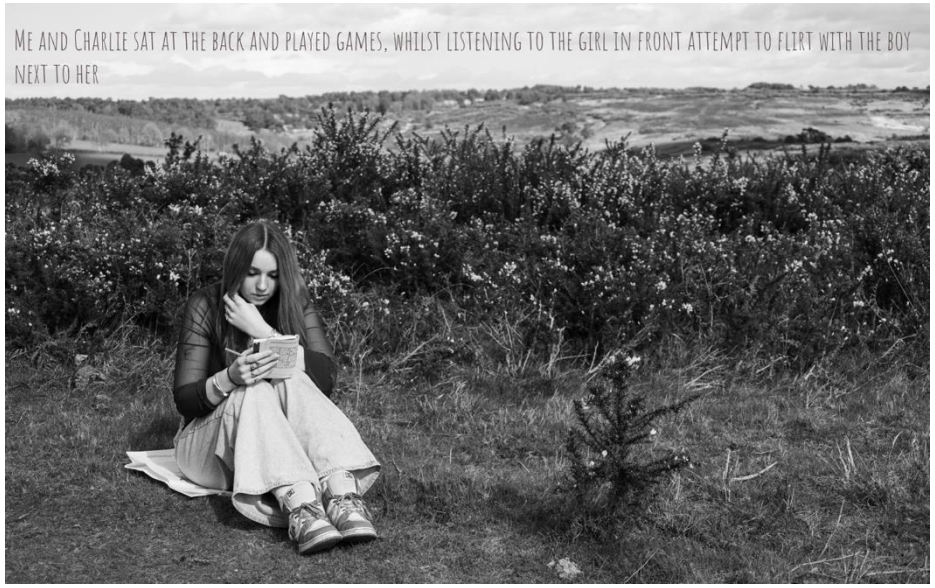
Me and Charlie sat at the back and played games, while listening to the girl in front attempt to flirt with the boy next to her.



The kits were bright pink and we were still made to wear bibs. I got so sunburnt that day that I was still putting aftersun on says after, but I eventually got a tan so it was worth it





