SEEING FUTURES

THE HUGH BAIRD UNIVERSITY CENTRE UNDERGRADUATES AND ALUMNI

Cover - Judyta Cwikla

Seeing Futures is a showcase of work by students at the Hugh Baird University Centre about to graduate from the BA (Hons) Top Up in Digital Imaging and Photography, which is validated by the University of Central Lancashire, along with selected former graduates from the previous two years of the course – photographers who have gone on to develop their visual communication in new projects and careers.

James Borner

Andrew Yates (Graduate of 2017)

Natasha Green

Stephanie Fawcett (Graduate of 2016)

Lauren Smyth

Ben Evans (Graduate of 2016)

Judyta Cwikla

Anthony Lavender (Graduate of 2016)

This exhibition at the Open Eye Gallery celebrates the third year of the successful collaboration with the Hugh Baird University Centre and continues to support and share the interests and concerns of photographers studying in Liverpool. Year on year, these photographers have continued to gain the skills to express themselves visually, developing the drive to address a sense of ethics and responsibility through the medium of photography.



The

following project looks behind the scenes at Liverpool's waste water treatment works. With permission from United Utilities I have embarked on this photographic study of Liverpool's plant and how the heavy engineering in these industrial sites are beneficial to the environment and the cities they serve. My photographic interests are in engineering & concrete architectural solutions and how architects visions work within the modern landscape. By exploring topographics and how landscapes change through the human condition these industries and sites come into vision and invoke interest into their true purpose and use. With access to these sites I have been able to go beyond the fences and gates which separate them from their surroundings and keep their true workings secret from the average person walking by. These sites deserve to be documented through photography for archival referencing purposes as well as the fine art approach to engineering solutions genre I enjoy to work within. I hope that by producing these images my project will encourage viewers to appreciate these sites and engineering solutions that are often overlooked by so many due to their inaccessibility.

