GCE A Level Advanced Art and Design

Photography
Component 1

AMBER

Total Mark 16 (12+PS4)

	AO1 Develop	AO2 Explore and Select	AO3 Record	AO4 Realise	Personal Study
Mark	3	3	3	3	4
Performance Level	1	1	1	1	2
				Total out of 90	16

PERFORMANCE CALCULATOR	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	
A LEVEL PRACTICAL – SEPT 2016	LIMITED ABILITY	BASIC ABILITY	EMERGING COMPETENT ABILITY	COMPETENT AND CONSISTENT ABILITY	CONFIDENT AND ASSURED ABILITY	EXCEPTIONAL ABILITY	
Taxonomy	partial, inconsistent, literal, elementary, minimal, rushed, sporadic, naïve, little creative intent, disjointed, pedestrian, credible, lacks control over the formal elements, vague aims	straightforward, deliberate, just adequate, methodical, superficial, unrefined, crude visual language, simplistic reflection, plays safe, unresolved, contextual references explored but lack relevance, defines aims with some understanding, developing control over the formal elements	predictable, broadening, makes progress, relevant, description not explanation, demonstrates intentions, appropriate, sufficient control, emerging individuality, thorough, adequate control over the formal elements, contextual references inform journey, pursues aims with understanding	diverse, effective, purposeful, consistent, skillful, coherent, imaginative, informed, some perception, satisfies creative intent, engaged, consistent control over the formal elements, contextual references inspire creativity, realises some aims,	independent, realised, sensitive, creative, sustained, highly inventive, critical, perceptive, comprehensive, in-depth, insightful, original, genuine creative journey, refined, in-depth reflection, exciting, comprehensive control over the formal elements, contextual references shows some personal insight, fully realises all aims and objectives	inspired, surprising, unique, authoritative, genuine discovery, adventurous, accepting of the unexpected, challenging, fully informed, questioning, dexterous, erudite, highly intuitive, daring, insightful and comprehensive exploration of contextual references, ideas synthesised into highly sophisticated realisations, goes beyond aims to produce surprising realisations, control over the formal elements demonstrate fluent sensitivity and understanding	

AO1	1	2	**3**	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	AO1 total:
Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding	LIMITED Naive Pedestrian Literal			BASIC			EMERGING COMPETENT			COMPETENT AND CONSISTENT			CONFIDENT AND ASSURED			EXCEPTIONAL			3

AO2	1	2	**3**	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	AO2 total:
Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops	LIMITED Credible Inconsistent Elementary Pedestrian Partially resolved			BASIC			EMERGING COMPETENT			COMPETENT AND CONSISTENT			CONFIDENT AND ASSURED			EXCEPTIONAL			3

AO3	1	2	**3**	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	AO3 total:
Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress	LIMITED Literal Little creative intent Naive Elementary Vague aims Disjointed Rushed			BASIC			EMERGING COMPETENT			COMPETENT AND CONSISTENT			CONFIDENT AND ASSURED			EXCEPTIONAL			3

AO4	1	2	**3**	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	AO4 total:
Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements	LIMITED Naive Vague aims Little creative intent disjointed inconsistent			BASIC			EMERGING COMPETENT			COMPETENT AND CONSISTENT			CONFIDENT AND ASSURED			EXCEPTIONAL			3

Total mark:

12

PERFORMANCE CALCULATOR	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	
A LEVEL PERSONAL STUDY – SEPT 2016	LIMITED ABILITY	BASIC ABILITY	EMERGING COMPETENT ABILITY	COMPETENT AND CONSISTENT ABILITY	CONFIDENT AND ASSURED ABILITY	EXCEPTIONAL ABILITY	
Taxonomy	partial, inconsistent, literal, elementary, minimal, rushed, sporadic, naïve, lacking, disjointed, pedestrian, credible, study naively informs practical work, elementary use of written language	straightforward, deliberate, methodical, superficial, unrefined, simplistic reflection, plays safe, unresolved, study adequately informs practical work, adequate use of written language	predictable, makes progress, relevant, description not explanation, demonstrates intentions, appropriate, sufficient, control, thorough, adequate, signs of understanding, developing analytical skills, study consistently informs practical work, developing and broadening use of written language	diverse, effective, purposeful, consistent, coherent, imaginative, informed, some perception, engaged, fulfils intended aims, study perceptively informs practical work, consistent and effect use of written language	independent, realised, sensitive, creative, sustained, critical, perceptive, comprehensive, insightful, original, genuine creative journey, refined, in-depth reflection, exciting, genuine personal investigation, study authoritatively informs practical work, articulate and highly effective use of written language	inspired, surprising, unique, authoritative, genuine discovery, adventurous, accepting of the unexpected, challenging, synthesis of ideas, fully informed, questioning, dexterous, erudite, intuitive, daring, study informs practical work with sophisticated insight, highly articulate and sophisticated use of written language	

| Personal study (AO1/AO2/ AO3/AO4) Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements | 1   2   3 | 4   5   6 | 7   8   9 | 10   11   12 | 13   14   15 | 16   17   18 | Total mark for the Personal Study (part of A level Component 1): 4 |
| | LIMITED ability in the use of written communication and specialist terminology and LIMITED ability across the Assessment Objectives in the personal study | BASIC ability in the use of written communication and specialist terminology and BASIC ability across the Assessment Objectives in the personal study Superficial unrefined simplistic reflection adequate use of written language | EMERGING COMPETENT ability in the use of written communication and specialist terminology and EMERGING COMPETENT ability across the Assessment Objectives in the personal study | COMPETENT AND CONSISTENT ability in the use of written communication and specialist terminology and COMPETENT AND CONSISTENT ability in the Assessment Objectives in the personal study | CONFIDENT AND ASSURED ability in the use of written communication and specialist terminology and CONFIDENT AND ASSURED ability in the Assessment Objectives in the personal study | EXCEPTIONAL ability in the use of written communication and specialist terminology and EXCEPTIONAL ability in the Assessment Objectives in the personal study | |

Examiner commentary

This submission meets the requirements for the top of Performance Level 1 as seen in the performance calculator. It is a Limited collection of work but does show some Basic characteristics in its Personal Study, which attains a mark of 4. The submission is elementary in its approach with little creative intent that follows vague aims throughout. The starting points for the project and outcomes are practically the same, reflecting the lack of investigations into the chosen topic.

AO1: Investigations are not sustained whilst contextual and other sources are considered in a naive and pedestrian manner, never demonstrating sufficient analytical and critical understanding at the required level for an A level qualification. There is a lot of annotation to explain intentions, but this never develops the practical work, nor does it ever take from its sources in more than a literal way, thus preventing the candidate from making any creative progress.

AO2: Resources, media, materials, techniques and processes used are credible but inconsistent. Processes are tried at an elementary level and then seldom reviewed sufficiently. Reviewing and refining is pedestrian and never helps the project make progress, instead relying on partially resolved exercises that make little connection to each other as the work unfolds.

Examiner commentary continued

AO3: Although ideas, observations and insights are recorded throughout, there is no critical reflection as very literal descriptions of process are repeatedly applied with little creative intent. Photographic recording is naive and elementary, whilst intentions are hampered by the vague aims of the candidate who cites 'as this photoshoot was a last-minute decision' at one point. Progress is disjointed due to the unconnected exercises undertaken.

AO4: Responses are again naive, with emulsion transfer being decided upon with no prior exploration or testing. This reflects the vague aims of the project and the little creative intent already highlighted. The pinhole exercises, emulsion work and original digital recording are not connected beyond the fact that they are all photos or edits of churches, meaning no genuine intent can be found reflecting the disjointed and inconsistent approach to developing a project with any sense of meaning.

Personal Study: The Personal Study is a series of short paragraphs that looks into the work of the photographer, Rodchenko. The study is unrefined, with simplistic reflection and superficial connections made to their own practical work. Although the use of language is adequate, the study is short, thus preventing the candidate from ever making any analytical or reflective progress.

Summer Project

Project Brief

In this project I'll be exploring three different genres where I'll look at different artists, museums and art galleries; then taking what I find to influence my own work. I'll work my way through each genre and give my reasoning for the decisions I make to clearly show how the work is being developed. The genres I will be exploring are macro, fashion, and architecture. I chose these genres as they are all very different from each other and each have their own unique qualities. Macro photography mainly involves nature; most macro photographers capture flowers, insects and trees. There are many different sub-genres in architecture but I want to focus on the decay and corrosion in old buildings; I find this type of architectural photography interesting when compared to new buildings, as I believe the older structures have more character and a calmer atmosphere. Finally, I chose to explore fashion due to the different types of materials and textures throughout. I want to explore the different colours and surfaces to see how they compare.

Macro

Patty Hankins

Hankins primarily photographs flowers in their natural habitats; however, she also photographs flowers in her studio sometimes so that she can control the lighting. She prints the photographs onto gallery canvases to sell online. The image displayed to the right is Hankins's photograph "white locus", in this picture she has made the very centre of the flower the focal point. I think she did this as the viewer's eye is immediately drawn to the middle where there is the most colour; additionally, it has the repeated circular pattern on the flower bud that has the appearance of eyes looking back at the viewer.

I also like how she has left the petals that overlap the flower bud to show the nature of the flower growth, I think it adds more depth to the image to show the petals gradually moving away and out of frame. I think this image is well composed as it forces the viewer to look at the centre of the flower more than they usually would.

White Locus

Hankins photograph 'Virginia Bluebell II' (displayed in the top right corner) displays three stems, all blossomed with a bunch of vibrant blue flower petals; I chose to look at this image as I like it's composition, I especially like how the foreground of the image is in focus, making the first set of flower petals stand out the most. In this image Hankins has three different layers of bluebell flowers, each bunch differs in depth - the first bunch is close to the camera and is the main focal point of the entire image, another bunch rests in the early mid-ground which is not as in focus as the first bunch but it is still quite clear to see detail, finally, the third bunch is the most blurred and out of focus of all the flowers and it is difficult to see most detail. The background of is completely out of focus and it is too blurred to see any detail so is hard to determine what it actually is. I believe Hankins took the image with this angle of head on, to show both the centre stamens of the flowers and the exterior shape of the petals; I think she chose these flowers to photograph due to the strange shape of them with a long, straight, initial petal then moving outwards to create a dome appearance. She has chosen this depth of field by altering her camera setting to have a higher aperture to create this blurred background to emphasise the importance of the flower bunches.

Virginia Bluebell II

Rainbow Sorbet Roses

Another photograph I chose to look at from Hankins collection was 'Rainbow Sorbet Roses' and I chose to look at this image due to its flamboyant colours and clear layered petals. I am quite fond of this composition as the entire space is filled with colour with most of the image being the focused rose. I enjoy the macro style in this image as it gives much detail on the petals and accentuates the curves on the petal edges, I like that the image has been cropped to eliminate background noise, however, in my opinion the pink in the background takes some attention away from the main flower due to it being a similar colour; however, due to her capturing this image in a natural environment it may have been avoidable to have anything else as a background. I appreciate that the flower doesn't take up the entire space as it shows of the final shape of the petal silhouette and due to it being taken slightly sideways but mainly face on, it adds more shadow and emphasises the layers which has most likely been done to add depth to the object.

Rose Notecards: Boxed Set of 8

There are two more images I have decided to look at in detail from Patty Hankins's collection, the first one I will be looking at is 'Rose Notecards: Boxed Set of 8' and this particular image was taken in her studio instead of its natural environment, allowing Hankins to have more control over the lighting and background. Hankins has chosen a plain black background and I believe she has done this to make the flower petals stand out and make the colours seem brighter than they actually are. She has positioned the light above to highlight the area of yellow I have circled; it also allows for selective shadowing to show off the focal point. The highlighted area is the main focal point and holds a lot of detail by showing the detailed lines on each petal.

Bright Pink Gerbera Daisies

The final image I have looked at from Hankins is the 'Bright Pink Gerbera Daisies' and this one differs from the others as the entire space is taken up with the flower petals. This photograph follows Hankins nature of intensely coloured flowers; however, the main focal point of this image is the centre of the flower. The yellow ovaries capture the viewer's attention due to the repeated spotted pattern and colour deviation from the rest of the flower head, the stamens are the next layer from the centre and are speckled with the yellow buds and the start of the pink petals. Additionally, when a rule of thirds grid is applied the ovaries and stamens are in the centre block which also causes the viewers attention to immediately draw to the flower centre.

James Dorey

Stilbum cyanurus

James Dorey photographs various insects in an artificial environment with a plain black background in each of his images; however, he also photographs flowers in his studio sometimes but his images still feature insects as the main focal point. The image displayed to the left is Dorey's 'Stilbum cyanurus' which exhibits various bright colours and extraordinary detail with each hair strand on the body, legs, and head. I believe Dorey captured this image with this composition to make the insects stand out to the viewer as the background creates a high contrast with the bright colours of the insect, also due to it being in the centre of the image it draws more attention to the insect.

