

PHTO110 Explore S1 (24/25)

Module Submission Portfolio

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This is my PHTO110 Explore S1 (24/25) Module Submission  
providing information and final photographs of Guided Projects  
from Weeks 4 to 12 inclusive.

Found Objects and Storytelling with Objects

People and Photography and People Beyond the Portrait

This Must be the Place and Place Part 2

Photography and Community Parts 1 and 2

A link to my Mural is <https://tinyurl.com/5cbz8cf5>

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Weeks 4 and 5

### Objects and Storytelling with Objects

My first images were made whilst walking along the river Hayle in Cornwall. I had been reading some basic Critical Theory and philosophical references for 'Objects' and decided to try to portray these concepts in my photography. Immanuel Kant had suggested that an 'Object' can be considered anything which provides 'sensation'.

The lecture by Rubens Bower Storey also provided references to 'phenomenology', and I considered his research and experiments provided some validity for mine.

In my simple way I tried to interpret these ideas by locating Found Objects within

configurations of landscapes alongside the river Hayle, arrangements which provided me with 'sensation'. Images are in Week 4 Mural.

I further developed this idea referencing ideas from Graham Harman's Object Orientated Ontology in which he suggests that 'Objects' can be separated from human experience and exist in a number of different forms, including inanimate subjects such as stone and even historical events. Cemre Yesil explored similar ideas, asking 'can a stone be ensouled?'

The requirement of the Task for week 5 was to 'tell a story'. I chose to illustrate a mining disaster in Cornwall by combining and portraying multiple 'Objects' both visually and conceptually. This process is discussed on my Mural.

These images are presented here with brief annotation.



The Cornish tin mining diaspora represented conceptually in 1 image



The wave from a breached abandoned mine floods a shaft with 40 working miners



Turmoil 70 fathoms underground as miners attempt to escape



19 adult miners and 1 child lose their lives





A community in mourning

Weeks 7 and 8

### Guided Project 'People'

Our research required us to consider a number of sources to better inform our Task of photographing people. I read David Bate's comprehensive analysis of portraiture and Phillip Prodger's views on identity and then studied the development of the Frankfurt School, a trajectory which came to be known as Typology.

I approached the Task over the two weeks by photographing dog walkers in typological fashion along the beach-side promenades of Burnham on Sea and Weston Super Mare, and by making a series of portraits of an artist in his studio.

I am pleased with both sets of images; the dogwalking images could be improved by choosing a single 'location' where there is no visual clutter to distract from the images. This would enhance the 'typology' and concentrate attention onto the sitter.

The images of the artist in his studio I am also pleased with but in a different way; however they are not 'typological'. These images are on my mural.











## Weeks 9 and 10

### Guided Project 'This Must be the Place'

Photographing my local railway station was very challenging. Initially there seemed a requirement to document the locality and physicality of a railway station including its buildings, its track, its plethora of readily identifiable and traditional objects, its trains and of course its passengers.

Stations are also spaces of transition, of ephemerality and of liminality; passengers and staff enter a transient zone. They are also spaces of cultural significance; many films and novels feature trains and railways as substantial elements of their narratives. How should I photograph the meta-physical and abstract?

Consent featured in discussions held with tutors and students. Are photographs made openly of passengers travelling through the spaces of the station legitimate; could images obtained legally be unusable because of insufficient agency?

