

Unit – 2 - Photographic Essay

Research/Resources

Theme – Consider ideas that are relevant to you and that you are passionate about.

- What type of photography is happening around you? What subjects do you enjoy working with?

Structure – Should make clear sense to the viewer.

- Important to order photos effectively to tell a story.

Narrative Shots – The lead shot should effectively draw and hook in the viewer.

- Establishing Shots – Pictures that set the stage and describe the scene of the story.
- Detail Photos – Focus in on one element.
- The Clincher Photo – The final photo – should evoke the emotion you want the viewer to walk away with.

Unity – Visual coherence is important and allows the essay to be perceived as a whole.

- Diptychs and triptychs (When two images are placed together, their individuality is altered and creates a dialogue.)

Project Proposal

My Community – The community I'm living in is really into togetherness and kindness. Late last year: Animal cut outs started to pop up around the community in support of the wondering cows, this eventually became a popular game amongst the locals where they would move and hide the cow (and other cut outs) around the island and post pictures on social media when they found them. Over the months a collection of chickens, goats, zebras and cows have been made to add to this game. Ever since this has caught on with a majority of our community it has become a way for people to come together while staying safe.

Another event that has become popular are birthday honk outs. If someone in the community is having a birthday, its posted on social media, balloons and signs that read "Happy Birthday said person" or "Honk, Honk, Honk" are placed in front of there place. When people drive by, they honk and scream out their window to say happy birthday, another way for us to stay together.

Some local artists have also been making outdoor projects in efforts to bring the community together as well. Separately – some locals and artists have made signs all over the island with heartfelt messages to keep people positive.

My idea is to use these methods my community has created to stay together and incorporate them into a photographic essay. I believe that this fits into the theme perfectly. So far, my plan is to drive around the island finding the cut-out animals and signs that have been placed around - taking pictures of them in interesting and complex angles to focus in on what's being presented. I want to have a series of pictures that show how my small community is keeping everyone together.

Production Approach (Method/Process)

In the following weeks I will be going out on different days, varied times during the day and varied weather, looking for the cut-out animals while scouting for signs that are nailed to power-poles. The island I live on, Sointula, is rather small so during this time I will be taking photos of some of the outside art displays the artists have created – influenced by covid-19.

- On some days I'll walk throughout town, seeing if there are any birthday signs I could photograph (can also do this while driving around).
- Use Facebook to find the cow cut-out (as of now it has been stolen, the other cut-outs are still present).

8-12 Photos? Unsure about the amount I want, but I'm hovering around these numbers.

- As of now – I want at least half of the photos tightly cropped and focused on a low aperture.
- Focus mostly on aperture and shutter speed.

First and last Photos?

- First Photo: The most attention-grabbing photo – won't know until I have taken all the photos.
- Last photo: The red fish sign that has "strength" painted across it. Hopefully the viewer leaves with a sense of happiness. (Unless if anything more interesting pops up.)

-Will add more as the assignment progresses-

Specific Production Plans

Site List

- Post Office
- Someone's house?
- Kaleva (Road)
- Near the Hall
- The Co-op (Grocery Store)
- Ferry Terminal
- Center of town picnic table
- Coho joes (café)

Assistance

- My partner will help when it comes to transportation.
- Possible talking with local artist.

Gear

- Tripod
- My two different lenses
- Whatever the day demands (if it's pouring rain)

Test Shots







