

TASK 2 - Illustrated Book Project Proposal Task

500 words, due 5pm Feb 13th, submitted via moodle.

Formatting: please use the headings below making use of the advice and resources provided. References should be made using the Harvard format.



Name: Katie Hill

Theme/Context

Provide a brief summary of the theme or subject you want your work to focus on. You might include details about the impact you hope to achieve, how the book format will help you connect with your audience, and what will make your work stand out. (300 – 500 words)

For this project I want the theme to revolve around childhood memories and nostalgia. In doing so I will use pictures of my parents' upbringings that are very significant alongside images of how some significant places look today. These can include childhood homes, schools, parks, etc.

I want this book to be a timeline of my parent's childhood in a parallel way, progressing into a final picture of their marriage. As my dad grew up in England and my mum in Wales, they had different traditions and upbringings, therefore me using archival pictures. Following with this idea, I plan to print the images onto materials that correspond to places, outfits or experiences from their early years. For example, a picture of a school to be printed onto school uniform. In doing so, this can help bring the book to life a bit and make them reflect on their own childhood experiences.

By putting these pictures into a chronological order, it takes the viewers on a journey through my parents' childhood indicating a sort of love story and how two different worlds became one. In addition, experimenting with different materials and specifically using materials that could be used from childhood items, it helps to hold onto some parts of my parents' childhood, in a more compact way.

Influence

Highlight the work of a photographer who currently inspires your work. Analyse an image of theirs and explain your interest in their work. Consider style, theme, context, practical technique. (300 – 500 words)

Although they are not a photographer, Lisa Kokin a visual artist is someone whose work I have taken an interest into. Kokin creates her own books collecting old photos from places such as flea markets or secondhand shops and stitches them together. Her work involves using lots of different materials, textures and old pictures to create a nostalgic book that the audience can connect to. One piece of work of theirs that I have taken an interest into is 'Swatches'. Swatches is a book Kokin made for her mother's 80th birthday using a range of different materials and archival images from her mother's childhood. Similar to how I aim to present my work, her book takes the audience on a journey through her childhood, reminiscing and seeing change throughout the years, highlighting the themes of nostalgia, memories and childhood. The materials she uses are relevant to her family. For example, the front cover is made of vinyl which is the kind of material her parents used in their upholstery shop. This has influenced me in the way I tell my parents early years story resulting into their marriage.

Contemporary Jewish Museum (2012) 'Lisa Kokin - "How We Make Things"'. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vuh3kZIIDk8> (Accessed: 11 February 2025).

Kokin, L. (n.d.) *Book Art: Wordless Library*. Available at: <https://lisakokin.com/book-art-wordless-library.html> (Accessed: 11 February 2025).



Book Form

Referencing the session PowerPoint on Moodle (or another relevant source), discuss at least one book that has influenced you. Explore its visual and aesthetic qualities, social or historical context, impact, or practical methods relevant to your theme. You may also evaluate its overall effectiveness. (300 – 500 words)

One book looked at, in a Visual Diary lecture, that I found has influenced my project idea is a book called “Happily Ever After” by Cassandra Cooper. Within this book you see through a difference on each side of the pages. On the left side you see more darker and deeper photos compared to on the right which shows more happy and brighter images. As you go through the book and end with a photo of a married couple you can assume that the book is indicating domestic abuse, hinting at the idea that what is shown on the right is what the marriage can look like on the outside, as opposed to what it looks like on the inside. It is a topic that some audiences may find sensitive, but it is also a way of expression and can send out a message to people to speak up if ever they could experience a similar thing. In terms of how the book was made, the book seems to be on a silky fabric material, a bit like a wedding dress, and is quite flimsy to hold. To bind the book a red ribbon had been used. After an initial look at how the book was made, I was never open to the idea of printing onto some form of flimsy material. However, after more research I found this method of printing is quite effective in bringing the story to life. Therefore, I am quite open to the idea of binding the book and printing onto various materials that are relevant to the project.