Ceratina (Pithitis) smaragdula male

Lauxaniid Fly - Family Lauxaniidae

I have selected more of James Dorey's images to review; the two I've chosen aren't as close up as his other works as they feature plants. In the first image 'Ceratina (Pithitis) smaragdula male' the fly is the main focal point with the flower ovaries being blurred, he has also made sure the fly is in the bottom right corner of the image and the rest of the space is filled with the bright, vibrant petals of the flower. I believe Dorey chose to capture this image due to the dark colours of the fly contrasting well with the flower, I also like how not all the flower is out of focus due to the top left corner being quite a lot clearer to see than the centre frame. Another image of Dorey's I looked at was his 'Lauxaniid Fly - Family Lauxaniidae' which is similar to the previous image I looked at as - once again - it is a fly perch on a plant. This image differs from the previous as it features a dark background with the leaf only reaching out half way across the image. The image seem to be taken from a slightly high angle to capture the whole body and wings of the fly, I believe Dorey chose this composition to have the leaf and fly stand out from the background and to capture more detail of the wings. When first looking at the picture my attention went straight to the fly as its small, plump body is a softer and more welcoming colour compared to the rest of the image; additionally, the fly is is the centre of the image which pulls the viewer's attention to it straight away.
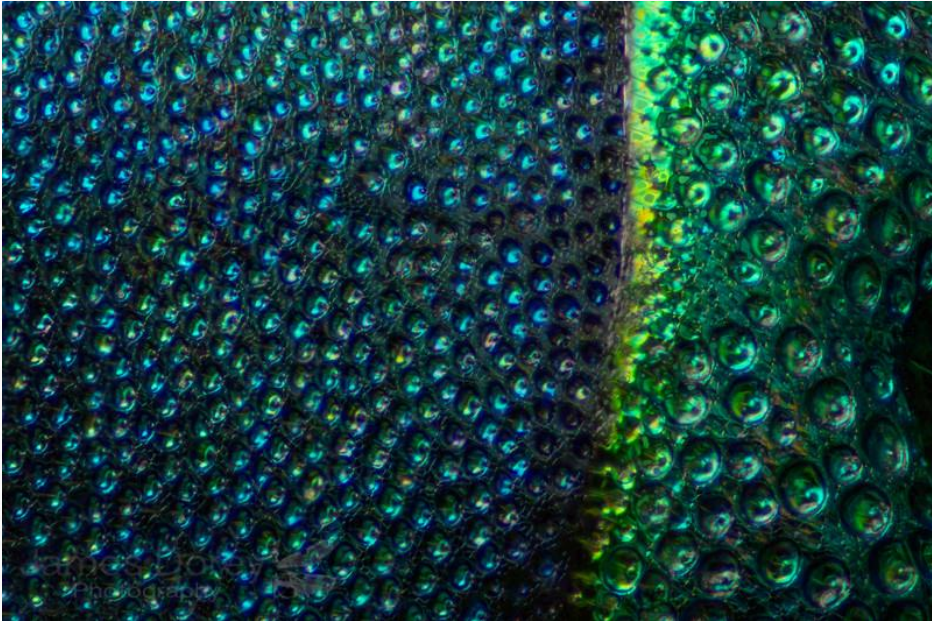
Cuckoo Wasp

Funnel Web Spider

I have selected two final images of Dorey's that I will be reviewing; the two I've chosen are much more close up than any of the previous images I have displayed. In the first image 'Cuckoo Wasp' Dorey has taken an extreme close up of the wasp in order to capture every pore and crevice on the body. I believe Dorey chose to photograph this wasp due to its variety of bright colours, I like how most of the image is taken up by the blue section of the wasp but the last third of the image shows a vibrant yellow fading into a range of different greens. I think Dorey used a rule of third grid to capture this composition as the break up of colours falls into thirds extremely well. Another image of Dorey's I looked at was his 'Funnel Web Spider' which is different to all the images I have previously looked at as this is an arachnid whereas the others have all been flies and wasps; this images focal point is the whole foreground as the front of the arachnid is in high detail focus, showing all hair follicles and marks on the legs. The image seem to blur as soon as it stretches past the head section which brings even more attention to the front of the image, the main point I was instantly drawn to was the pincers due to them being in the centre of the image and taking up a lot of space; also believe the legs and eyes stand out due to them being lighter than the rest of the arachnids body.

Photoshoot Plans

I plan to visit Worsley Woods in order to take macro images of flowers and insects; these images will be inspired by Patty Hankins' and James Dorey's different styles. I want to experiment with the varying techniques to see how my work can be improved by incorporating their styles. I will take close up pictures of flower heads and insects that I find in the Woods; depending on how successful this shoot is, I may conduct another response shoot in my own garden as I am sure there are many flowers to photograph. If I conduct a photo shoot in my garden, I will once again capture the flowers and any insects in a macro style.
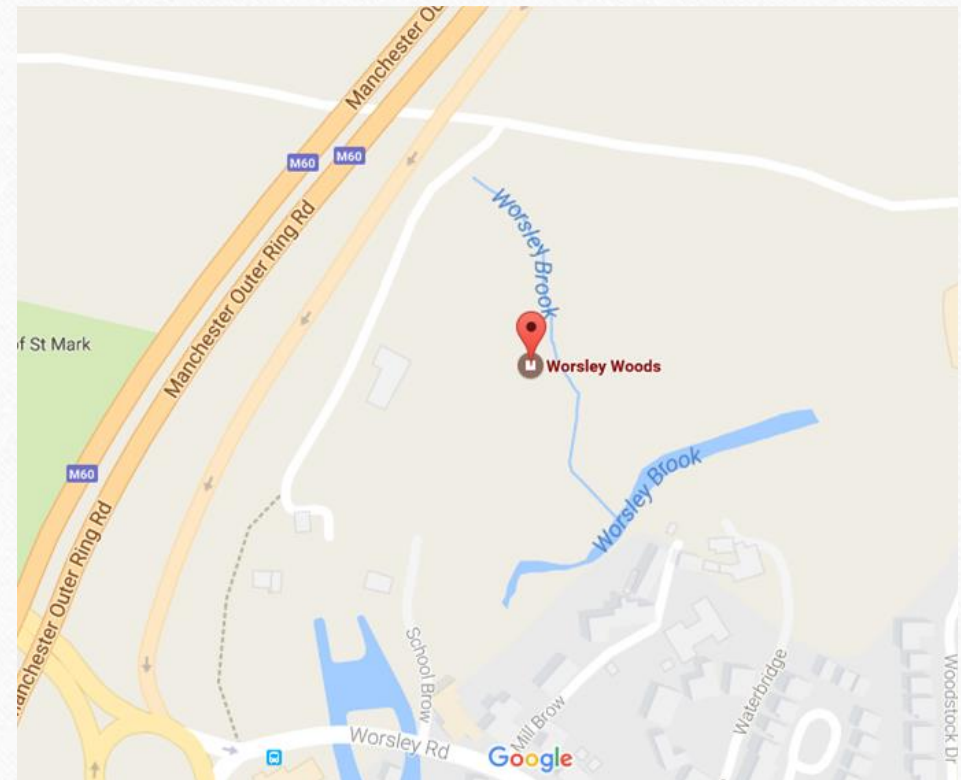
James Dorey Response Shoot

My photo shoot in Worsley Woods wasn't very successful as there weren't many flower in the area and I couldn't get very close to any insects, as a result of this, I conducted a photo shoot in my own garden. As shown to above, I captured a common fly as it landed on a rock; I didn't have a macro lens so I only manage to get this close before the fly moved again. When taking this picture I made sure to have the fly near the centre of the image and that it was taken from a bird's eye view; I did this so the detail on the body and the wings would be clear to see, as shown in the photograph this fly displays earthy colours of brown and green with varying lines on the outer shell. I also captured a snail that was perched on a bin lid, I managed to capture some detail that captures the curvature of the shell and also the small marks on the shell; however, I didn't use a macro lens, so there isn't as much detail as wanted on the snail's body.

This image was influenced mostly by Dorey's 'Stilbum cyanurus' due to the arachnid taking centre frame with its whole body on show; however, as I did not have a macro lens I didn't capture as much detail as I would have liked to. I have still captured quite a bit of detail, such as the hair on the legs and the colour changes throughout the body and legs. I made the arachnid the main focal point and had the background blurred to make the viewers attention be instantly drawn to the arachnid; additionally, I made sure to capture the shadow of the arachnid to show a clear foreground and background. I believe this image could've been improved by having a closer shot of the arachnid so that more detail - such as hair, pores and marks - could be seen much clearer. Once again, this image was influenced by Dorey's 'Stilbum cyanurus' by having the insect in the centre of the shot with its entire body on display. I don't think this image was very successful as the insect isn't very clear to see and not enough detail is shown. I believe to improve this image I should've taken a close up of a certain section of the insect, taking more inspiration from Dorey's images like 'Cuckoo wasp' or 'Funnel Web Spider' to show more diversity in my photography and to make the insect appear more interesting. I also think I should've changed the camera aperture to have the insect as a more noticeable focal point whilst having the background blurred out to increase contrast.

Patty Hankins Response Shoot

When responding to Patty Hankins I decided to experiment with my angles and composition when taking pictures of flowers; the first image displayed is a flower residing in my garden. When taking this picture I decided to fill the entire space, taking inspiration from Hankins's 'Bright Pink Gerbera Daisies' I found this composition worked well as everything is in focus and is clear to see, additionally, as the pale stamens are in the centre of the frame more attention is drawn to them. With the second image, I decided to change the composition completely and have a wider shot of a bunch of roses, I like this shot due to it having captured a wide colour range with each flower; furthermore, the colours are still bright and vibrant in some areas even without the help of sunlight. I took this image on a dark and clouded day; if I were to take this picture again on a bright and clear day I believe the image would appear different due to added highlights and shadows.

The flower in the top right corner is a pink rose from my garden, I took this in style of Hankins's 'Bright Pink Gerbera Daisies' by taking the picture straight on to see straight into the centre of the flower bud. I think this was a successful image as the picture is clear and crisp; however, the image is quite dark due to the shadows – to improve next time, I will either alter my aperture and shutter speed to allow more light into the image or add an artificial light instead of just using natural light. I liked the composition of this image as nearly all the space was taken up by the petals but some greenery is still visible in the corners, I also like that you can see the raindrops that have fell and balanced on the petals.

The bottom image is a single daisy from the Worsley Woods photoshoot. This is my favourite image from the photoshoot as it captured a fly just as it landed on the flower. I took this image in the style of James Dorey's "Ceratina (Pithitis) Smaragdula Male", in which the fly is perfectly perched on the flower petal and is the main focus of the picture with the background blurred out. Patty Hankins's 'Virginia Bluebell II' also influenced this image by having the green plants in the background blurred to add more focus to the flower petals due to a big colour contrast. I believe this image could have been improved by having more detail shown of both the flower petals and the fly; however, I like this image as it is due to the flower only occupying the bottom right corner of the image as it appears very simple but is still effective. I think the flower petals are slightly overexposed and have added a slight glow around areas of the flower, this gives off a dream like appearance and slightly softens the silhouette.

Similarities / Differences

© Patty Hankins BeautifulFlowerPictures.com

A similarity between Hankins work and my own, is that both pictures fill a large space of the frame with the media; additionally, both feature roses that have stronger colours in the centre of the frame but growing weaker when moving towards the edges. A difference however, is that my image was taken in the flowers natural environment on a cloudy, raining day, whereas Hankins's image was taken in a studio with artificial lighting being used to highlight certain areas and aspects of the flower. A further difference is that Hankins uses a macro lens so that she is able to capture all the veins on the flower petals, where my camera didn't have a macro lens so that level of intense detail can't be seen.

Similarities / Differences

A similarity between Dorey's work and my own is that both images have been taken in a natural environment with the same media; additionally the focus in both images are on the flies and the section of the flower that is closest to them. A difference, however, is that Dorey's work is in HD, which allows him to capture more detail - showing the small hair fibres. My work is in MD, which allowed me to capture most detail but not all the finer detail. Another difference is that Dorey has taken his image from a high angle looking down with the flower taking up the whole frame, whereas my image was taken from straight on with the flower taken up a small section of the image with plants in the background out of focus. Finally, Dorey is working with bright, colourful, exotic flies whereas I am working with local insects, meaning my work involves darker, earthy colours.

Evaluate

In the macro genre, I researched different photographers all specialising in macro; however I only presented the information of two – Patty Hankins and James Dorey. I made sure to explain my reasons for choosing their works to explore and then began planning my photoshoots. When conducting my photoshoots I tried to use similar techniques as Hankins; such as, angles, composition, depth of field etc. and photograph similar things as Dorey; such as flies. Once I had finished the photoshoots, I produced side-by-sides of the different work pieces to compare similarities and differences. However, I didn't include any museum or gallery visits as I couldn't find any macro exhibits; however, I feel as though this topic could be explored more later in the year.

Patty Hankins - Rainbow Sorbet Roses

Funnel Web Spider

Architecture

Salford Art Gallery

broken   rough   dull

ridged   cold   aged   realistic

I visited the Salford Museum to see the old street exhibit and made sure to take pictures of the different surfaces. The image displayed to the left is the floor of the blacksmiths section, it's cracked and cluttered to represent how it used to be many years ago. It's a clear contrast to the rest of the museum exhibits and captures how architecture changes over the years. This is my favourite image I took from the museum as it represents how the rest of that street exhibit looks; dark, unorganised, and cluttered. The street path and road were made up of different kind of stones, these are small and appear polished and have cement filling in any space where a stone dents in. The path stones are much larger, like the ones seen on the blacksmith floor; they have a rough texture and aren't evenly placed but fit together quite easy.
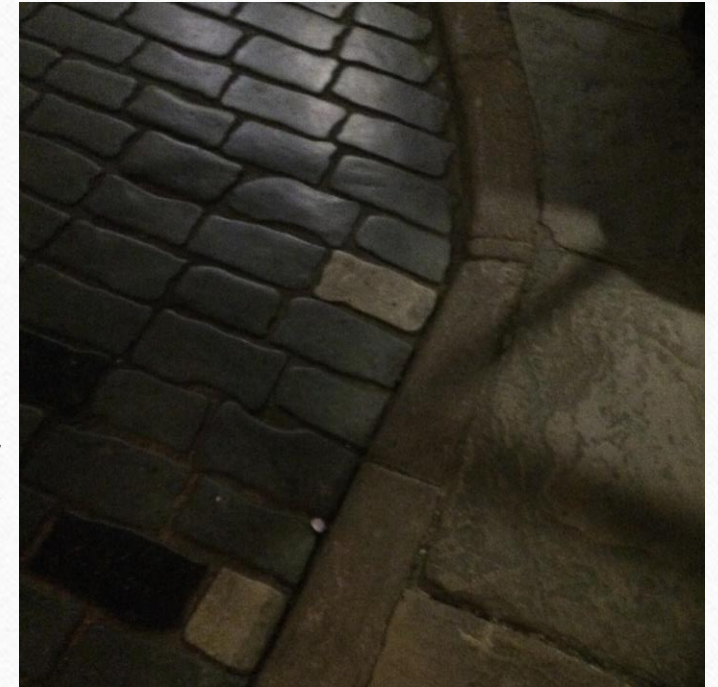
old   dark

rigid   historical

uneven   smooth

wooden

unorganised

dirty   cluttered

stone

Whilst at Salford Museum, I also looked at some architectural drawings and paintings from various artists. The image presented in the top left shows the artist capturing old architectural structures with dark, dusty colours. John Ralston captures the olden architecture through the colour of the buildings and the designs on the houses. The image in the top right is by artist Anthony McCarthy, he has created this piece to show modern day architecture – this one specifically is of Manchester United stadium. He has captured the unique exterior design and variety of bright colours, which contrasts greatly to the old simplistic structures and dull colours. Finally, the centre image is another olden architectural piece created by the artist John Hebb; his work varies from that of John Ralston because he composes black and white sketches instead of using colour. I believe this allows him to focus on smaller details that could be hard to see if colour was used. I think each of these can be used to influence my work along with any artist researcher I conduct.

Andy Marshall

Andy Marshall is an award winning photographer who specialises in architecture. He has been photographing architecture for 20 years, he photographs a variety of different architecture types – commercial, cultural, heritage, and interior – all across Europe. I like how his work varies and I have viewed some different styles of his work; I looked at two interior and one exterior.