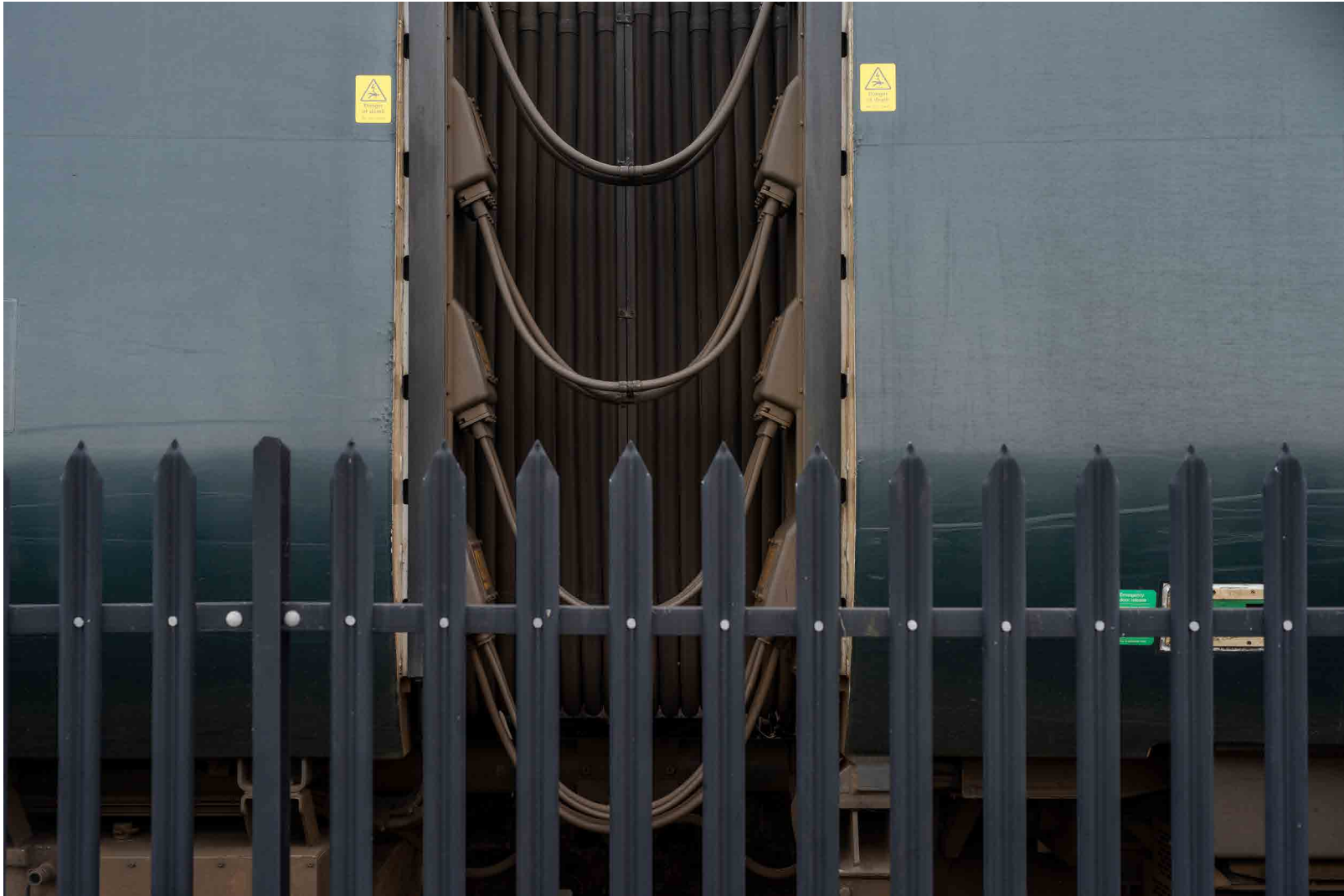
The images on my Mural explore these issues. The images I chose here focus on the railway providing a comfortable, hygienic and safe service to its passengers. They are also reflectful of world travel, migration, societal integration, modernity's battle with nature and liminality.













Weeks 11 and 12

Guided Project Photography and  
Community

I have interpreted 'Community' by photographing a location where the creation of a world-wide network of like-minded people comes to a focus in a former quarry in the Mendip Hills, Somerset. Here a group of artists and musicians live, work and create. Its identity and culture has been defined by ideology from counter-culture.

Founded and guided by musician Mark Wilson, his creation represents those values in a collection of art forms.

The images I have chosen for this Guided Project portray the notion that 'home' extends to everyone whether visiting for the first time or returning from time spent away, the strength and solidarity of family and includes portraits of several members who live on site.

The final portrait is of Mark Wilson.













Thank you for looking at my Portfolio