



Open College of the Arts

Formative feedback

Student name	Simon Chirgwin	Student number	512973
Course/Unit	I&P	Assignment	4
Type of tutorial (eg video/audio/written)	Notes for Video Tutorial		

NOTES FOR VIDEO TUTORIAL

1. A powerful series based on Grenfell Tower, it's dreadful failings and the attitudes surrounding it's refurbishment. Topical, relevant photography with a punch! You really should try to exhibit these as soon as possible: look around, ask around and get them seen. Check Portobello Road and Ladbroke Grove galleries. But try not to start a riot!
2. It's always encouraging to see when a student has been searching for a while then suddenly makes a discovery - the penny drops and an authentic artwork emerges. That's what's happened here, excellent work. As a student photographer, you need to discover how photography works for you; how to communicate and express yourself with photography. It tends to be a meandering journey to reach that point, but you've surely made a leap here. The challenge now is to stay on this level, you've reached a standard, don't go back!
3. There's nothing I don't like about this work...except the paper you've printed it on! This is well researched, thoughtful and authentic work. Try Calumet's Brilliant range of archival papers, but avoid all papers that have a plastic finish because they ruin the natural contrast of your darks. Fig 9 is a bit dark.
4. The 'intended installation theme' as you call it, works well. I'm guessing the image/texts would be exhibited side by side and not in the block of 7 you have printed. I'm reviewing these in the order you've sent me, as diptychs.
5. What strikes me immediately is the two narratives going on here: a) the text reveals an aesthetic snobbery that relates to the Edwardian rows of houses which is offset by the contrast to b) the narrative of the tragedy. Two sides of the same story. This brings up Barthes' notion that cultural referents help the viewer understand the photographers

intentions and express how the photograph can function within a society. But Grenfell Tower has become something like a *punctum* that pricks the conscience and indicates a wound in our society. That's how you visualize the tower in these pictures, standing out, hanging over, looming and ubiquitous.

6. It's very clear too, how identity and place are intimately connected here and characterised by the types of homes people can afford to live in.
7. The use of text is well researched - quotes from past (c.2012) Kensington & Chelsea Planning documents. This sets up a contrast in time with the burnt out tower that has the uneasy resonance of looking like a cause and effect.

Assignment 4 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.

Coursework

Demonstration of technical and Visual Skills, Demonstration of Creativity

Your coursework is looking investigative and interesting. It's as if you're searching, thinking with a camera more.

Research

Context, reflective thinking, critical thinking, analysis

Very good.

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.

Good, but I'm a bit surprised you write about the topicality of the subject in relation to yourself and the question of whether the work is yours. Of course it's your idea, your photos, your juxtaposition.

Suggested reading/viewing

Context

Your research is excellent, you're going to a lot of exhibitions and writing them up thoroughly. We should talk about Rosler and other artists that are resonating for you.

Summary

Strengths	Areas for development
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent, strong work.• Powerful connection of photo and text.• Topical and meaningful research.	
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Please inform me of how you would like your feedback for the next assignment: written or video/audio.

Tutor name	Robert Enoch
Date	12th June 2018
Next assignment due	25th August 2018