



# Open College of the Arts

## Formative feedback

Student name	Peter Walker	Student number	514508
Course/Unit	C&N	Assignment	3
Type of tutorial (eg video/audio/written)	Notes for skype tutorial		

### NOTES FOR A SKYPE TUTORIAL

There are a few main issues to talk about when you call me. Here are some initial thoughts.

- You mention you didn't want to overtly express loneliness or isolation, which was a good angle. It is often best to be subtle about emotional things and find other ways to express feelings by implication and symbols, for example, in the picture of you on a bed with the soft toys. [Make sure you're not too esoteric in your symbolism! People don't necessarily know the difference between Thai and Indonesian food, or that your girlfriend is Indonesian!]
- Did you base this work on a diary? There is no mention of that, so I wondered about the genesis of the work. We can talk about that. [Make it clear it comes from the diary].
- The use of a filter is overpowering. Can you send me the images without the manipulations? I'm not sure why you are mashing the images so much, but if that has something to do with being uncomfortable with self-portraits then you could have made turned away shots like number 3. The most obvious problem with such a heavy filtering is that so many potential signs of your absent girlfriend become indistinct. That sort of undermines what you're trying to achieve. [Recommended using sequence]
- "When doing laundry" is my favourite here. There is just something very simple and humble about it and it is also a good composition of layers about everyday forms and objects.
- "When coming home" is potential strong too, but it's really hard to make out. It looks like your black top is an isolated shape in a sort of magnolia environment.
- I like the use of "when..." in the title. You could certainly build on it.
- What is missing for me is a strong use of symbols that signify a) your girlfriend and her absence, b) your own character in relation to her. The simplest use of signs could be your clothes in a cupboard next to her polythene wrapped clothes! Or her unused toothbrush

next to your used toothbrush. Her shoes next to you wearing yours. Do you understand how there is a sense of absence there? But you need to find these real traces of the absent person yourself.

**Coursework**

Demonstration of technical and Visual Skills, Demonstration of Creativity

I liked your image of Blackpool using models. That is one of the best images you've made in the course. It is such a simple but powerfully shared memory of being lifted up between two parents.

**Research**

Context, reflective thinking, critical thinking, analysis

Research looks good. Let's talk about the work of Shafran and Fox, because you mention not wanting to put yourself directly in the picture and they very successfully don't put themselves in their pictures that are often forms of prismatic self-portraiture. Let's talk about it if you're not clear on this. Kapajeva is different, but you ought to identify with her immigrant status.

**Suggested reading/viewing**

Context

Let's talk about this. Which photographers you like and which are difficult for you. [As we said on the phone, look for the symbols of identity in Shafran's photos - the artefacts, traces, which people leave behind and how that identify them. Same with clothes and events in Anna Fox's photo - like Country Girls, Workstations and Afterwards.]

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

Tutor name	Robert Enoch
Date	4th December 2018
Next assignment due	1st March 2019