



Open College of the Arts

Formative feedback

Student name	Simon Chirgwin	Student number	512973
Course/Unit	Identity & Place	Assignment	2
Type of tutorial (eg video/audio/written)	Hangouts		

SUMMARY OF HANGOUTS TUTORIAL

Assignment 2 Assessment potential

I understand your aim is to go for the Photography/Creative Arts* 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, providing you commit yourself to the course, I believe you have the potential to pass at assessment. In order to meet all the assessment criteria, there are certain areas you will need to focus on, which I will outline in my feedback.

Feedback on assignment

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

- I think what you're trying to do with regards to the *vice versa* brief sounds interesting but is ultimately intractable and over-complicated. I guess you're trying to show different versions of self, identities in different places and contexts - at least that's the idea I take from the artists statement. That would take an entire book to illuminate. One trip to Orkney just isn't enough. Your photographs seem to be holiday photos, and so a different project.
- It seems a little like you've over-thought this one. The resolution must ultimately be in the pictures. This feels like pictures going one way and ideas going another way.
- Actually it isn't that clear how the concept of vice versa fits with your pictures, but they do seem like candid holiday shots that loosely cover the *unaware* and the *aware* categories in Part 2 of the course.
- They're very diverse pictures and somewhat ill-fitting as a series. Two shots of kids at computers, with a horizontal/landscape framing in a wonderfully cluttered room. Then there are two family snaps on a ferry - both vertical format. Then there's a near/far composition on a beach where it's hard to identify the person.
- Your contact sheets show some good shots. We went through this to refine some more

conclusive collections.

- I think you could have made this a lot simpler on yourself and just taken some strong portraits of your family on Orkney. It would perhaps have been good to identify what were the strongest themes that came out of this trip? For example, London kids in a faraway place. It's a culture clash and they're fish out of water. Part of them enjoys it because it's a holiday and things are different, but part of them wants to lean back to the stuff they're used to, like computer games and other media. I think then it could be 'about' something - the contrast between London and Orkney, which then would have tied in with your experience of wanting to leave and contextualized this notion of what's actually *amazing*.
- With this in mind, the computer portraits look most promising but you'd also needed some kind of contrast with these from the great outdoors.
- Your approach of searching and collecting images on a journey or holiday is important. That's something you can take from this, the fact that your perception to visual sights is heightened when you're not in a customary environment. But this searching and collecting needs refinement.

Coursework

Demonstration of technical and Visual Skills, Demonstration of Creativity

Looks good. Liked the 'Lighting' exercises and the trampoline stuff. Good stuff about the 'pose'.

Research

Context, reflective thinking, critical thinking, analysis

I couldn't find any related to this work.

Learning Log

Context, reflective thinking, critical thinking, analysis

Summarize how you have applied what you've learned from the course to your assignment photographs. Also note down what you've learned from other photographers in executing the assignment.

As I said, I think you've over-thought this one.

Suggested reading/viewing

Context

I don't want to overload you when I have just commented on the fact that you're probably over-thinking things. But do try to find one or two key photographers from whom you can learn something that takes your photography to the next level. And I think that is conceptual and visual consistency.

Summary

Strengths	Areas for development
-----------	-----------------------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good searching approach. • Many strong images on the visual and technical level. • Some strong portraits of your son. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work needs to be about something that you can 'see'. It must be visually signified, visually manifest. • Possibly some confusion over the brief. • More consistent subject oriented images.

Please inform me of how you would like your feedback for the next assignment: written or video/audio.

Tutor name	Robert Enoch
Date	29th September 2017
Next assignment due	14th December 2017