

Visual Studies

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Trish Morrissey, Seven Years

- Seven years by Trish Morrissey is a collection of images that look like family. Photos, the subjects are. Posing as you would in family photos the clothes they were wearing also gives this idea. One of the images also has a finger in the frame this gives the classic family photo look, the obstructed view not worrying about the final outcome just capturing the moments. The works overall took a serial turn on the family photos but made sure whatever was in the images stood to the times



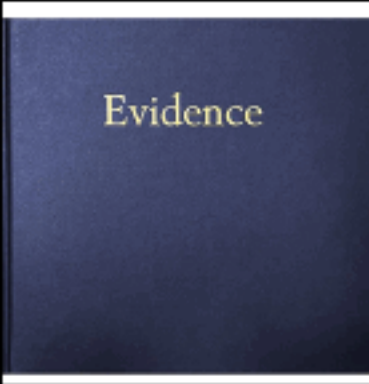
From Here I Saw What Happened and I Cried, Carrie Mae Weems,

- This piece of work consists of images of slaves in America south, the pieces chosen I feel show the true injustice and racism in America during the time from these images. These images show what really happened during this time in history. I feel as though these images gave a voice to the people who didn't have one when the image was taken. I was really inspired through looking up this work and to consider really what your trying to portray.



Mike Mandel and Larry Sultan, Evidence

- Evidence is a piece of work in the form of a book, it contains images taken from 77 different government agencies. The images in the book contain evidence from real crime scene's. This piece of work was really interesting to research, one thing I took inspiration from was the dedication to the sequences and the dedication to how the book is received "Mandel and Sultan assembled a careful sequence of 59 pictures" (TPG Bookshop, 2017) The book consists of 59 pictures from government data bases, the images are really impactful when looking at them they look like really abstract images however when learning these were parts of. A crime scene it can move the viewers vision "even more innocent to let the visitors in" (Sandra S. Phillips, 2017) The images as a collective really push the viewer to take away the fact these are from crime scenes whether they were innocent or not the book was an unheard off thing and when it came out it blew up "the book proved to be a modest bombshell" (Sandra S. Phillips, 2017)

The image shows the front cover of the book 'Evidence' by Mike Mandel and Larry Sultan. The cover is a solid, dark blue-grey color. The title 'Evidence' is printed in a serif font, centered on the cover. The text is a light, yellowish-gold color, providing a sharp contrast against the dark background. The book is shown at a slight angle, with the edges of the pages visible on the left and right sides.

References

- Phillips, S.S. (2017). *A History of the Evidence*. [online] The Paris Review. Available at: <https://www.theparisreview.org/blog/2017/05/03/a-history-of-the-evidence/>.
- TPG Bookshop. (2017). *Larry Sultan & Mike Mandel: Evidence*. [online] Available at: <https://bookshop.thephotographersgallery.org.uk/products/larry-sultan-mike-mandel-evidence>.

My Resource Methods

- For my two resource methods I decided to do automatic writing for one and the other I decided to visual explore headshots. For the automatic writing I went to a park that was close to my old primary school it was across the road and just sat there closed my eyes and listened.
- For my visual research method I took my partner out and took. Photos of him just to figure out angles and things I wanted to explore.

Plan

After picking my image I knew I wanted to do something that included portraits so I would like to go out and just practice my portraits and take some general photos of my partner to get comfortable using the camera and to get some pre ideas of angles etc. For further shoots.

I looked into some artists like Irving Penn, a lot of his images are in black and white I don't feel as though I would use black and white imagery in these portraits, but I really enjoy the level he gets in his portraits. I also looked into Dorothea Lange, her portraits have been seen by almost everyone around the world I feel as though that's because of her ability to get close to the subject it makes you connect more



Plan

My aim for this shoot is to get a general idea/ consensus of what I plan to do with portraiture. I am to discover some new angles/ideas while shooting and overall try to get some depth into what I plan to do for my future shoot. I know I would definitely like to include portraiture in my next shoot so for this shoot I just plan on getting an overall idea for my next shoot and develop my skills.

Shoot

Overall, the shoot went really well I got a general idea of what I would like to do/ plan to do for my next shoot. I also got some really interesting portraits and plan to use some of the angles in my next shoot. I feel as though the shoot was a success, and it pushed me to think more into my idea overall and research portraiture.