Displayed to the right is one of his interior pieces titled 'Crystal chandelier with an agricultural setting', I have chosen this image to look at due to its dramatic contrast between decayed, broken walls and a new, sparkling chandelier. I also like the repeated pattern of the windows and the sunlight reflections on the floor, I think this repeated pattern draws the viewer's attention to the back wall but makes them ignore the side wall until they've looked at the rest of the picture. I like how Marshall has used leading lines by capturing the line where the side wall meets the floor and runs back to the meeting point with the back wall.

Crystal chandelier with an agricultural setting

Georgian Group HQ Fitzroy Square London

The image displayed to the left is the other interior piece I looked at from Marshall's work. This one highly contrast his other interior photograph as this one isn't decayed and isn't a wide shot. This image is a close up of encrusted architectural detailing on the ceiling of a room. The soft colours captured in this image are very welcoming and draw the viewer in, additionally, due to there being a lot of detail in this image, it causes the viewer to scan over the whole image more than once.

When I first looked at this image, my eye was immediately drawn to the bottom row of patterns due to the deep indents casting a dark shadow that contrasts highly with the white structure. I like the composition Marshall has used in this image as he has left some of the plain wall and a plain section of the ceiling in view; this gives a nice balance for the amount of fine detail displayed.

Domestic historic window

Displayed to the left is the only exterior piece I looked at, titled 'Domestic historic window', I have chosen this image to look at due to simple appearance. This image has a symmetrical appearance which I have marked with a red line, I think this draws viewers to this image due to people naturally being drawn to things with symmetry. I like how the right side of the image appears more decayed and broken than the left side of the image even though they feature the same environment.

Photoshoot plans

I plan to visit Victoria Baths in order to take more images that relate to architecture; however, I will be focusing on the architectural styles Andy Marshall uses. I will photograph patterned wallpaper and ceilings along with photographing the brick structure - including any decay and corrosion I see; these will be inspired by the images I have viewed of Andy Marshall. I feel this photo shoot will help me understand the different styles of architecture and will allow me to explore both interior design from the Victorian era.

Response Shoot

When I was visiting Victoria Baths, I looked for similar architectural features such as the changed brick layout over arches, patterned sections in wall tiles and ceiling borders and finally, decaying bricks in the rooms of the building. My work differs from Marshall's as all my work originates from a singular building whereas his is from a selection of buildings. Also the building structures were built in different time periods; his being much more modern than mine. His work appears brighter and cleaner than my own photo shoot; also, Marshall takes photographs from different angles that I have.

Differences

When comparing differences in Marshall's work and my own, I noted that Marshall's is a wide shot of a whole room whereas my own is a close up of a broken wall. Additionally, my own work is lighter than Marshall's due to there being more natural lighting in my environment. Furthermore, my image is more textually detailed as my image is close up.

Evaluate

In the architectural genre, I visited a museum to do some primary research about the old building designs, materials, textures, and structures. I also researched different photographers, all specialising in different types of architectural photography; however I only presented the information of one – Andy Marshall. I made sure to explain my reasons for choosing his work to use as inspiration for my own photoshoot and then began planning my shoots. When conducting my photoshoots I tried to find similar building features as the ones Marshall presents. Once I had finished the photoshoot I produced side-by-sides of our work to compare similarities and differences. I think this genre was successful and I could further explore this genre but try to work on the other sub-genres.

Fashion

Whitworth Art Gallery

Cryséde 1920-1933

Woven industrial textiles 1930's

I visited the Whitworth Art Gallery and looked around their fashion and fabric exhibits. The image displayed to the left are my favourite exhibits from the gallery as they are similar in colours and textures. I like the use of the coral colour in both windows and I am inspired to use this in my own later photoshoots that I produce. I also like the patterns displayed as they are all unique and differ from one another. I will try to capture this diversity in my later work.

This fashion window drew my attention due to it's dark colours and the detailed patterns on the fabrics and ruffled design of the shirt. I like the way the clothing creases and is specially made to fold in certain areas. I will try to include colours of similar darkness to these in my own work to contrast with the bright coral in the other windows mentioned previously.

Louise Dahl-Wolfe

Louise Dahl-Wolfe studied at the San Francisco Institute of Art; she worked as a signed painter and first discovered photography in 1921. She did not start producing her own photography until early 1930's whilst travelling Europe. Dahl-Wolfe was most known for her colour fashion photography as she produced negative prints with subtle hues of unusual colour. The colour in her images became more prominent over the years and she now produces images of women in brightly coloured clothing. I chose to explore her work because I am inspired by the bright colours that run throughout her most recent works.

All of the above images have been produced for Harper's Bazaar by Louise Dahl-Wolfe

Photoshoot Plans

I plan to visit different clothing store in my local area in order to photograph the different types of fashion; I will mainly be looking at texture and colour. I will compare the styles of clothing through fabric appearance (such as denim vs silk) to see which colour takes best to. I will be conducting close up shots of the clothing to focus on the texture instead of conducting long shots of full body clothing on models - like Louise Dahl-Wolfe - as I am mainly taking inspiration from her bright colours rather than her modelling positions and location.

Response Shoot

I explored different types of fabrics and different colours for my response photoshoot. I looked at the fold and creases in the clothes which was inspired by the Whitworth Art Gallery but I used colours that resembled those of Louise Dahl-Wolfe's work by collecting brightly coloured clothes and photographing them in certain lights to emphasize shadows and highlights in certain areas.
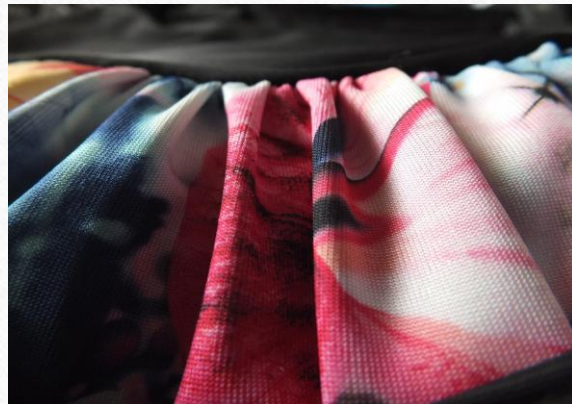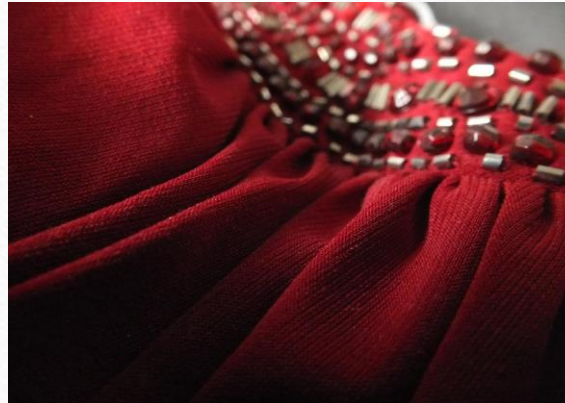
I think this is my most successful image as it is brightly coloured – resembling Dahl-Wolfe's work for Harper's Bazaar – and also features a similar ruffled pattern to the last window shown from the Whitworth Art Gallery. I think this image explores the highlights and shadows well as they are equally balanced in this certain image due to the lighting used for the shot.

I think this is my least successful image as it is a bit too dark in the lower right hand corner. Although I think the shot still worked well in capturing detail; I think the overall image could have been a bit sharper and more in focus in the top section if the photograph.
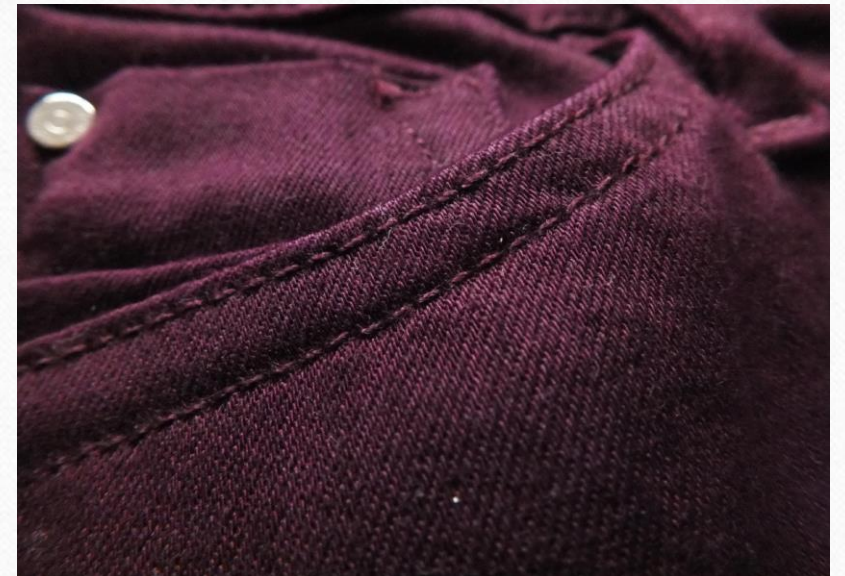
Similarities

Both Louise Dahl-Wolfe's and my own work have a similar colour scheme incorporating red, pinks, and yellows with a slight section of black. Also, both clothing items have built in ruffles and pleats to add depth the the items.

Differences
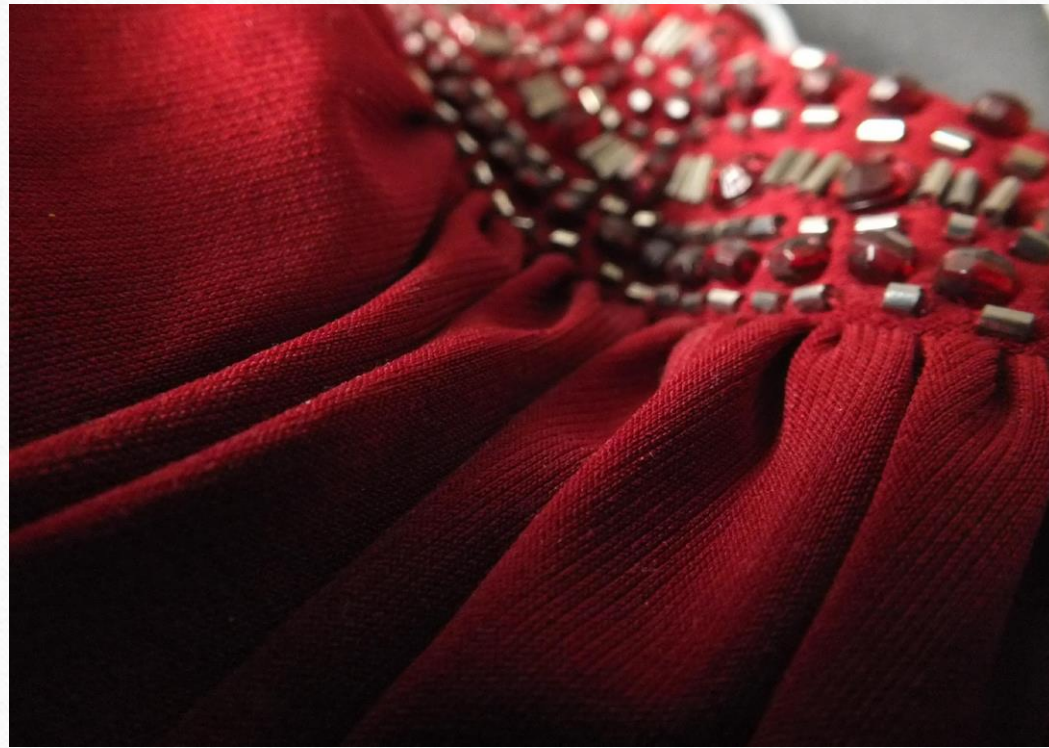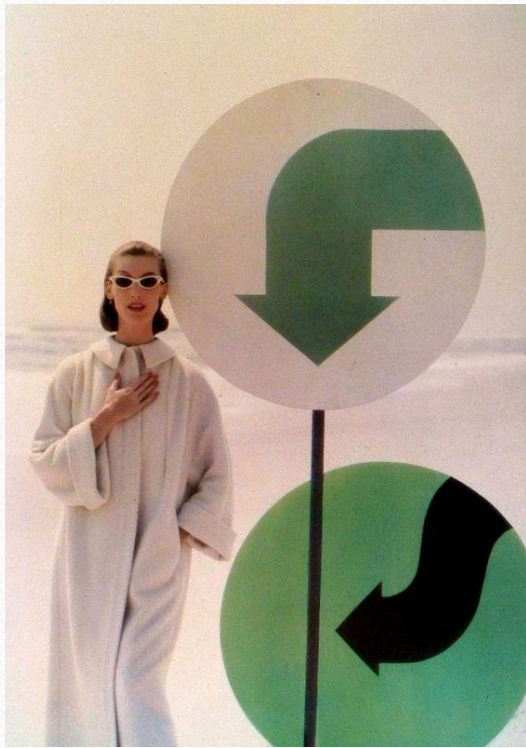
Louise Dahl-Wolfe's image displays a full body model wearing a plain outfit, my image shows a deep red clothing item with embroidered beads. Dahl-Wolfe's image is generally pale and shows very little colour - only green displayed on the signs next to the model- my image is completely covered in colour and is generally darker than hers.

Evaluate

In my final genre of fashion, I visited a nearby art gallery to do some primary research about the different styles of clothing created by different artists. I also researched how artists may dye fabrics to get unique patterns. I researched a few photographers and artists to see how they manipulated certain fabrics to get certain outcomes; however, I mainly focused my research on Louise Dahl-Wolfe. I made sure to explain my reasons for choosing Dahl-Wolfe's work to use as inspiration for my own photoshoot and then began planning my shoots. When conducting my photoshoots I experimented with different fabrics and alterations to find what worked best and then compared to clothing found in stores. Once I had finished the photoshoot I produced side-by-sides of our work to compare similarities and differences. I think this genre was quite successful but is not one I would like to carry on.

Continued Project

Architecture

Project Brief

For my project I have chosen to continue to explore the architecture genre (photographing buildings and similar structures), I chose this because I want to capture the different shapes and textures within different architecture types. In my shoots, I aim to focus on old vs new and eerie vs welcoming; I think this will be the most effective in capturing contrast between buildings and their features. I have taken inspiration off Hermann Claasen for his dark, black and white works, that feature old and broken buildings, also, I'm looked at Aleksandr Rodchenko for his angular style of photographing buildings. In my shoots I plan to experiment with different camera types to see how the photographs alter in camera quality; I plan to use DSLR's, and my phone mainly but I also plan to experiment with pinhole cameras. I want to experiment with the lighting and actual camera settings to make the photos more exaggerated and interesting (such as making images darker for eerie pictures). Finally, I plan to experiment with different workshops to see how my images can be manipulated to look more unique and original, I shall experiment with 3D, and HDR for my main experiments.