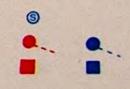
James Borner

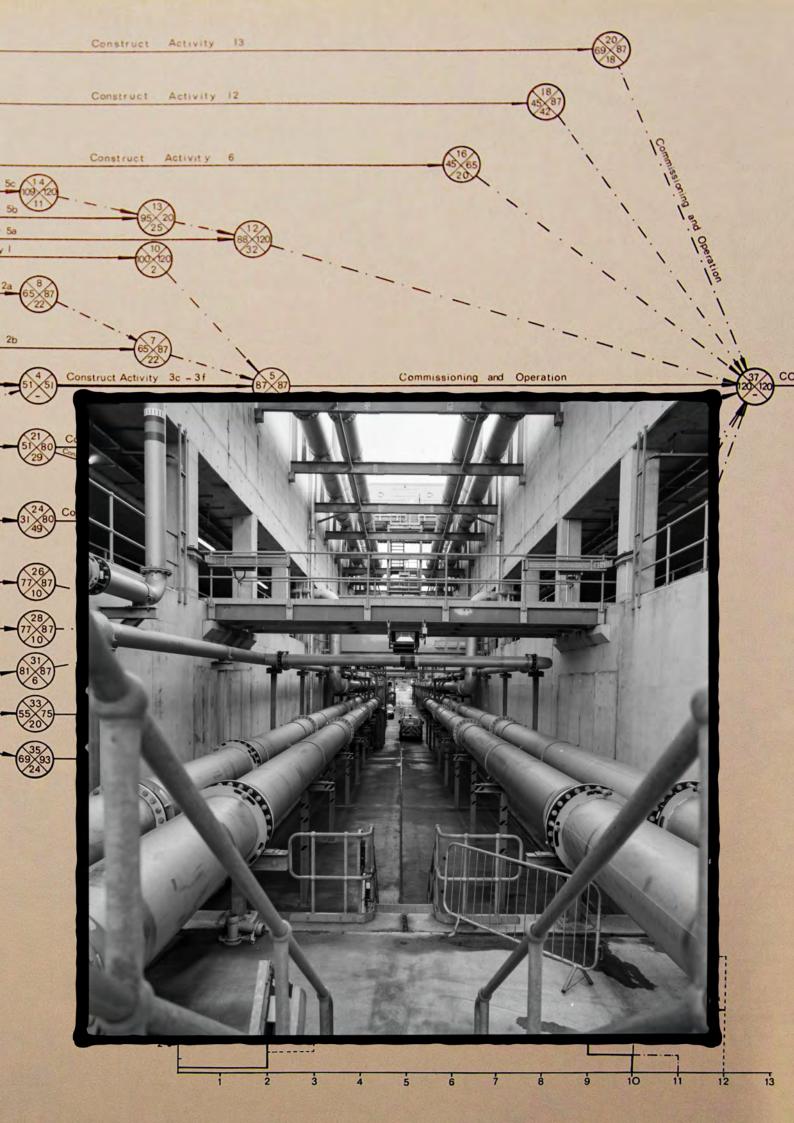


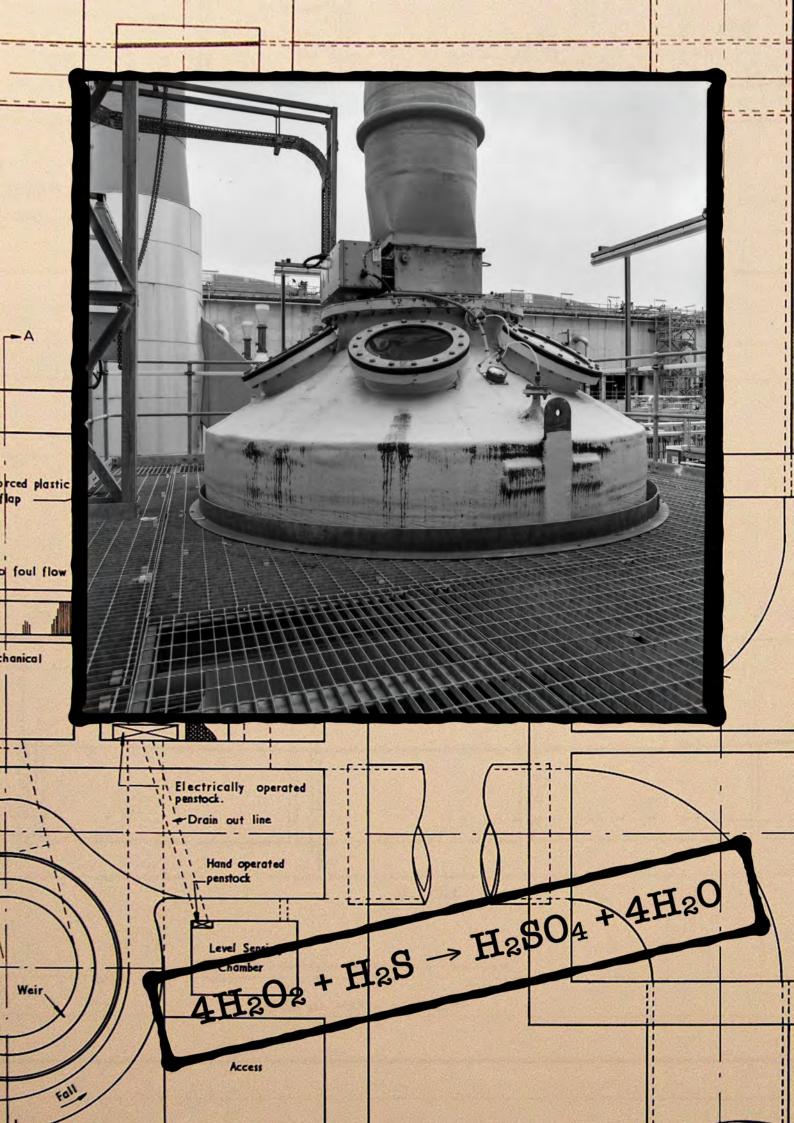
Drainage Areas Existing Sewers Proposed Sewers Rising Mains Boreholes