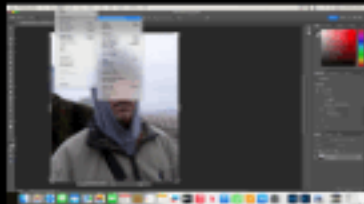
The images as a collective I feel create a good understanding of my skills with portraits and I also feel shows how I could improve for my next shoot. I feel as though some images I wasn't close enough, in my next shoot I will try my best to get closer to my subjects.

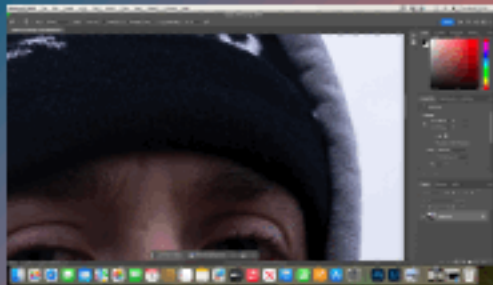
Contact sheets



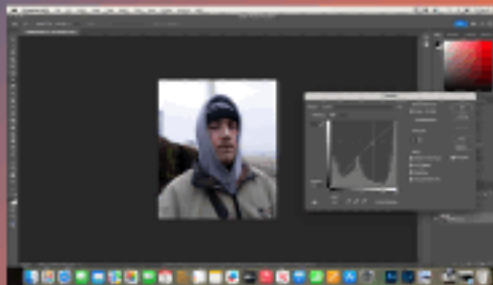
Evaluation

- The first thing I did was use the crop tool to crop the image as I felt there was way too much negative space at the top of the image. I then decided to use the brightness tool to brighten up certain parts of my image as I felt it was quite dark to start with.





- I then used the curves tool to bring a darker yet cooler tone to my image not too much just slightly.
- Once that was completed I then went in with my spot healing brush to go over any rain or dust picked up on camera and to overall give the image a nice "cleanup"





Plan

- My image seems to be from around the 1930's-1950's. School curriculum was very different during these times; while researching I discovered a book full of images/postcards from a school called Sompting Abbots Preparatory School. This school was a private school that housed boys from the ages of 8-15 and the whole point of this school was to prepare these boys for the royal navy, a school to prepare children for war. One thing that was noted is the fact postcards of the children and the school were regularly taken to send back home to their parents as the parents would go a very long time without seeing their children. This made me think of school photos once again a tradition that seems to have gone on since the 1930's. It's different now you don't have to have a postcard you could pay for a keyring of your child or just a simple print, but I find it fascinating how this tradition of school photos has carried on through the years, they may be sent off in a different format but children still have their photos taken for the parents to keep up to date with their school life/activities. When my younger brother was in nursery, we used to receive daily images of him playing in sand, creating art ect and that is what this book of postcards is doing.

[https://www.somptingabbotsprep.co.uk/History/History%20of%20the%20School/1930s-1950s.htm">https://www.somptingabbotsprep.co.uk/History/History%20of%20the%20School/1930s-1950s.htm](#)



Plan

- After carefully studying my image, I decided to create a photoshoot about school photos. In my image it has a mixture of young and older schoolboys. The boys in this image were all very smartly dressed which leads me to assume this was a group of private schoolboys, this made me think that this image may have ended up in a book or a leaflet for this specific school maybe promoting this school or keeping the parents up to date with their activities, like the book from the school Sompitig Abbots. I thought about why the younger and older boys were mixed in the school system I grew up in you were divided by your age and placed in a year group, this made me want to play on the ages of the people in my shoot instead of using all younger people I wanted to use a range of ages to show how the education system was lacking when this image was taken as older boys who are clearly of education shouldn't be mixed with younger boys who are still learning basics.
- I aim to create a book with images of my university and of school photos to create a book like the book I talked about in my previous slide.



Mood board



[Tate, n.d.]



[Tate, n.d.]

See Photographs © Steve McQueen and Tate



[Tate, n.d.]



Monaghan, S. (n.d.)



Monaghan, S.
(n.d.)



Monaghan, S.
(n.d.)

See Photographs © Steve McQueen and Tate

Shoot

- For this shoot I decided to use a Cannon r5 and the studio. The subjects I chose was my family, I set the studio lighting up to create no shadows in the background and on the face of my subjects. While shooting I was trying to capture a sort of abstract thought to school photos. I did this by asking my subjects to wear makeup they would wear everyday that they couldn't wear in school I asked some to show up the way they normally would with school and my little brother was in his school uniform. The shoot overall went really well, I got some beautiful images and fought a sort of adolescent feel to the images, you look at them and think back to when you were younger and your school photo days.

