



Tutor report

Student name	Simon Chirgwin	Student number	512973
Course/Module	AOP	Assignment number	4

Overall Comments

I am glad that you persevered with this assignment despite finding it a hard one to get started with. Usually students find the first few shots simple enough but then start to struggle. The added discipline of working with the same object is a great learning experience though. You wisely used a transparent jug here for the flowers and that has given you a much greater variety in framing options than an opaque vase would have. Indeed, a couple of your photographs are reminiscent of Lee Friedlander's 'Stems', and this is no bad thing...

Assessment potential

I understand your aim is to go for the Photography Degree and that you plan to submit your work for assessment at the end of this course. From the work you have shown in this assignment, and providing you commit yourself to the course, I suggest that you are likely to be successful in the assessment.

Feedback on assignment

Demonstration of technical and Visual Skills, Quality of Outcome, Demonstration of Creativity

- In terms of their response to the brief, I feel that all of your photographs were successful –each revealed the aspect you were exploring well. As such there isn't really much for me to add on that side of things. Your use of lighting accurately brings out the physical properties defined within the assignment.
- Where I think you might concentrate a little more in the future (especially as you progress onto later modules) is on your self-evaluation, specifically within a conceptual framework. How, for instance, does the change in lighting affect

how we perceive and interpret your subject? How can lighting affect the mood of the image? Can you change how we understand a subject through altering the photographic lighting? If the photograph is a representation of a subject, and a viewer is bringing all of their own baggage to the viewing experience, how can you influence their reaction through different lighting set ups? You have started to visually ask interesting questions by making photographs here that might be unexpected –the texture photograph of the stems for instance would not be an expected representation of a vase of flowers. What then is your practice drawing on in terms of contemporary critical discourse concerning issues of representation? These are quite probing questions that I hope will help you begin to think about why you are making certain pictures in a certain way. If you look back at the reading list I attached to the feedback for assignment 1 you will see a variety of texts all aimed at expanding your own thinking about your work.

- On a technical note there were some minor issues. Image 2.iii for instance – the first of the form images, is a little too harshly lit as you are just starting to lose some highlight detail.
- The saturation is a bit high in a couple of the images as well, such as 4.viii (Colour). This image is a little blue overall but the main issue will be when you come to print the image you may find the pink very hard to reproduce as it will likely be out of the gamut range for most ink/paper combinations. There isn't much you can do about this except be aware that certain colours are very difficult to reproduce in print. I reworked the image a little below to show you the change in overall feel when the blue cast was reduced.



Original

Edited

Learning Logs or Blogs/Critical essays

Context

As you mention in several posts from this year you do need to make a concerted effort to fill in the blanks for exercises and wider research for the last few chapters. As you are aware of this there isn't much for me to add. Perhaps setting aside 30 minutes every evening just to write something, even if you save it as a draft and finish off a post every couple of days. Writing something every day is habit forming and will help prepare you for later modules.

Suggested reading/viewing

Context

Flowers

David Axelbank (look under the Still lives heading)- <http://www.davidaxelbank.com/>

Robert Mapplethorpe - <http://www.mapplethorpe.org/portfolios/flowers/>

Lee Friedlander's Stems - <http://fraenkelgallery.com/portfolios/stems>

Friedlander, L. 2004. *Stems*. Göttingen: Steidl

Karl Blossfeldt - <http://www.artnet.com/artists/karl-blossfeldt/>

Charles Jones -

http://www.michaelhoppengallery.com/artist/show,1,171,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,charles_jones.html

Garry Fabian Miller - <http://www.garryfabianmiller.com/>

Paul Kenny - <http://www.paul-kenny.co.uk/>

Julian Anderson's beach Flowers - <http://www.juliananderson.co.uk/photo.html?106,1>

Chris Shaw's Weeds of Wallasey -

<http://chrisshaw.carbonmade.com/projects/4295217#1>

Erik Niedling –Formation (scroll down to 2007)

<http://erikniedling.com/search/photographs>

Pointers for the next assignment

The next assignment pulls together all that you have learnt so far. Try to select a subject that inspires you but is manageable within the time frame. Remember that you don't need to showcase all of the skills you have learnt here –part of developing your own voice is finding the precise concepts and technical strategies that help you convey your ideas to a viewer.

Tutor name:	David Wyatt
Date	08/04/15
Next assignment due	28/05/15