Initial Photoshoot
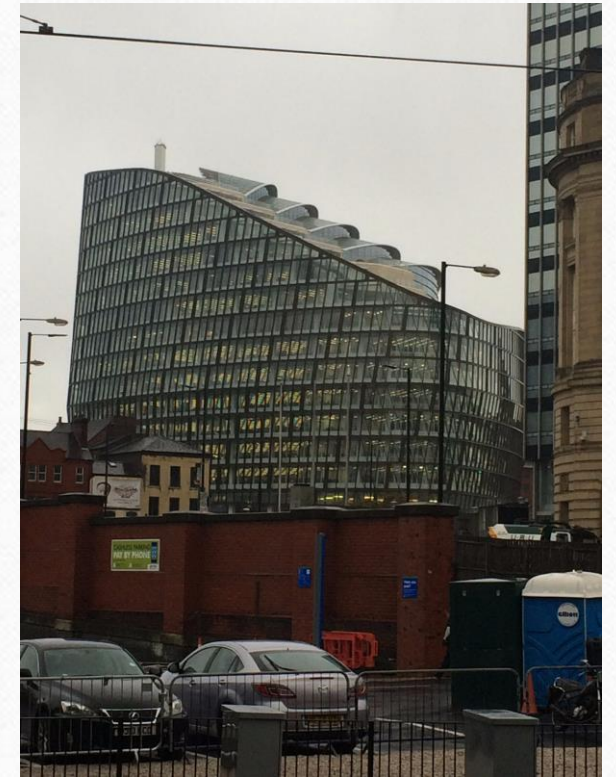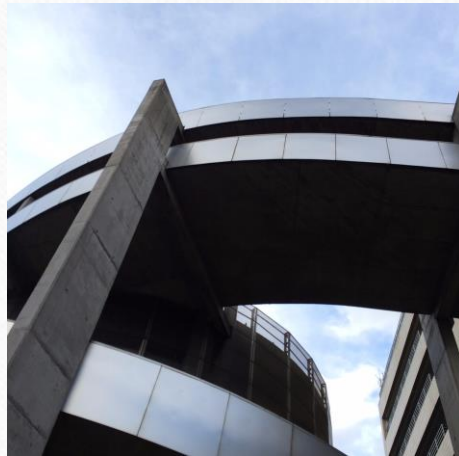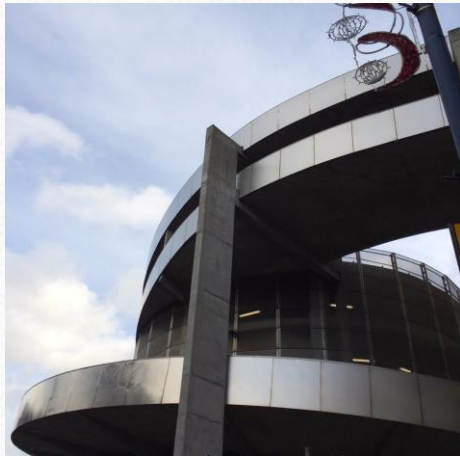
To start my architecture themed project, I visited Manchester to begin photographing new and old buildings in order to compare building features. On this page are the new styled buildings that are structured mainly from glass or metal.

This page is my old style architecture from around Manchester, the brick style is quite different to the new buildings as they're built from brick - that have began to decay and chip away over time.

Aleksandr Rodchenko

Balconies 1925

Aleksandr Rodchenko (born December 5th 1891 - died December 3rd 1956) was a Russian artist, sculptor and photographer; his photographs were often taken from either high or low angles to force the viewer to look at things from a different perspective. I chose to look at Rodchenko because I like his strange angling in his photographs and how they show everyday sight in a new way. Most of the time you don't look up at buildings but his work forces you to; that's what I want to incorporate in my own work.

Stairs 1930

Response Photoshoot

For my response shoot to Rodchenko's work, I will be capturing my everyday college environment in the style of Aleksandr Rodchenko's work; I will do this by angling the camera in positions I usually wouldn't - such as laying it flat on the ground, standing against the wall and shooting straight up etc. This will allow me to look at my surroundings from a new perspective. Additionally, this shoot will allow me to develop my own style and include these strange angles in my future work. I have selected the ones I believe are successful (X) or unsuccessful (X).

I think this image was successful as it was taken looking up at the building and the building is only in the corner of the shot
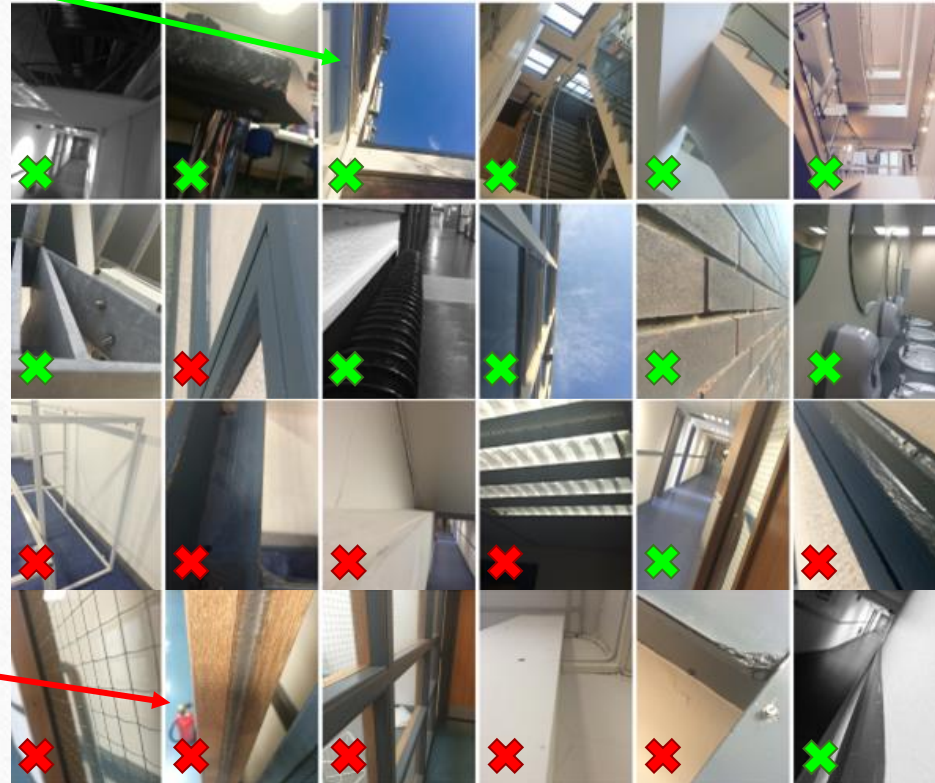
I don't think this shot was very successful as it is too simple and is slightly blurred. I think this image could be improved by taking it from a different angle

I don't think this shot was very successful as all the image is slightly blurred with the background very out of focus.

I think this image was successful as it has leading lines that draw the viewer's eye down the hall.

Response Photoshoot

I think this image was successful due to its leading lines being in focus and the background being out of focus

In my opinion, this image didn't work well as it's quite blurred in certain areas.
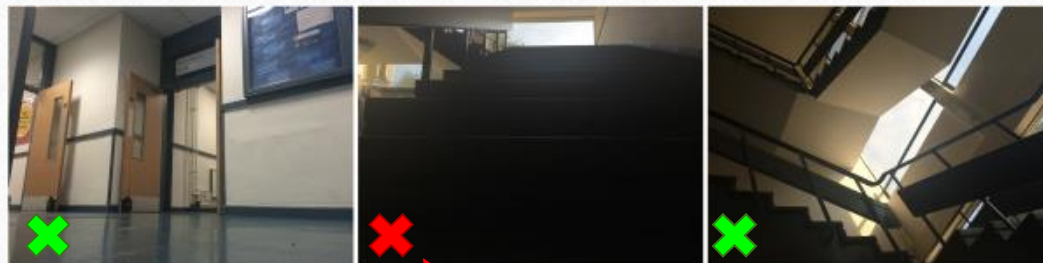
This image is far too dark on the stairs and is very grainy near the top.

This image is slightly blurred as I didn't set the focal point right. I wanted to have the stairs blurred and the banister in focus.

Photoshoot

For my response shoot I mainly focused on the different stairwells in the buildings, I photographed them at all angles I could and picked out the best ones. I think the most successful image from this collection is number 5 because I wouldn't usually take a picture of stairs from this angle and also the amount of light allows the stairs to be dark but the walls to have nice shadows cast on them. I think the least successful image is number 2, I think this image is to plain and dull. This shot was taken against a wall looking up at the pipes; however, I feel like this image could've been better by changing angle and adding some effects to it.

Similarities

- Repeated line pattern
- Shadows cast
- Light areas at top of the ridge
- Clear images

Differences

- Shot from above
- Natural light
- Bright image
- Clear focused image

- Shot from below
- Artificial light
- Dark image
- Slightly blurred image

Most Successful

I think this is the most successful image as it's a clear and crisp image that follows the technique of Aleksandr Rodchenko (the inspiration for this photoshoot). This image is taken from a worm's eye view shooting upwards. The image is well exposed and I have used the leadings lines on the triplets grid to line up the edge of the building against the skyline.

Least Successful

I think this image was the least successful as it is underexposed and has a lot of noise in the foreground. The image is very grainy due to it trying to show light where there is none. The image has two small sections of natural light spilling through windows; however, there is not enough light in the image for it to work. I believe this shot – looking up at stairs from a low angle – works best with artificial light behind the camera instead of natural light in front.

Photoshoot Photoshop

1.Black and white
2. "Instant" filter and brightened
3. Black and white
4. Brightened and enhanced contrast
5. Black and white
6. Brightened slightly, enhanced highlights
7. Black and white
8. "Chrome" filter, enhanced highlights
9.Black and white, Gaussian blur on bottom half

In my opinion, the best images are 2 and 9; image 2 looks very clean and the lighting makes it look like a theatre than a college, image 9 holds the focus in the broken ceiling and looks very eerie - like a horror movie.

Experimentation: Orton Effect

To create the Orton Effect on an image, open the picture in Photoshop, duplicate the layer, duplicate again, merge down the last layer created and then duplicate again. Open the filter tab at the top, go to the blur tab and select Gaussian blur. After this go on curves adjustment and brighten the image by moving the curve to the left.

I chose to use the orton effect on this image as it's dream like appearance softens the sharp edges on the walls and the doors. In my opinion, this image takes well to the orton effect due to it naturally having light and pale colours in the image.
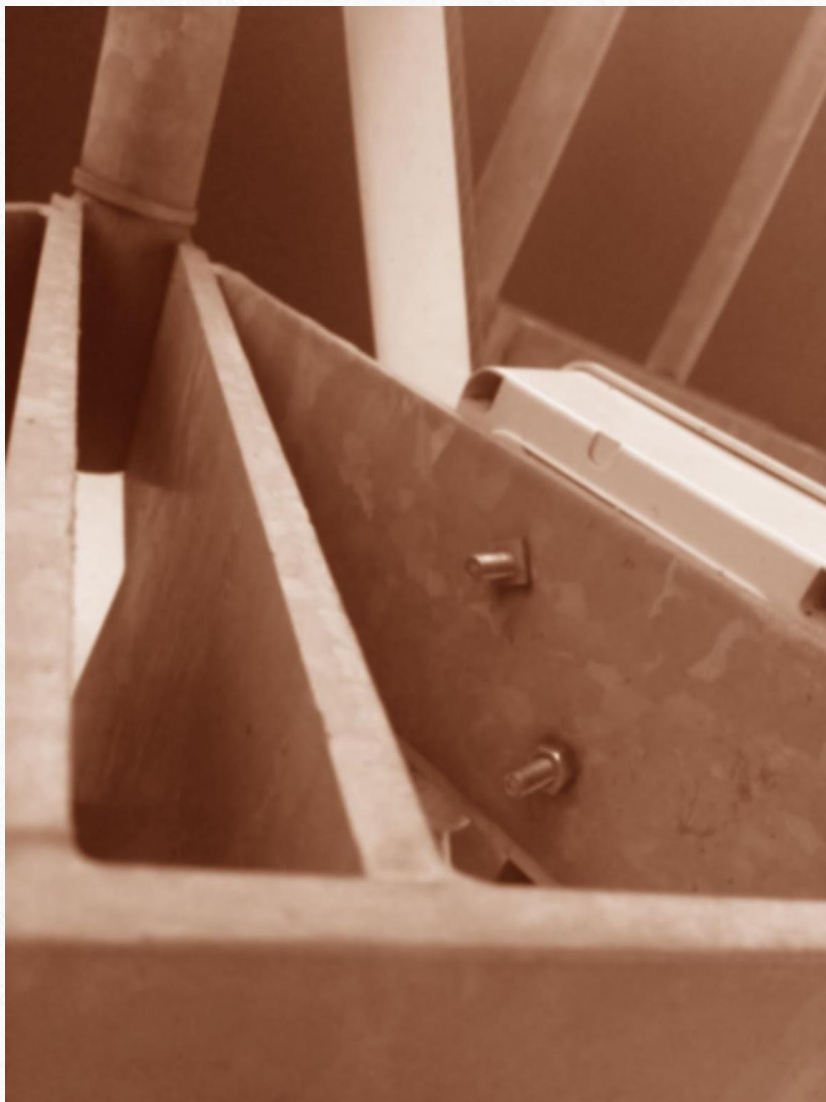
Experimentation: Split Tone Effect

To create the Split Tone Effect, open the image in Photoshop, select the filter tab and select convert to smart filters. Select the layers tab and create a new adjustment layer for channel mixer. On the window box settings, select previous layer and press ok, then on the channel mixer box select monochrome in the top left corner. Adjust the sliding bars but keep the percentage below 100. After this, create a new adjustment layer again, this time for colour balance. Once again select use previous layer in the box setting window then press ok. Slide the yellow bar to alter highlights and red for shadows, when satisfied, click on the bottom layer and select blur, Gaussian blur from the filter tab at the top of the page. You can adjust the amount of blur added to the image then select ok when finished.