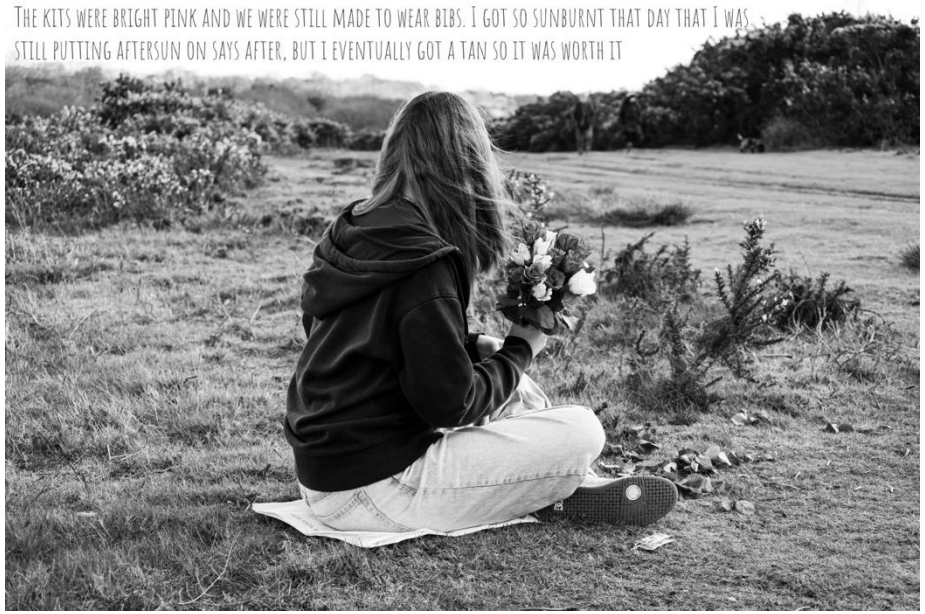




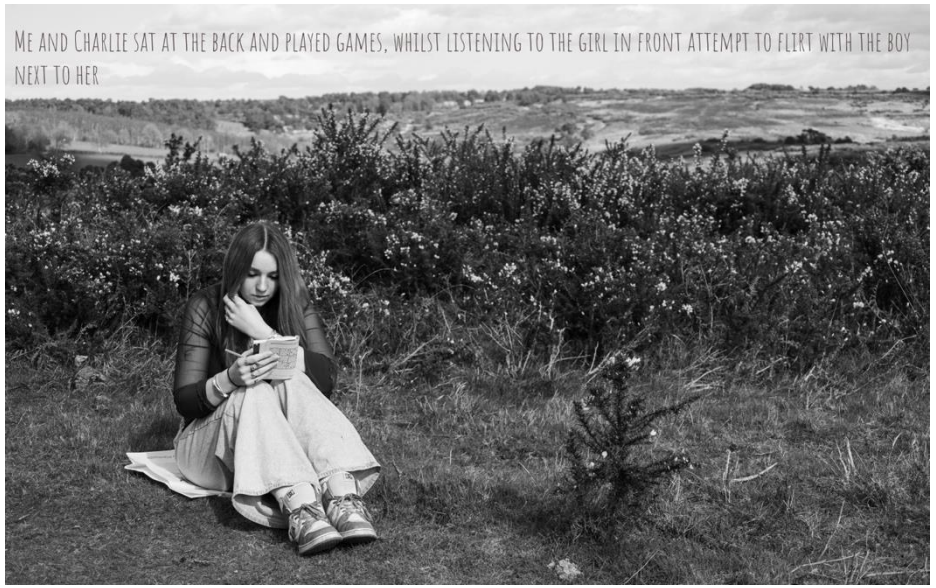
I changed the colour of the font to blend in more with the background in these edits to experiment.

I think that this does work with these images and puts more focus on the model.

The kits were bright pink and we were still made to wear bibs. I got so sunburnt that day that I was still putting aftersun on says after, but I eventually got a tan so it was worth it



Me and Charlie sat at the back and played games, whilst listening to the girl in front attempt to flirt with the boy next to her



He then picked up the wooden spoon and smacked me with it. He had started a WAR! I picked up the spoon and ran towards him to get my own back






















As well as the Jim Goldburg inspired edits, I wanted to also create a sequence with these images, a combination between the environment, close up images and images of the model doing the activities.

The environment combined with the active images, creates a scene of the location and builds atmosphere around the images. The close-up images combined with the other angles add variety and make the sequence look more dynamic and interesting.










Exhibition Review on Sighting by Penny Hallas

Amersive, raw representation of perception within different environments.

This exhibition looks into how sustainable materials and natural elements are used to create different parts of artwork, connoting different meanings within each piece, allowing us to explore nature in different ways through living in the experience.

Environmentalism captured not just in the artwork but in the set up of the exhibition as when you step into the room you are immersed within the materials. Raw realism consumes the space to walk upon, guiding audiences through all different paths towards different directions of the show. This image represents raw materials immersing the audience throughout the journey through the exhibition. The way this has been curated emphasizes the significance of the natural matters used in different pieces of art. In this image the sticks and bits of dead plants are used to create an archway to guide the audience, creating a path for them to walk through, looking directly at a one of the artists pieces. Plants intertwined with each other, everything being connected, relates to the theme of the exhibition and that everything is centered around the real and raw element of the environment, using the physical features to draw the audience in, allowing them to be fully surrounded by the true meaning of the artwork.

This exhibition plays with people's perception of things and how places may affect them, experimenting with found, natural materials. This creates a world that reflects something meaningful to the Artist. This fantasy piece brings you through the social, political meanings of perception within place and environment, emphasizing that some things are subjective, especially how some people bond with certain objects.








Images from “Sighting”




















Project 1: A Private Land, 2023:







Curiosity, memory and sense of place make its mark on this piece emphasizing the relationship between all of these factors, drawing the audience in, creating a sort of puzzle for people to figure out with the missing elements of this piece.

The main idea behind this piece is that the artist wanted to concentrate on how places carry both psychological and emotional meaning to them. It is based upon the remains of a former psychiatric institution, now a hospital in Talgarth. Artists worked with the patient old files and replicate them as drawings which are placed on the folders. As the building has decayed, this shows the main message and inspiration for the project and how it relates to memory and loss.

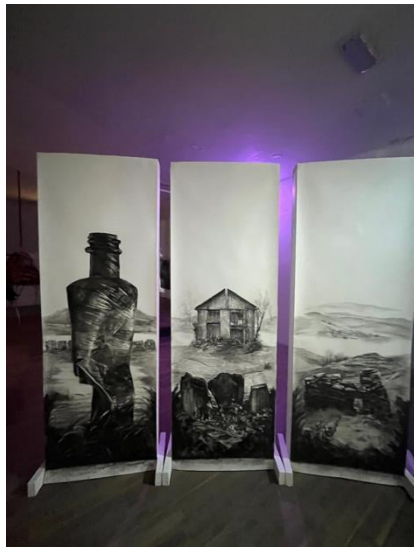
The artwork is made from used folders and marker pens on the names of the files, but on the background of the images, the juice of weeds found on the actual sight of the property are used to create the messy effect in the background of some of the drawings. This brings elements from the place itself into the art, making it connect more with the use of natural materials that share connection with something of emotional value.