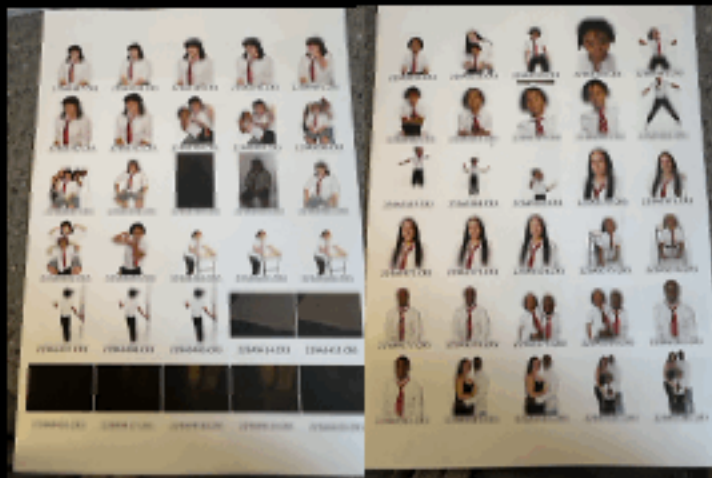


Shoot

- To go into more specifics about the lighting set up I used a chair in the middle of the shot with a white background, I then used two lights flashing off the back of the white to get rid of any shadows then used a massive light directly on the subject to get rid of any shadows on the face. Overall, I feel that the lighting was successful and really added a professional feel to my images, these set of images you could see in a school photo shoot, in someone's house ect.



Contact Sheet



Contact sheet



Evaluation

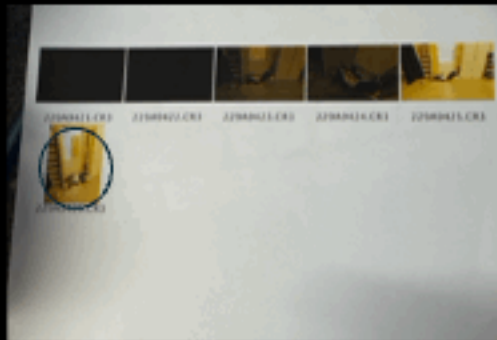
Overall, the shoot went well, I found using the studio space very comforting and enjoyed this shoot massively. I feel as though the images came out amazing.

The image here on screen is one of my favorite images, in a lot of images of powerful men we are always looking up at them



Plan

- During my previous shoot I accidentally shot an image of my little brother at the end of that shoot, I really liked this image. I decided to try and take some more photos of my brother in his more natural environments I decided to go pick him up from school and take photos of him there as I felt he's always most active and himself when he's coming out of school, so I tried to capture that in my work. I thought about the boys in the picture and how different their after-school activities were to my brothers, yet they probably have similar ways of playing and hobbies. I decided to shoot my brother after world book day. I also tried to capture some images of the school environment while there for my book.



Shoot

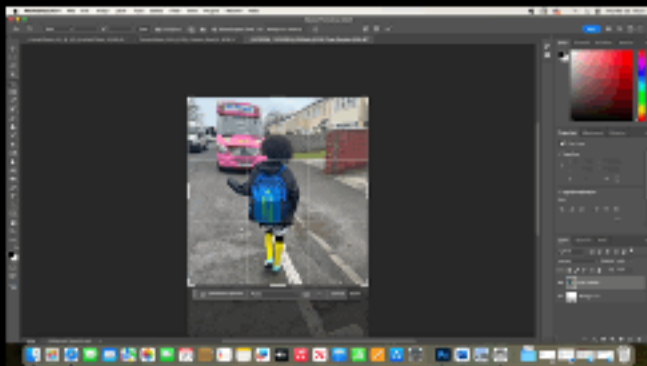
- I found this shoot interesting, I went to my brother's school to pick him up, I decided to follow them from behind to give it a sort of disconnected feeling as though they are in their own little bubble. On the way out of the school there was an ice-cream truck I decided to use this in my images as well.

Contact sheets



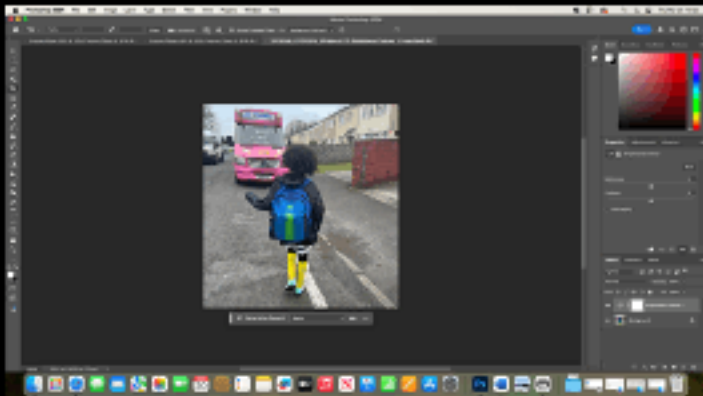
Evaluation

- First thing I decided to do was to crop the image to make it square as I felt the bottom of the image had too much free space it took away from the subject and you can see that he's waving at the ice cream man as they are very well known to each other.



