



Open
College
of the Arts

Formative feedback

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| Student name | Andrew Fitzgibbon | Student number | 513879 |
| Course/Unit | I&P | Assignment number | 5 |
| Type of tutorial | Written | | |

Overall Comments

I think that overall you have clearly tried to push your practice and ideas. The use of archives and text is interesting and suggests that you are open to more contemporary photographic approaches. This is really encouraging and it's great that you have taken an alternative approach with this assignment. Your Grandfathers story is so engaging and needs to be evidenced. I think that your project could be further developed, it has greater potential. It's down to you whether you want to take it further and expand upon the narrative and your working methodology. Great that you have engaged with coursework and added to your research although it would be great to see evidence that you are critically engaging with other artist's/photographers work. This would be appreciated by the assessment team.

Think carefully about your submission for assessment and how you show your work. Review your work again against the assessment criteria. It's noted that you responded really well to the assignment 4 feedback and reworked your publication. This is good evidence of critical engagement and a worthwhile process to engage with.

Feedback on assignment

I think that you have produced an interesting considered project. It's great that you have applied yourself to an alternative process and attempted to push your practice and creativity. The personal aspect and story of your Grandfather is engaging and provided the impetus to work with archives. This different approach suggests that you are thinking more openly about photography and what it can be. Using archives provides the project with an extra dimension and cultural significance. It's clear that the challenge has helped your technical process and use of post-production. The final dissemination is down to you and it's worthwhile that you considered a book with prints being the final output. What size would these ultimately be and how would you show them, only as a portfolio? or on a gallery wall? I think that these are questions that you need to consider particularly as this is your final

assignment. Your reflective text accompanying the assignment is limited and really doesn't do the story justice. The letters and your Grandfathers thoughts are key to the success of the work. These should be utilised further and referenced within your text or even a more substantial written document that could accompany the final images. It's noted that you provided an introduction to the book, but again this could be developed further.

Your visual strategy of interacting images of Orkney seascapes in between the archive/text images is interesting. Again though it would be beneficial for you to consider how this narrative would unfold in physical form. Using the torn letters gives the project a tactile impression, visually they are strong and draw the viewer in. From a practical perspective, and this impacts upon the final dissemination, it's quite difficult to read the text. As the story is the main focus this could be distracting and hinder the project's central narrative. This would also have an impact upon the seascape images and their reflective and your personal intentions. I think that maybe you could expand upon the project, presently it feels a little lacking in depth. It's such an important and engaging story and one that would certainly be of interest to an objective audience. It could do with a little refining and consideration of how the text is appropriated. Try and do another edit maybe expanding on the project and producing more archival images, maybe there are individual key words within the text that you could highlight and bring to the fore. These are just ideas if you want to push the project further. Audio would also be interesting. Maybe a reading of the text or crucial points, could accompany the images, thinking about final dissemination, maybe you consider a digital interactive presentation that includes audio. This could then add depth and place more emphasis upon the story, maybe then you could show it on contemporary platform such as Ipad or other digital screen. I also think that you should take the time to evidence any research that you have into other artists' use of image/text/archives this would certainly help your production. As I say, it's a good story with a sound approach, identifying your willingness to push your practice but it's one that has greater potential.

Coursework

Evidence suggests that you have been engaging with coursework. It's clearly helped with your skills and ability to push and think creatively.

Research

Your reflective text accompanying the final images could do with expanding upon. This should also cover your working methodology and your influences and decision making. A further review and evidence of your plans for the dissemination of your work would be beneficial. Make sure that you update your research and include practitioners who have inspired you. Presently there is limited analysis of other artists/photographers including those that I have suggested you look at in your feedback forms.

Suggested reading/viewing

Take a look at these photographers who have worked with archives, ephera and text.

Jim Goldberg (Raised by Wolves): <http://www.jimgoldberg.com>

Erik Kessels: <http://www.bjp-online.com/2017/05/kessels-lives/>

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| Tutor name | C Coekin |
| Date | 18/06/17 |
| Next assignment due | N/A |