Experimentation: 360 Sphere Effect
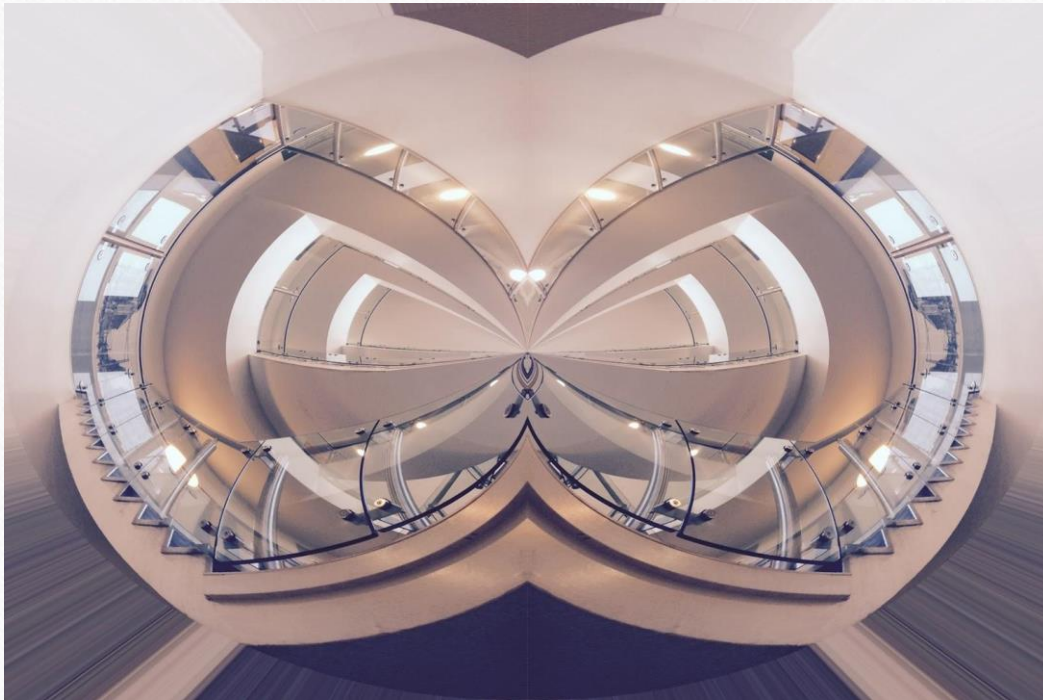
To create the 360 sphere effect open new document with the same height as the image being used but double the width. Insert the image and place at the very left edge of the new document. Insert the image again and place to the right of the first image - this should fit perfectly in place on the document. Flip the second image horizontally to mirror the first image. Flatten the image. Select distort and polar coordinates.

I have selected this image to conduct the 360 sphere with as I thought it would be interesting to see how the stairs change with this specific effect. I like this image as the stairs seem to be looping round the walls, I also like how the the layers appear to be gradually getting smaller with each floor.

Christophe Chevaugeon

Felton Church

Christophe Chevaugeon is a photographer that focuses on people and places. Chevaugeon began his photography in the early 80's; the main of his work is black and white and are just taken in "the spur of the moment". He works to deepen his understanding of photography by researching other lesser known photographers who he can connect with. Chevaugeon seems to play with angles a lot due to him taking several images from different point of views.

Le Porte St-Denis

Response Photoshoot

I think these image were successful due to them being clear shots. I think this side angle worked very well as they allow more detail of the surrounding area than a shot from the front.

All of the unsuccessful images were too dark in my opinion.
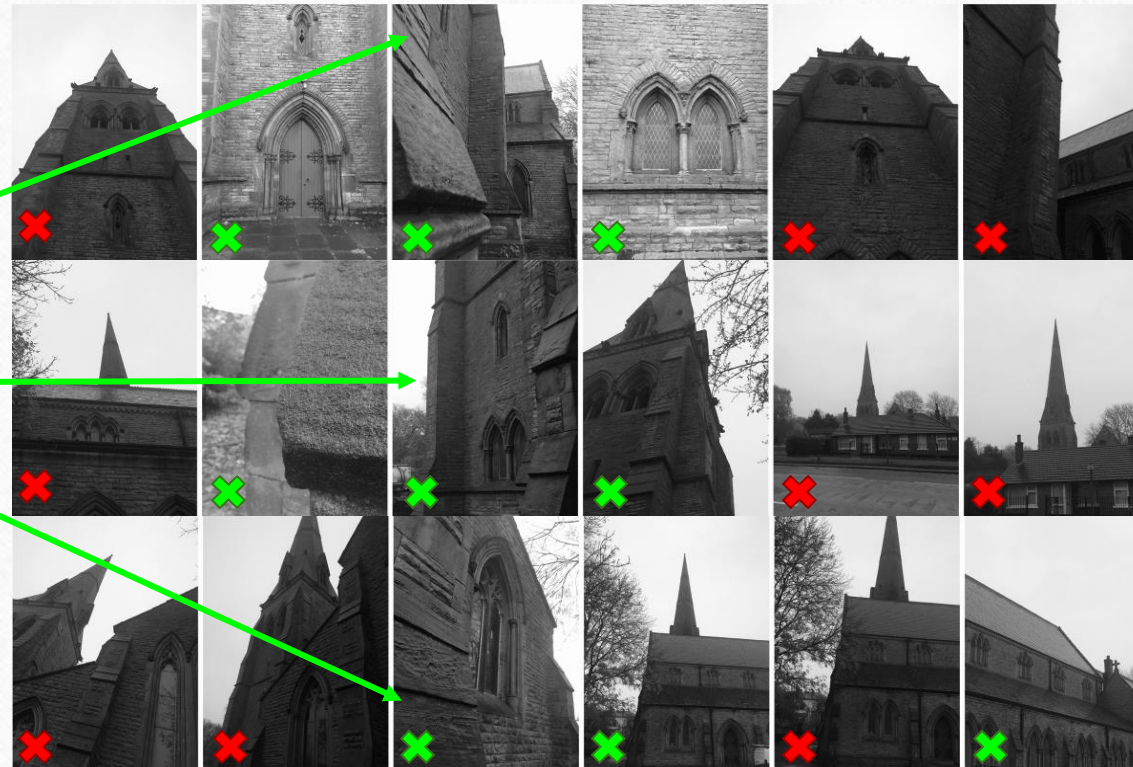
I visited St James C of E Church straight after looking at Chevaugeon's work without doing much planning. I used my iPhone as this photo shoot was a last minute decision and just focused on taking the building from lots of different sides; I couldn't play with shadows and light in this shoot due to it being a very clouded over day with no direct sunlight shining on the building.

Response shoot
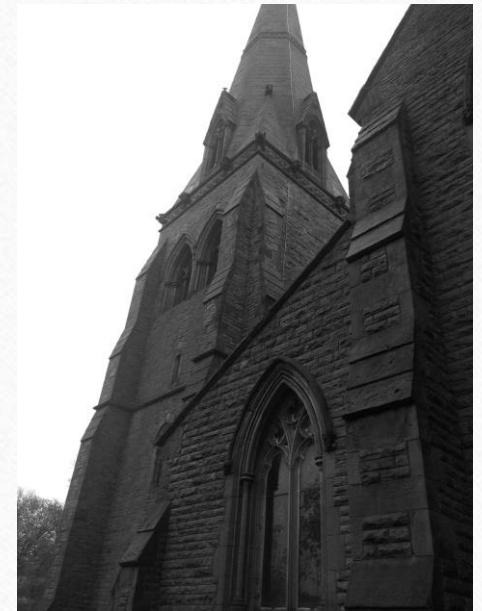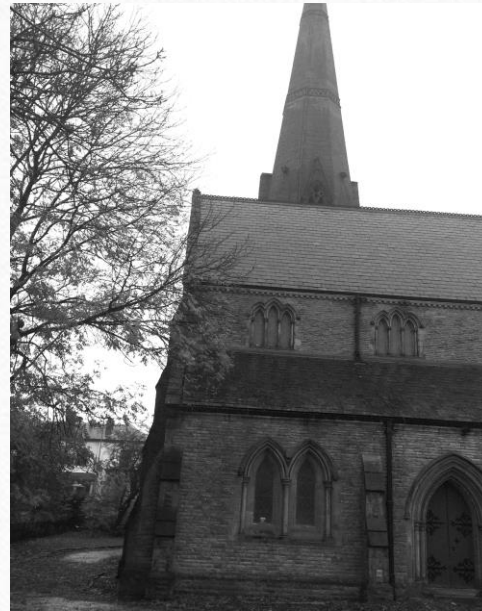
After marking the successful and unsuccessful images in the last slide; I decided to choose a few of the unsuccessful shots and digitally improve them. The shots above were simply too dark in the original; in order to better them, I increased the brightness of the image until it was easier to see the brick detailing on the building.
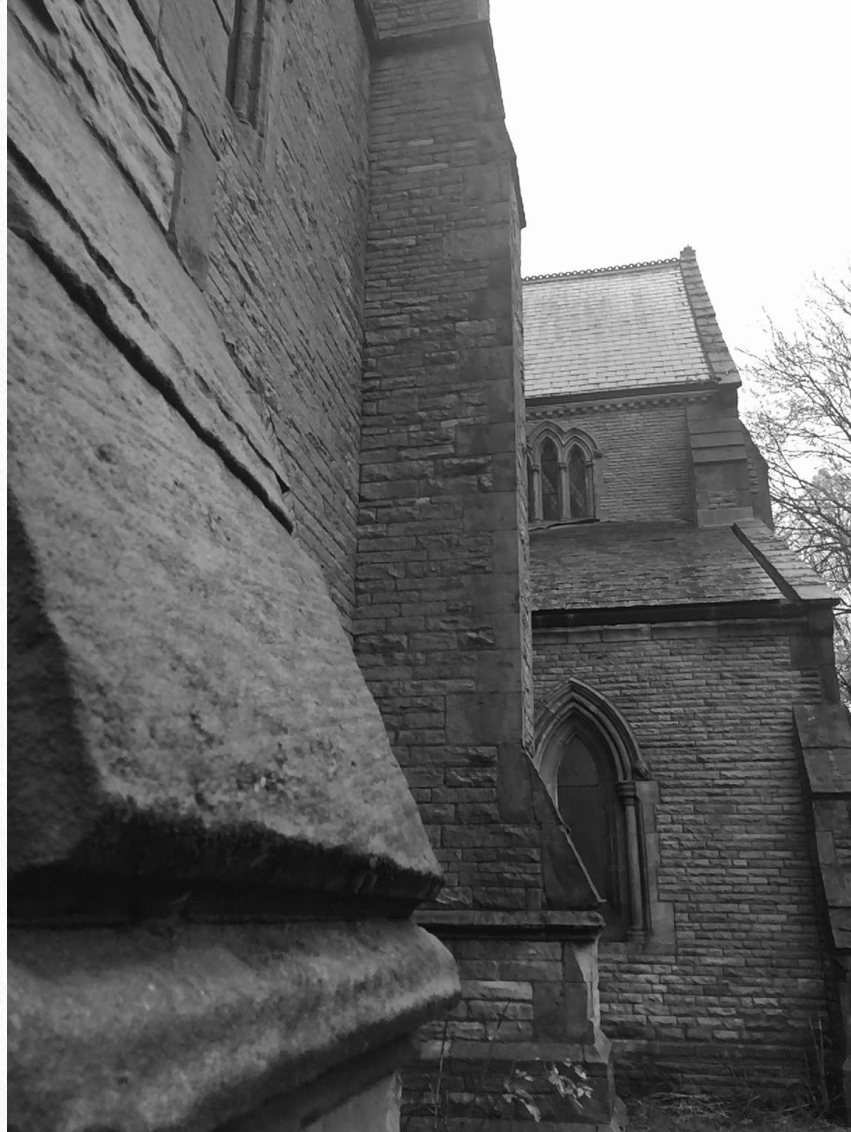
Most Successful

I think this is my most successful image from the St James C of E Church photo shoot as it captures all the different shapes and textures of the building. I like how the jagged bricks contrast with the smoothed outline of the window frame. I also like how there is a slight area of sky in the top right corner that shows the sharp edge of the building roof. I think this image is the most influenced by Chevaugeon's work as it is from the side angle the shows the long wall of the church and follows the black and white style of photography. I do however, this this shot colour have been improved by the very foreground wall being more in focus in order to see the texture of the surface better.

Least Successful

I think this is my least successful image from my photo shoot as the church I was photographing is too far in the distance and, in my opinion, this shoot is more focused on the building in the foreground. I think I should've taken a shot closer to the church without the building in front to show that it was the church that was important. I do, however, like how the church stands out above everything else in is in the dead centre of the image.

Refined Photoshoot

blurred

Clear and related to the artist's images, focus is on the side of the building with the road as a background

blurred

Bright, clear, and high resolution image that mainly focuses on the building windows in the arch.

Quite dark but clear focus on the archway and the windows; reflecting the sky in the glass with a slight area of the actual sky in the shot.

Clear image with highlights and shadows coming from natural light. Has a clear background, midground, and foreground.

I decided to look at some of my refine photo shoot images in more depth. I wanted to look at the image on the left to analyse its composition; I like this image due to it having the building take up most of the space but still having the sky show in the background on the left side of the image. I think the bright blue sky contrasts well with the dark building; I also like how the sky is being reflected in the windows of the building - which stands out against the darker surrounding colours.

I liked this image from my photo shoot due to its warm colours on the walls of the structure; additionally, I like that the image doesn't only consist of the building but also has the tree branches in the foreground. I also like how the sky is still in view in the top left corner as it adds some so colour variation and brightness to the image. I also like the low angle I have used as it makes the building appear taller and more important.

Additional Shoot

Clear image but quite simplistic and has light noise in the upper corner.
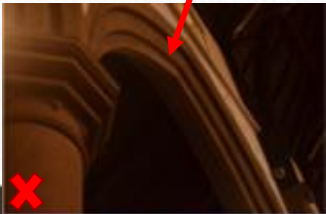
Quite dark which makes detailing hard to see

Well lit, clear image with lots of detailing

Too dark to see details

Captures all detail of the stained glass with a dark surrounding that emphasises the bright colours.
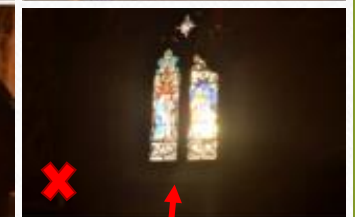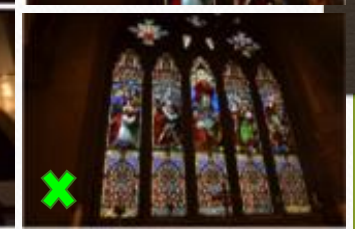
Well lit and detailed image with focus solely on the designed structure

Well lit, clear image with lots of detail as to the environment.

Clear foreground and background

Over exposed and can't see detail

When I conducted my photo shoot of the interior design of the church, I wanted to capture the structure of the pillars and ceiling. I liked this image mainly because of the natural framing of the first arch that draws you into the rest of the image; I like how the rest of the room is brightly lit compared to the foreground. I also like how the window on the back wall perfectly lines up with the bottom of the frame; I believe it draws the viewer's attention to that bottom section of the image due to it having the clear white wall on show.