By the folders being roughly organized and not framed on the wall, gives off the raw sense of the project that powers the whole exhibition. This allows each project to feel real, instead of just something that has been created to show off. The folders being reused also represents the nostalgic feel of this project and the rough around the edges atmosphere, showing the audience something that is real, used of real materials and actual historical elements.

The scribbling out of the names, being left with just a drawn photo of the patient draws the audience in, making them curious and think more about who these people were; what happened to them etc. Eyes are drawn from colour to colour throughout the folders, allowing the audience to fully analyze this piece of work, investigating who these people are. The idea that all of these people are unknown and all is left is a folder and a drawn image of their face, gives an eary feel to this project, almost bringing them back to life in this artwork, with simply just a drawn drawing of what they looked like. The hand drawn faces are all in black and white, mimicking the images used in the old files, presenting ideas of memory and nostalgia from the people who once lived, creating a melancholy feel throughout.

This work is a real representation of how a place can relate to memories, using natural, reused resources to help show people a historical and beautiful idea, bringing curiosity and feelings of the unknown to this exhibition.

Project 2: Materials from the garden, 2023:









Natural, beautiful drawn, individual portraits of lost then found things in natural environments, representing man made objects merging into the untouched environment.

These frames have been hand drawn by Penny during the time of Covid-19 in lockdown using the natural resource of charcoal in all of these images to replicate objects that she had collected or found in an allotment. Her main idea when creating this piece of artwork was about how people relate to nature in times of crisis such as lockdown, and how objects in certain places can bring out emotional sides of people's experiences. This allows the audience to relate to the feelings that Jenny had being portrayed in this piece, as she was also experiencing lockdown with the rest of us. Individuality then makes this artwork stand out by showing the artist's feelings in these portraits.

The focal point of all of these images are the objects within them surrounded by the environment in the background. All of the images have very fine details, telling us that Penny must have sat down and looked at these objects and taken many images of them before taking them back to her studio. By all of the images being drawn in the material of charcoal, a natural material, this relates back to the summary of the exhibition, making sure that the raw materials are used in every part of her art in this exhibition. The images are all very high contrast, black and white images, exploring ideas of nostalgia and memory as well as the previous project. These ideas are shown throughout these images as these objects have been found but were also once lost by people, showing that there was once an emotional connection to some of these objects. For example, the drawing of the toy bird tied onto the post, could have significant emotional value to someone as people form attachments to toys in their childhood, so losing this object could've affected them emotionally. By the audience seeing thus object, it might allow the audience to relate to this toy and provoke an emotional and psychological response to these images as they might start thinking about their toy or possession that they once had. This creates a powerful emotional response for the audience.

You could also look at these images as a way to raise awareness of how humankind is changing and impacting the environment. The objects have been misplaced in these natural spaces and have caused great change to that specific environment for good. Jenny could be using these objects in a way to represent how humans are changing and disrupting the planet, creating climate change and polluting the environment that was here before us. This raises awareness for the audience and creates a strong political message about how the environment should be treated and that something needs to change.

By presenting these drawings in a rough and unframed way, as well as the rest of the exhibition, gives the artwork a real and raw feel to them, showing the authenticity of these drawings. They are placed on stands curved round, creating a type of walkway, guiding the audience through them, almost making a path for them to walk through, creating flow throughout the exhibition which has bene proven to be one of the strong points of this exhibition. Additionally, by the images being so tall, allows them to tower over the audience, making them have to take a step back to take in the whole image, making them look at the whole thing. This then allows them to spend more time on each image, thinking about what they really mean and what the message is behind these magnificent pieces.

Conclusion:

Flowing from different environments, perspectives within social and political norms, this exhibition takes the audience through how the physical artists materials are presented with the pieces of work, creating an atmosphere within to present the idea behind the show. All of the artwork reflects the use of raw materials, elevating the natural, more personal touch to the work.

This is an accurate presentation of how you can use natural resources to provoke different types of emotion, allowing different people to relate to parts of the exhibition in their own way. The personal touch of the unframed, rawness of the presentation, makes the set up feel more intimate, making the atmosphere of the show feel more immersive, and including for the audience.

I liked some of this exhibition, especially the charcoal artworks. These are beautifully drawn, with significant detail flowing throughout the images, adding a personal, intimate piece of work to boost the quality of work in this exhibition. The way the images are placed as well, in a curved shape, carves a path for the audience through the work, increasing the flow of the exhibition. Structure and creation of the atmosphere within the space is what I admire in this exhibition, however the quality and execution of the other pieces I dislike. They fit with the overall idea of the exhibition (things being raw and natural), but I just don't like the style of artwork and think that some of the artwork is untidy, additionally not exhibition worthy.

Even though this is not my personal style of artwork that I like, this was well presented as a whole and represents the ideas behind the creation of the artwork well. Overall, this is a well curated, raw and immersive exhibition.



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