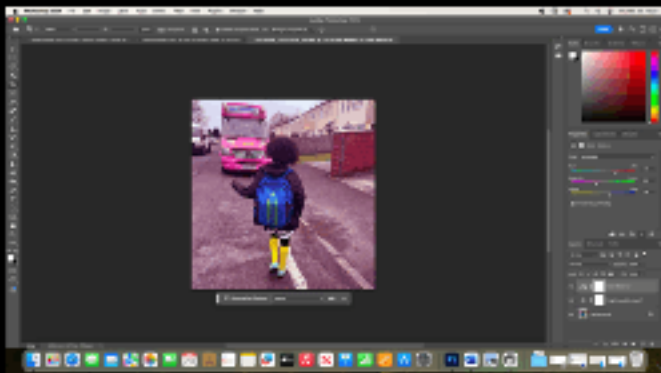
Evaluation

- I then decided to change the brightness just to make the image a little darker and I then added some contrast to make the pink ect stand out



Evaluation

- Finally, I decided to play on the colour of the image as I wanted to play on the childish nature of the image. I really like this image it's one of the few I do like from this shoot. I think the way the ice cream van stands out but doesn't take away from my subject is what really interests me about this image.





Plan

- For my next shoot I am following on with the idea of my brother and I decided to take him to one of his favorite places I felt as though I wanted him to have a connection to the place, I'm photographing him in. He is a very active child and enjoys being outside and playing so I am planning on taking him to a park. This led me back to think about the boys in the school photo what was their after-school time like did they leave school were they in a boarding school. I just wanted to capture him not and his life and what he enjoys to do as a schoolboy

Shoot

- For the shoot I asked him to just play around while asking him to pose sometimes for some images. I decided to shoot him in a place he can be free and for my younger brother that has always been the park he loves playing football and he feels the freest when he is. I felt as though the images taken so far didn't capture the childish nature that's really what I wanted to capture, I feel this final shoot will make my portfolio.

Contact Sheets





Contact Sheets

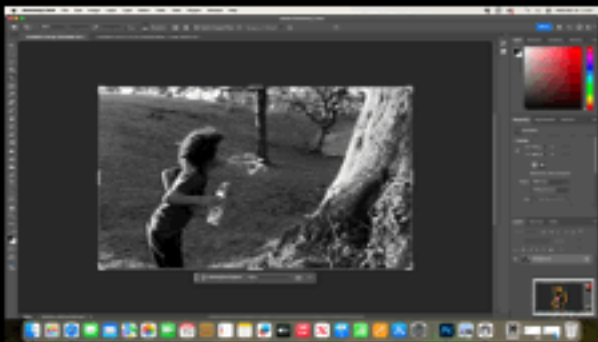


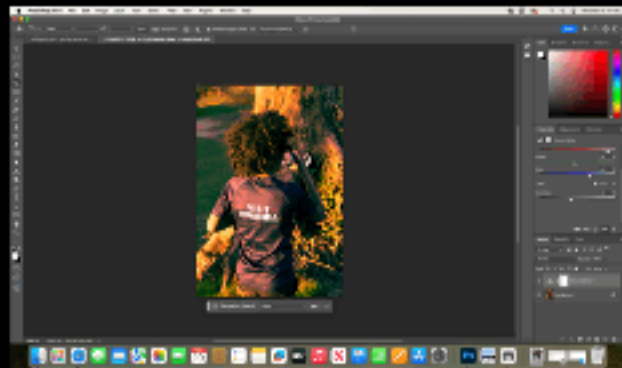
For this image I first turned it black and white, I then decided to crop the edges slightly to bring the image in. I then decided to flip the image around to create the illusion of him being upside down, I did this to play on the childish nature as a child's imagination is endless and that's what I want this image to capture

Evaluation

For this image I decided to change the image to black and white as I felt it would look best next to the previous image in black and white.

I then decided to crop the image as I felt there was too much in the image itself. And it took away from my subject.