When I conducted my photo shoot of the interior design of the church, I wanted to capture the structure of the pillars and ceiling. I liked this image due to it capturing the repeated arch pattern and pillars on the right side of the room; I also like how the bigger arch on the back wall naturally frames the glass stained windows - I feel it makes them stand out more and adds some brightness to the image.

Hope Hospital

After finishing my photo shoot of the St James C of E Church, I visited Hope hospital in aims to capture the old building and the new building to later compare them in my powerpoint. I took a few pictures of the buildings from different angles in order to capture all aspects of the two buildings. I like how the old building is darker and has a more traditional appearance, whereas the new building is bright and colourful with a more curved appearance.

Experimentation: Overlay
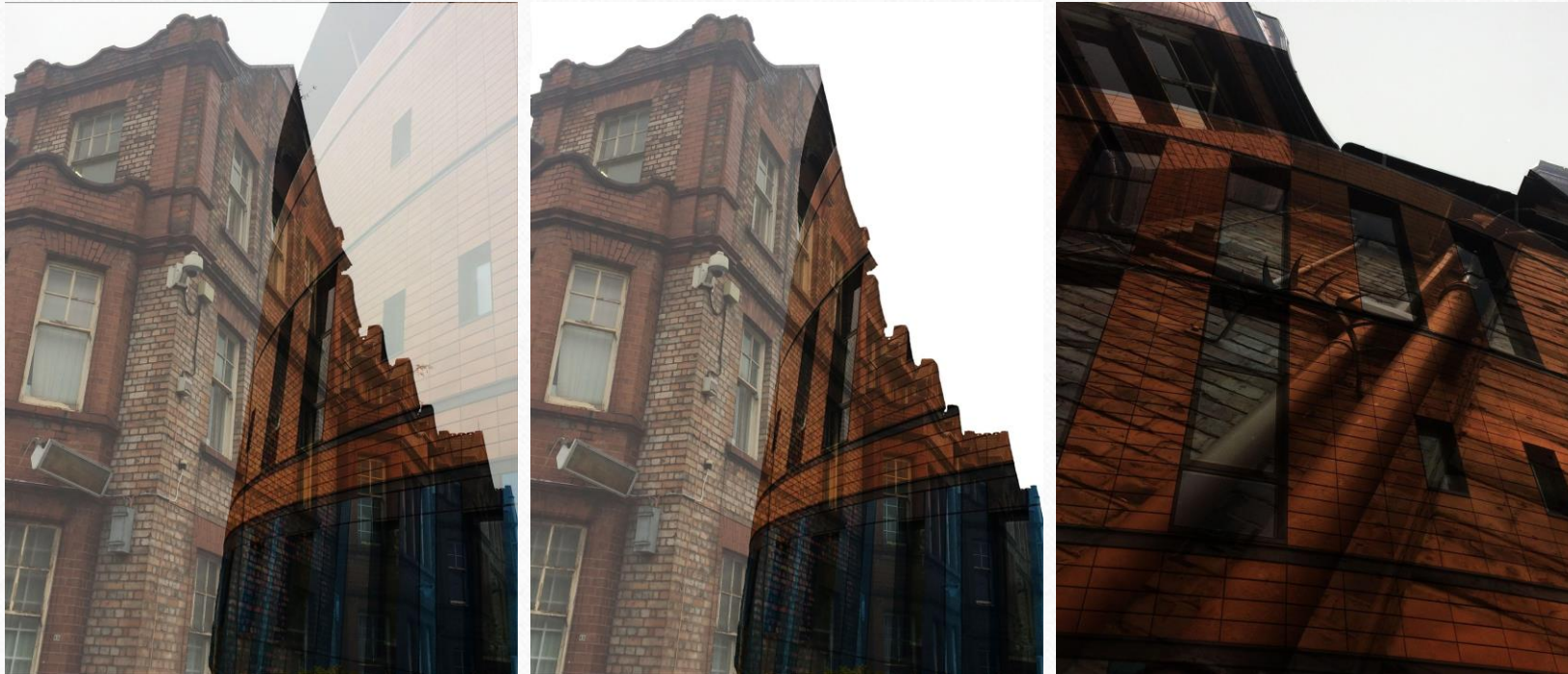
To show a comparison with the two types of buildings, I used an overlay effect by placing an image of the new building over the old building. To create an overlay I used photoshop. I opened up an image of the old building and pasted an image of the new building on top of the old building in a new layer. I then set the new layer to overlay instead of normal; I then used the eraser tool and began rubbing away any excess image on the second layer to make a clear outline of the old building. Finally, I flattened the image and saved as a JPEG.

Reflect and Progress

When deciding my first term project, I reviewed the three themes - macro, architecture and fashion - I explored over the summer to see if any of them interested me enough for me to continue them. I thought back to when I chose these themes to see what different areas I could explore, initially the three interested me by the detailing and texture of different surfaces. I decided to do something different for my coursework project but chose to explore architecture as I thought it had a wide area of different topics I could explore; such as corrosion, different eras, structure, materials, landmarks etc.

When I began my project, I looked at the artists Aleksandr Rodchenko for his black and white angular photographs and Christophe Chevaugeon for his black and white church and archway images. I like how they make normal dull buildings look interesting by capturing them from difficult angles that accent features you normally wouldn't bother to look at; I am aiming to capture local churches in different views, I will take these in colour but also edit them so I show what they look like in black and white. Due to Rodchenko photographing in Russia and Chevaugeon photographing in France, the buildings I photograph will be structurally different due to the cultural differences and style of buildings; the buildings I have photographed show both a modern school and an old church. My work relates mostly to Chevaugeon as the church structures, materials and structures are similar and have been taken from identical angles; however, Rodchenko's work displays building features that aren't found commonly in my area, such as balconies; however, I have photographed from matching angles as displayed in his work.

As I haven't explored with the camera settings and have only done experimentation from Photoshop, I will aim to produce photoshoots that involve me altering camera settings to show how my images change depending on the shutter speed, ISO, and aperture. I will also begin experimenting with mixed media - mainly the process of transferring images to give my images a corroded and aged appearance - I enjoyed exploring mixed media in my previous year of photography and will be further developing my skills in this area. In my project so far, I have refined my church photo shoot by using DSLR in a second shoot due to the images being in poorer quality in the initial shoot; I also explored the interior of the church on my second visit to gather more information on the structure and appearance. In the future, I aim to explore with different lenses, such as the pinhole lens, and apply different transfers to these images, I believe this will allow me to develop my project to see what I like best and will help me move on towards refining my work further.

Experimental Photoshoot Plan

I will conduct an experimental photoshoot where I aim to capture fast motion movement by adjusting my camera settings and using a continuous shot system. I will photograph different water shots to capture how the water changes when influenced; I plan to drop a pepper into a bowl of milk in order to capture the point of entry that causes a splash. I will plunge an artificial rose into a vase of water in order to create bubbles from the trapped oxygen in the petals. Finally, I will fill a balloon with water and pop it with a needle in aim to capture the water levitating, still in the shape of the balloon.
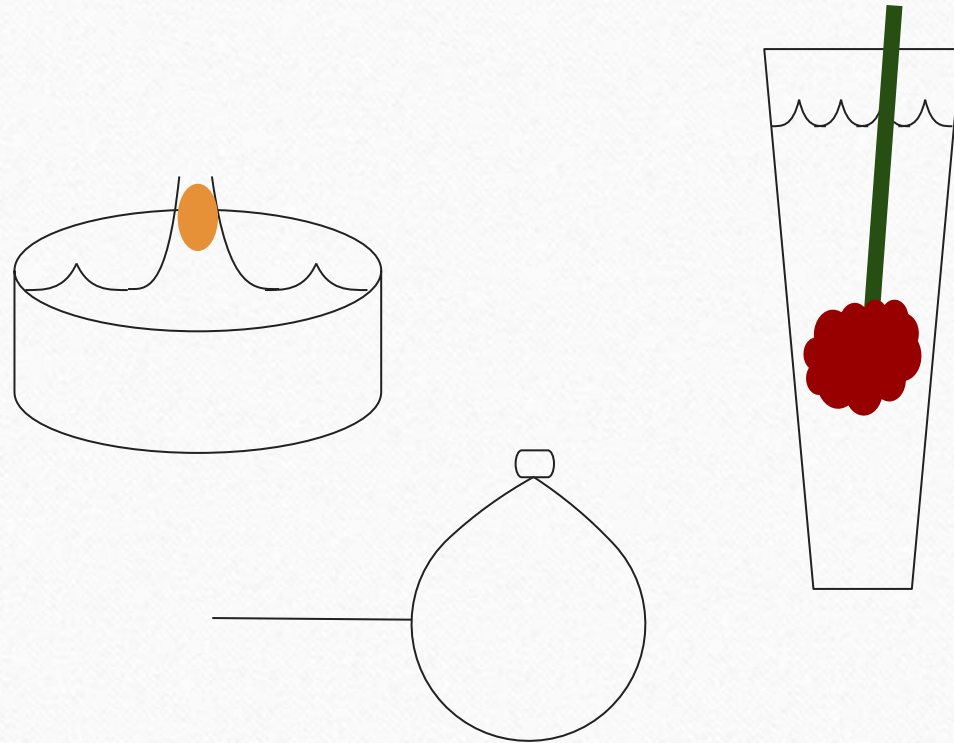
Photoshoot
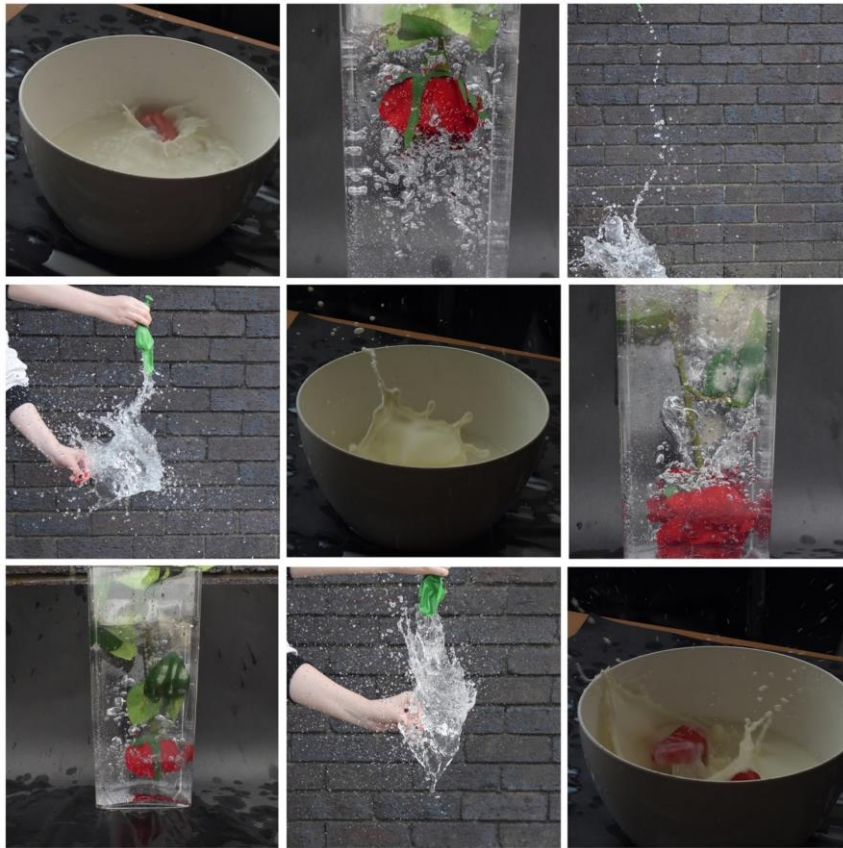
For this shoot, I first dropped peppers into a bowl of milk in order to capture the splash it creates; I think this worked very well as I was able to capture the first entry, the peak of the splash, and the resurface of the pepper enclosed within the slash. I changed my ISO, aperture and shutter speed for each photoshoot as they were all taken with different lighting situations. The pepper dropping into milk was taken inside with an artificial light. The rose in water was taken outside with a black backdrop in a more shaded area. The water balloon popping was taken against a wall in an area with lots of natural light. I feel as though the pepper and milk images could have been a little bit brighter, I could have lowered the aperture in order to let more light in; however, lowering this too much will cause the image to become over exposed.

Milk Contact Strip

These are my milk drop images from the fast motion movement photo shoot, I have composed a contact strip from all the images and have began to narrow down which were successful or unsuccessful. The unsuccessful shots were mainly all due to them not having any splash as the pepper had either not been dropped yet or had already been dropped. The successful shots have at least a small splash but all are slightly dark, to improve, I will change the aperture in order to let more light in to brighten the image.
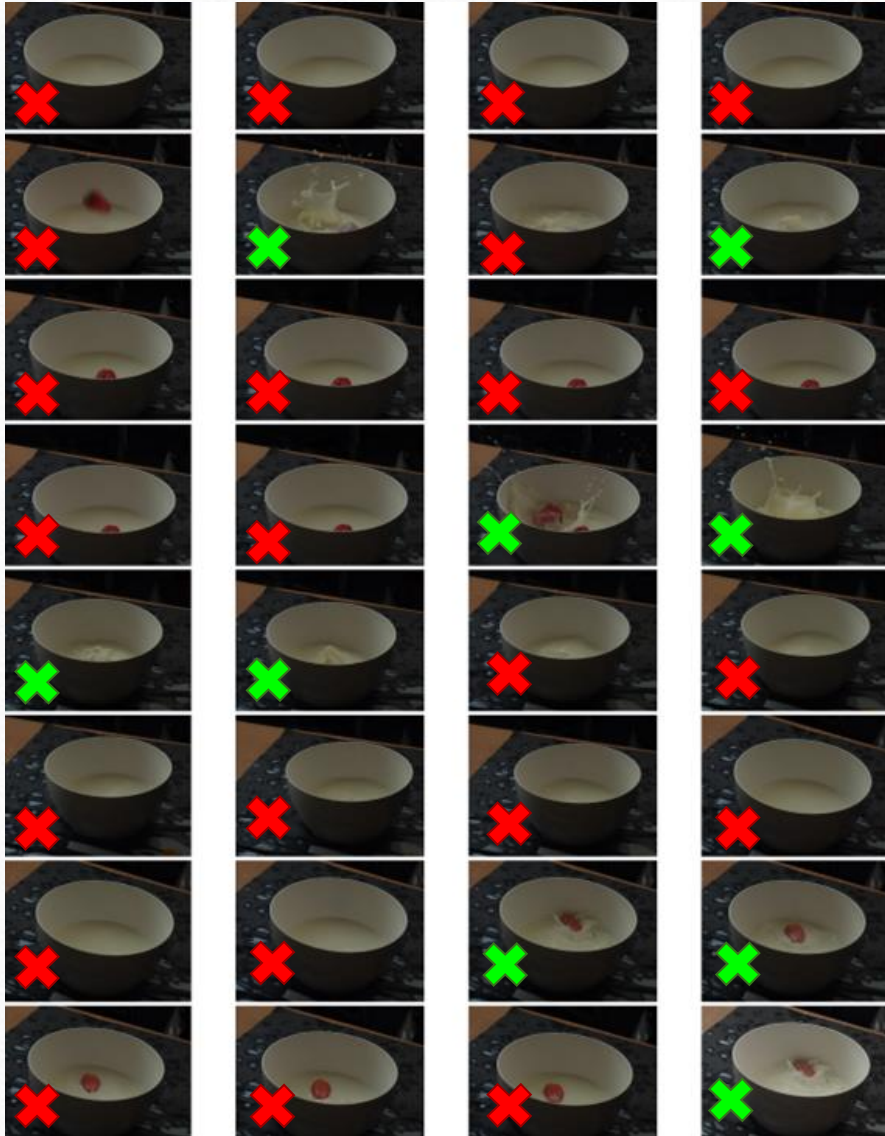
Most Successful
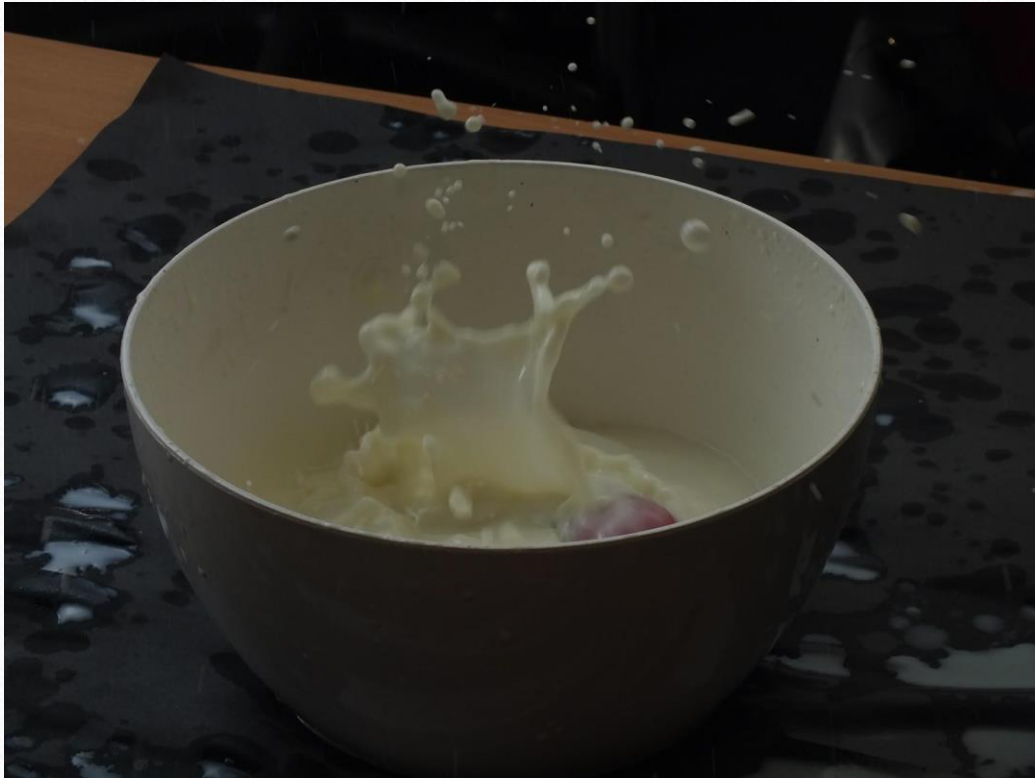
This is the most successful fast motion movement capture in my opinion as it captures the splash from the dropped pepper. This image shows the initial big splash and also the little singular droplets moving away from the bowl; however, the image is quite dark as I hadn't set my camera settings to allow enough light. To improve this next time, I could alter my camera settings so that more light is let in, or I could use photoshop to brighten the image so that it is easier to see the individual droplets (as I have done and presented below.)

Water Contact Strip
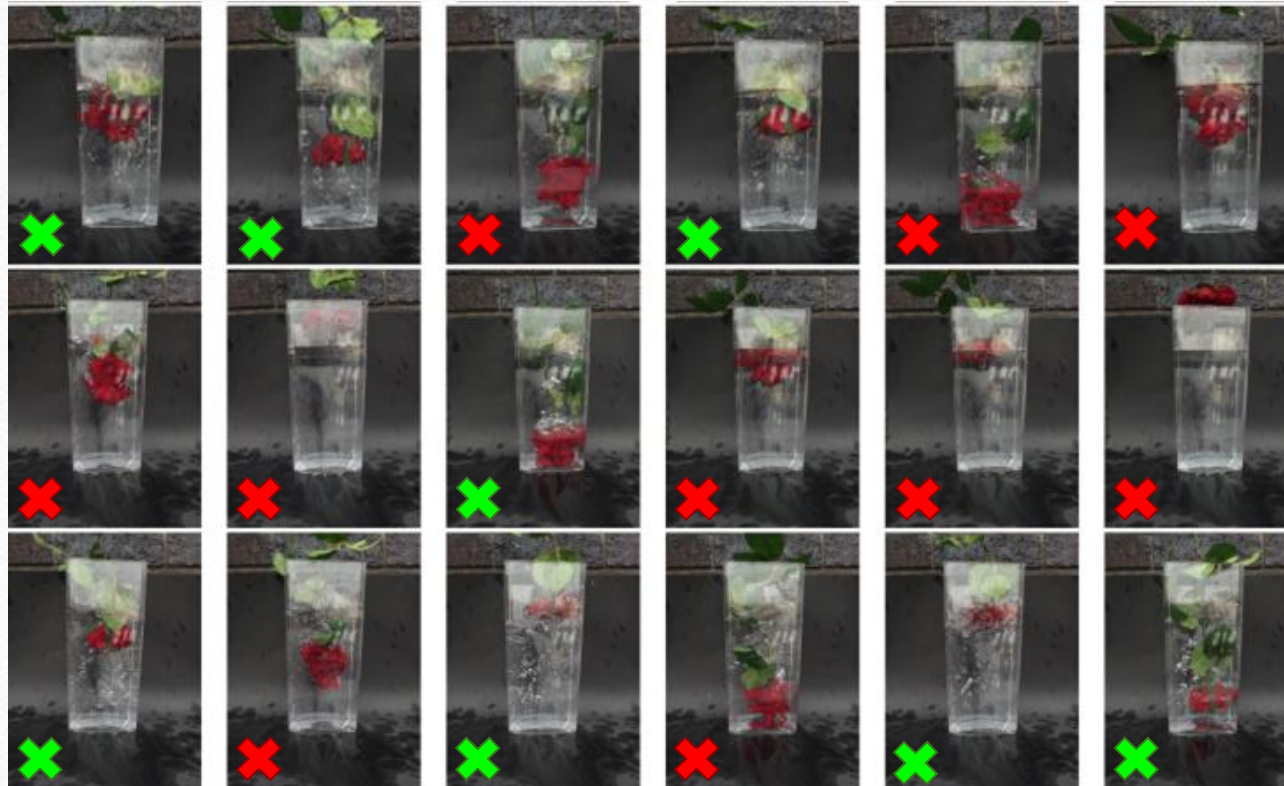
These are the images from my water fast motion movement photo shoot. I have labelled the images I thought were successful and unsuccessful. The shots with no bubbles displayed in the water have been labelled as unsuccessful straight away due to it not fulfilling the aim of the photo shoot. The successful ones have a lot of bubbles and show movement; however, most of the images are quite blurred due to my shutter speed being slightly too slow.

Most Successful

I think this is the most successful image from the water fast motion shoot as it captures the most bubbles being released from the rose. The image is slightly blurred due to the bubbles moving so fast; to improve on this next time I would have a faster shutter speed in order to capture the movement much clearer. I believe that I could also make more bubbles show up if I increased the contrast in the image.

As suggested above, I increased the contrast of the image and as expected, the smaller bubbles were easier to see (displayed to the right).

Balloon Contact Strip

My balloon photo shoot was mostly unsuccessful, the contact strip to the left shows that only three of the images were successful in my opinion. The three successful shots show the water holding in the air, preserved in the shape of the balloon. The show water trails and droplets flying away from the centre of where the balloon was. These images can be edited in photoshop to make these small droplets clearer and more visible. The unsuccessful images display no movement as the balloon had already popped and the water was already on the floor.
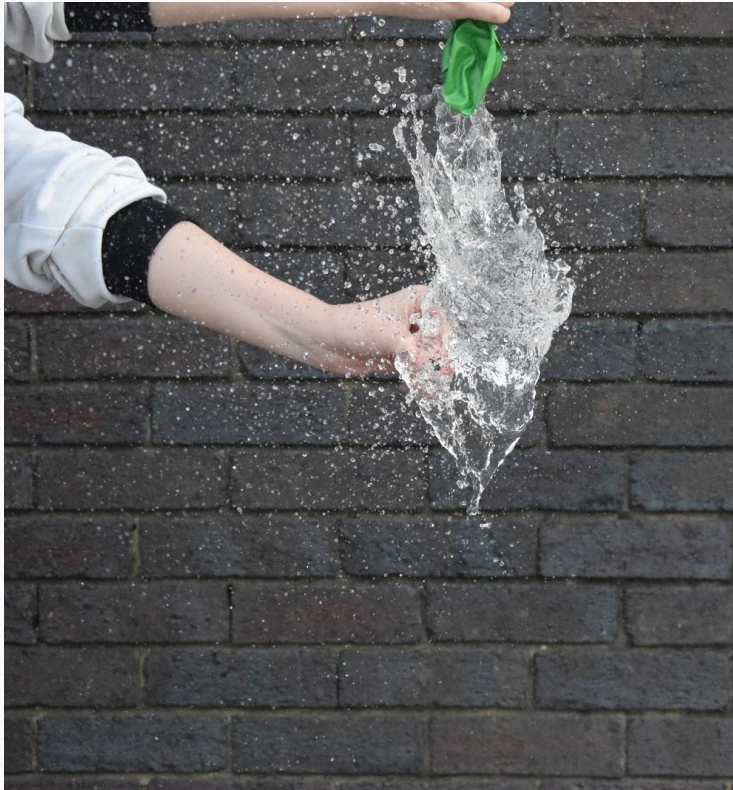
Most Successful

I think this is the most successful fast motion movement image as it captured the moment just as the balloon popped and shows the water still in the previous shape of the balloon. The image also captures all the small droplets of water that are spraying away from the balloon. If I sharpened the image and turned up the brightness slightly, the droplets would most likely appear much clearer; however, this makes the image over exposed. The image to the left is the original motion movement photograph. The image to the right is the image cropped and increased in sharpness and brightness; as hypothesised above, the image because over exposed but did show the individual droplets clearer.

Shutter Speed Experiments

I conducted these shutter speed experiments to explore the different camera settings of ISO, aperture, and shutter speed. These tests were used purely for me to gain a better understanding of how my camera worked to possibly explore with different shutter speeds in the later stages of my project. The tests themselves do not relate to any of my previous work and were solely conducted for experimentation.

Experimentation: Emulsion

I decided to conduct more experiments with my Hope hospital photo shoot, I printed out some of my images from the old building and used emulsion transfer to make the images themselves look old and worn out. To create these emulsion transfers, I painted the image with emulsion paint and placed them face down on a piece of black sugar paper. After leaving the images to dry for 24 hours, I then began to rub away the paper with the image on with water; this revealed that the image had moved onto the emulsion paint. The image becomes clearer as more paper is rubbed away; however, the image appears clouded (as show above) when the paper particles dry on top of the image.

Digitally Enhanced

I have decided to digitally enhance some of my emulsion transfers to make the the colour stand out more against the white edges left on the image front; however, I think this takes away the aged look and just makes the image look purposely destroyed instead of the aged over time appearance.

Experimentation: Acetone

To create an acetone transfer; I stuck my image face down to a piece of paper with some masking tape - I did this in order to keep it in place. I then added acetone to the back of the image with a paint brush and started to rub it in with some tissue paper, making sure to apply pressure (this causes the image to transfer over to the new paper). After making sure the acetone is completely evaporated and the image is dry, I peeled the image off the paper and the image should have transferred.

Digitally Enhanced

I have digitally enhanced the acetone transfers as they were slightly too bright and showed little detail. B darkening the image and increasing the contrast, the detail and building structure becomes more prominent whilst still having the grainy filter that makes the image look like it has been taken from an old fashioned camera. I like the enhanced images as they show more detail in the image and are much easier to make out.

Modern Church

While wandering I found a modern church called "Holy Angels Church", I decided to photograph the building straight away without doing much planning. I used my iPhone as this photo shoot was a last minute decision and just focused on taking the building from lots of different sides; I couldn't play with shadows and light in this shoot due to it being a very clouded over day with no direct sunlight shining on the building. The building structure is very simple and dull compared to the previous church I photographed; this shows that more effort and craftsmanship has gone into the older structure as modern buildings lack the architectural detailing found on more traditional churches. I've decided to stick to the more traditional structures to develop my work from and use in my outcome as they're more visually appealing and interesting.