For this image I decided to change the colour on the image to give it an orange feel. To make it feel like the in was setting . With the previous 3 images I didn't feel they needed to be edited to much just a little tweaking.

Evaluation



Evaluation

- My final images were I feel edited really well every image was edited in similar way. The images I chose I feel reflects my brother and everything he is I feel as though you get the personal on ect through these mages.

My final selection













- Overall, I feel as though my project pulled through I wanted to show childhood I wanted you to connect with my project and see school. Life along with my younger brothers social. Life what he enjoys to do what he does in his spare time this. Links in with these young men they would have had the same after school activities as well as in school activities as my younger brother. I wanted to show the childish nature in these images the nature of being young and growing up
- I chose specific images to go next to each other as I felt you could see his character and get to know him. Through the images next to each other.



Exhibition Review

Going to exhibitions are important to any artist practitioner but exhibitions are important to everyone, they develop your visual language skills as well as educate you on topics you may not be educated on. Each time you look at an artwork you find something new hidden in the artwork whether it's a hidden message or something as simple as a brush stroke these all tie into your visual language skills. Going to exhibitions helps me personally as I feel inspired when looking at other people's work it also broaden my view on many subjects and mediums as well, it makes me think how I can incorporate these elements into my own practice. For example, the composition of images is what I tend to take inspiration from the most when looking at an exhibition. Another thing you can learn/take into consideration when going to an exhibition is how other people interact with your work as this is important to any practitioner. The exhibition I'm writing about today is by Viv Collins- Woman's Work. The work consists of several Images containing women working around wales.

The first image that stood out to me was an image of a lady called Manna. The image contains a woman in the middle of the frame with a farm setting in the background with mud on the floor and the image is taken in a barn. This image spoke to me more than others in this Exhibition, the image it was printed on what seemed to be A3 vinyl. The image was just slightly higher than me and that put this ominous figure higher up making me look slightly up at this person this gave me the feel of looking up at a powerful figure I got this sense of power and strength all from the size and position of my image. When looking closer to the image you see the footsteps in the mud the hard work those footsteps carry really I feel shows the viewer exactly what the exhibition was about that small detail really impressed me they are so well lit by the slit in the door to me it stood for the path women have had to walk to have jobs and to be taken



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seriously in those're jobs. This image shows the hard work and determination of women and shows the movement throughout this image



Another image I feel got the same message across to the viewer was the image called Jaynab. Her story was really inspiring, and I feel as though the image shows this once again just like the previous image the strength through the pose and the elements of her job on her clothes was a small detail that was really moving. Jaynab was the first Muslim woman to work for HM Prison Service in Wales, after finding this out I felt the connect between these two images the previous image shows the path this image shows the result of that path. The fact this was shot in the prison gives the feel of power the surroundings show how hard

this job is the iron bars representing the trouble these people in the prison show and it also represents the struggle Jaynab goes through on a daily basis. The trouble Jaynab must go through on a daily basis in the prison

this job is the iron bars representing the trouble these people in the prison show and it also represents the struggle Jaynah goes through on a daily basis. The trouble Jaynah must go through on a daily basis in the prison and is still able to show up to wo and be the best she can shows women can really do anything. Something else I felt through these two images was the dedication and determination of these women to work do their job and do it just as well as a man.

In conclusion, this exhibition was really an inspiration to women everywhere women are told constantly "it's a mans job" I feel as though this exhibition especially these two images really capture the women who have worked so hard wether that be for their family or themselves women work hard and don't need to be underestimated. The system these days shows women have certain jobs where as this exhibition shows every girl out there you can do it.

My Exhibition

- I decided for my exhibition to be a display of images showing skating. I decided to focus on this as I wanted to play with the display of the images themselves. I have a passion for skate photography I enjoy the culture around skating and the urban environments that come along with skating. I wanted to show off some of these environments through my work. When shooting I tried to get as many sequences as possible. As possible. As I knew I wanted to have some sequences in my display as a whole.



I decided to do 4 shoots for. My exhibition showing off my partner skating but also taking a lot of consideration for the architecture along side him. Once had finished my shoots and I was happy with my images I decided to do my final selection, once I had done that I decided on the lay out of my exhibition, once I had the idea I went to size my images and send them off to be printed on vinyl. Once they were printed I worked along side my. Lecture it hang them how I felt they should be hanged.



- Overall, my exhibition went really well, the images I chose stuck out the sequences really worked well together having some images bigger than others was a dissipation I feel influenced in project. I did use one of the portraits from my research method. I also felt having the lead up in my sequences smaller than when he did the trick was a good decision.