Experimentation: Pinhole

Too dark to see any detail

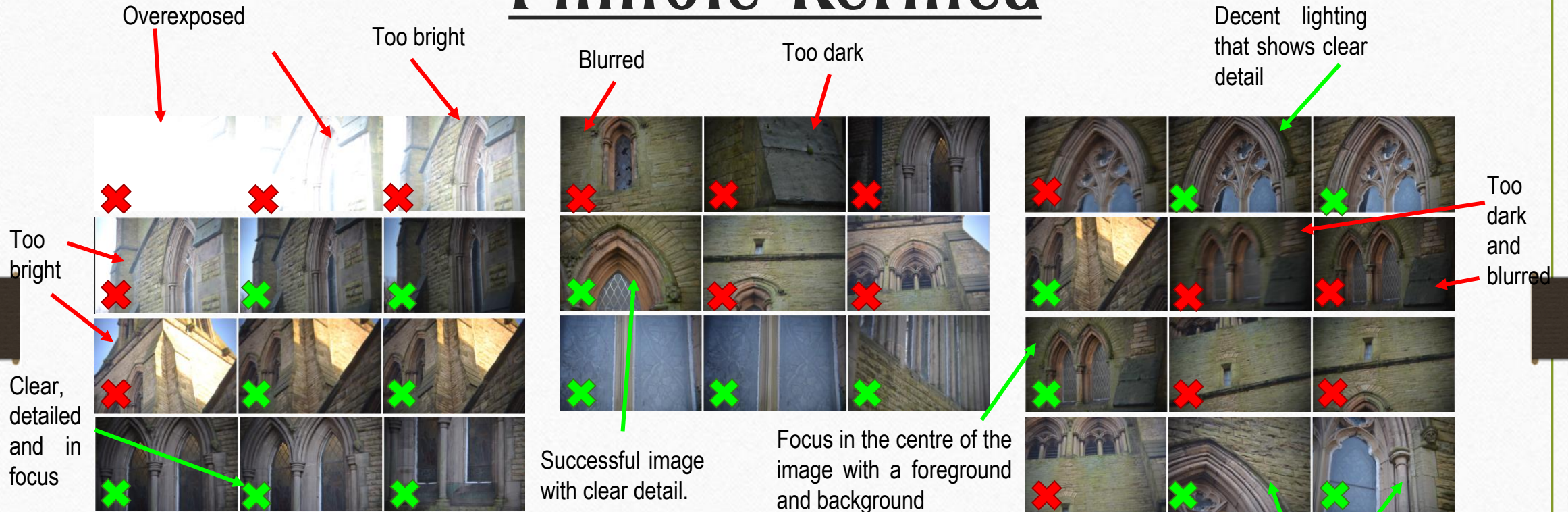Too blurred from movement

Successfully captured light trails from passing cars

Appropriate camera settings that allow enough light to see detail.

I began my experimentation with the pinhole camera around my local area, I began by photographing the church, then I moved onto photographing some buildings on the main road and started capturing light trails, I finally moved onto face down the main road and caught even more prominent light trails. Most of my pinhole images were unsuccessful as they were too dark to capture any detail; however, I altered the camera settings when I got to the main road and my images because much more successful due to the camera shutter staying open for longer to allow more light.

Pinhole Refined

Overexposed

Too bright

Blurred

Too dark

Decent lighting that shows clear detail

Too bright

Clear, detailed and in focus

Successful image with clear detail.

Focus in the centre of the image with a foreground and background

Too dark and blurred

Slightly blurred but shows structural detail

I decided to redo my pinhole photo shoot due to the previous one being so unsuccessful, I made sure my camera settings had longer shutter speed and lower aperture so that the camera would allow more light, thus making the images brighter with clearer detail of the building.

I decided to compose closer analysis on some of my pinhole experiments to see which images worked best. The image displayed to the left is an exterior image of the church window where I have tried to capture the arch and the architectural detailing of the frame. I think this image worked well with the pinhole as the frame is the main focal point and the image has a vignette effect around the edges; however, the image was still slightly blurred due to the camera picking up my slight movement throughout the long shutter speed.

The second image from my pinhole experimentation I decided to look at is displayed to the left. I wanted to look at this image due to it being quite bright and having a sectioned appearance; the left side of the image contains the window which is quite dull compared to my images from the interior of the structure; however, it still has a brighter presence than the wall. I found upon closer inspection that the image is slightly blurred, as can be seen on the architectural head feature on the windows arch.

The final image I wanted to look at in closer detail is displayed to the left; I found this image was quite successful but was relatively darker than some of my other images. The edges have a vignette effect and are out of focus whereas the windows and the frames are the main focal point. With this composition I found the wall in front drew some attention away from the window and its surrounding arches and brick layout; on the other hand, I still believe this is one of my most successful images from this experimental shoot.

Outcome Idea

When looking at outcome options I was debating using images from my pinhole photoshoots; I have planned a layout that I think will work well with this plan. On the other hand, I may not use this outcome idea as my final piece as I feel my other images were much stronger, therefore, I may use my DSLR photo shoots with this same layout pattern.
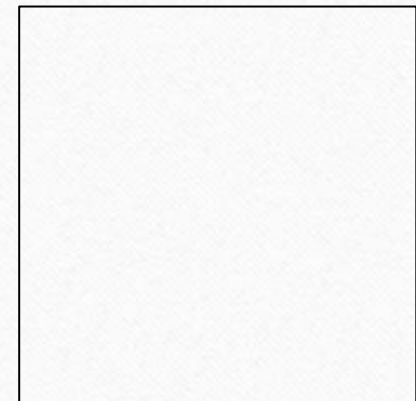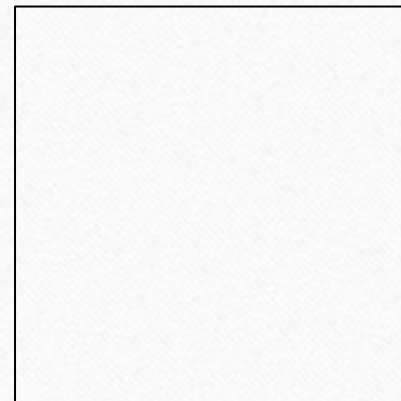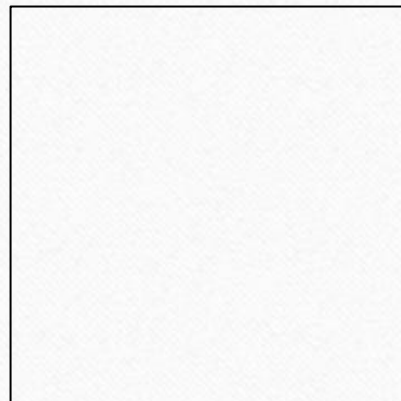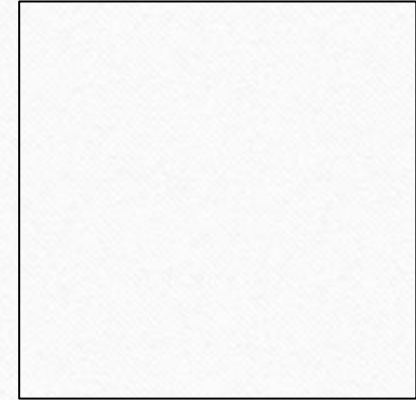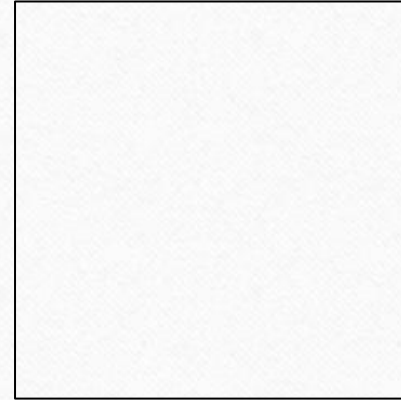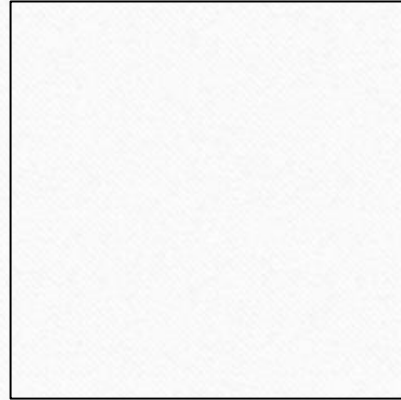
Outcome Idea: Emulsion & Testing

For my outcome I plan to conduct emulsion transfers on the traditional church, I plan to conduct 3 large outcome pieces all in black and white as both my artists use black and white filters on their own photography pieces. I have come to the decision to have my final outcome as emulsion transfer images due to my previous experimentation in transfer and my personal opinion that having an emulsion transfer on an image makes it look much more aged and interesting as some of the original image can be hidden and the clouded appearance of the image adds more mystery that will intrigue the viewers.

Outcome Images

Evaluation

At the beginning of my project, I wanted to capture the different shapes and textures within different architecture types and compare new building styles to older structures; however, as my project progressed, I decided I wanted to focus solely on older structures - mostly churches - but still looked at the initial sections of shape, surface texture, and structure. After writing my reflect and progress, I conducted some pinhole camera shoots that had to be refined as my camera settings were wrong and caused my images to be extremely underexposed; additionally, I organised a photo shoot from inside the church in order to capture the bright stain glass windows and intricate detailing of the interior structure. I decided that I wanted to move away from digital editing and instead work more mixed media based, this caused me to start looking at image transfer through emulsion or acetone. I began testing the two types of transfers to see how well they worked with my images and I decided that emulsion gave a more aged appearance and also added mystery to any part of the image that was hidden due to the paper not being rubbed away. I had some trouble with the acetone transfers and they appeared too light and grainy to see any real detail; I digitally edited the images to darken them and increase contrast to a point where the building was more visible. I also struggled with the emulsion as I rubbed off too much in some places or the edges ripped off, leaving too much emulsion paint on show; however, after leaving the images to dry, I found that these errors made the image look more aged and distressed which added more character and interest. From these emulsion tests I have learned the amount I need to rub off to make the image appear clearer and has allowed me to control what areas become more distressed. My outcome was quite successful; however, when printing my images off larger, the printer had a tonal error and printed them with a red tint; I reprinted when it had been fixed and decided to use both the original prints and the tinted prints as they were still good quality and were successful. If I were to continue this project with more time, I would produce more transfer experiments - such as tape transfers - and possible conduct more mixed media work.

Amber

CONTEXTUAL STUDY

"Architecture is a visual art, and the buildings speak for themselves." – Julia Morgan

I have always had an interest in architecture due to its constant change over time; whether it be structural design or deterioration. My main interest in the architecture theme comes from old structures; with their intricate detailing and rotting surfaces. I mainly enjoy photographing in macro as it allows me to see the textures of the buildings surface; I feel it adds much more detail to any image, especially in architecture as the building materials vary so much. In my project, I have looked at photographers such as Aleksandr Rodchenko and Christophe Chevaugeon, both feature black and white styled photography.

The first photographer I have looked at is Aleksandr Rodchenko, he lived during the end of the 19th century through to the middle of the 20th century – the modern art and constructivism period. Whilst researching Rodchenko, I briefly looked at the artists that he took interest in and that influenced him. These artists include: Kazimir Malevich – a Russian painter in the cubism period. Vladimir Tatlin – a painter and architect in the modern art period. Wassily Kandinsky – a Russian painter and art theorist based in the abstract period; Rodchenko himself was one of the founders of constructivism and has been a big influence on many artists. As displayed to the left, Rodchenko's work features strange angles of architecture. The images I have chosen to explore are his "Balconies 1925" and his "Stairs 1930". The first image I looked at was Rodchenko's "Balconies", it is taken from a worm's eye view pointed upwards along the edge of a building. I think this image represents how buildings stand taller than everything else and show the importance of them. Rodchenko makes the dull, average building look interesting by having the repeated feature (the balconies) jutting out in a form we many not be used to seeing. The next image I looked at was "Stairs",

this image was shot from a high angle aimed down towards the landscape below. I chose this image due to its composition; the position of the stairs and the angle of the sunlight cause the floor to look completely flat and patterned instead of the natural appearance of the stairs; this is how Rodchenko makes his photographs more interesting and stand out from other photographers..

The second photographer I have looked at is Christophe Chevaugeon, he conducted his photography during the early 80's. Whilst researching Chevaugeon, I decided to look for artists that influenced his work, just as I did when looking at Aleksandr Rodchenko. The artists that influenced Chevaugeon

included: John Wreford, Belinda Claushuis, Ron Scubadiver, Angelina Hue, and Charles St-Clair. The first image I looked at from Chevaugeon comes from his photo shoot at "Felton Church"; I decided to look at this photo shoot due to it's interesting angle and effective lighting. This photo was taken from the side of the building it the gravestones in the foreground and the clouded sky behind the building. I like the clouded sky and the shadow cast from the gravestones; I feel this has been done intentionally to show the darkness of the atmosphere of the location. I think Chevaugeon looks at these types of buildings as they have more character and story to them, his photographs are calming yet eerie at the same time and this is what makes them stand out to the viewers; they seem a lot more interesting due to the atmosphere he has created. The second image of Chevaugeon's I looked at was "Le Porte St-Denis" I chose to look at this


image in my work as I like its slight worm's eye view and intricate detailing. I believe this image was taken from quite low down facing up slightly to make sure the arch is in the centre of the image and is the main focal point of the image. I also feel like Chevaugeon took this picture with the person in it to show how architectural structures stand so much taller than any person. Chevaugeon makes a simple structure look more unique and interesting by using the lighting to his advantage and not capturing the buildings at a front facing view.

I have taken inspiration from Aleksandr Rodchenko by taking my photographs from strange angles and looking at the repeated patterns found in his images. As displayed to the left, I have captured bathroom sinks in the style of Rodchenko by having the repeated pattern to make the appearance interesting. I have also used another angle similar to Rodchenko by taking an image from a bird's eye view, looking down at stairwells from the very top floor or my college (as shown to the right).. I will use his technique of capturing buildings in different angles in my future project photoshoots; this will help increase variety and let me have more successful images to narrow down from.
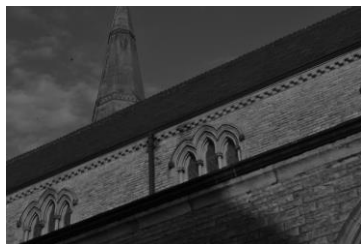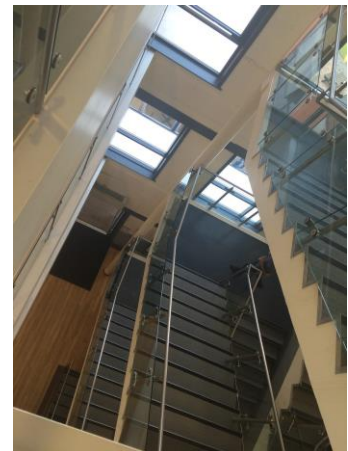
I have taken inspiration from Christophe Chevaugeon by capturing old buildings and churches in a black and white filter to emphasize the highlights and shadows. I visited a local church and begin photographing from the different angles used by Rodchenko and Chevaugeon. As show in my photograph displayed to the left, I used the light to emphasise the church wall by having a dark background of the clouded sky. I have also taken low angles, just as Chevaugeon has, to make the building's appearance seem taller and more important. I think using these lower angles make a normal building seem more interesting and draws the viewer's attention more than it would with a front facing shot of the wall. My low shot - displayed to the right -

shows the church wall with the glass panes, this shot emphasises the length of the building as it appears much longer than normal. I will use Chevaugeon's technique of light work and angling style to better my work in the future. I will also add the black and white filter to some images from each photo shoot in my project to see if they make the photographs appear more interesting.

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