Sample Point Storm Overflow Pumping Stations



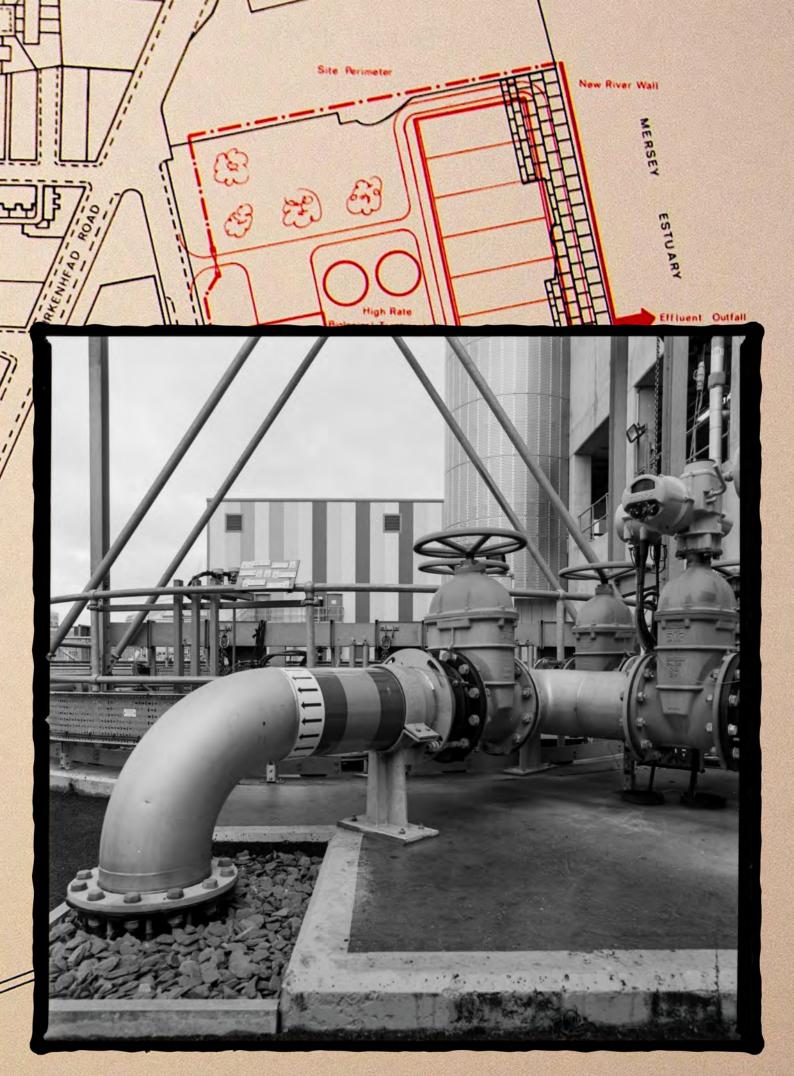








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Site 9 Scheme 1



Plastic Sea

Andrew Yates

By 2050 there will be more plastic in our oceans than fish. What can be done?

Living so close to the coast, I often visit and take a walk. On the surface, it is a place of natural beauty, tranquility and calm but underneath there is a crisis that runs the risk of destroying our oceans.

Plastic Sea is a juxtaposition between the beauty of the coast and the damage our use of single-use plastics is having on the planet.

The beauty of the coast is illustrated by a series of seascapes taken at different times of the day. The damage of single-use plastics is illustrated with an installation of plastics that I have collected from my trips to the coast.

The installation aims to create a sense of what it would be like to be walking in a sea of plastic. Whether you know a little or a lot about the subject, it is important to continue the conversation.

Think about your single-use plastic consumption, and how by making a small change you can make a difference.

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By the year 2050, there Will be more Plastic in our Oceans than fish! What can be done? Refuse single-use Plastics, think about Your Plastic consumption. We only get one EARTH.

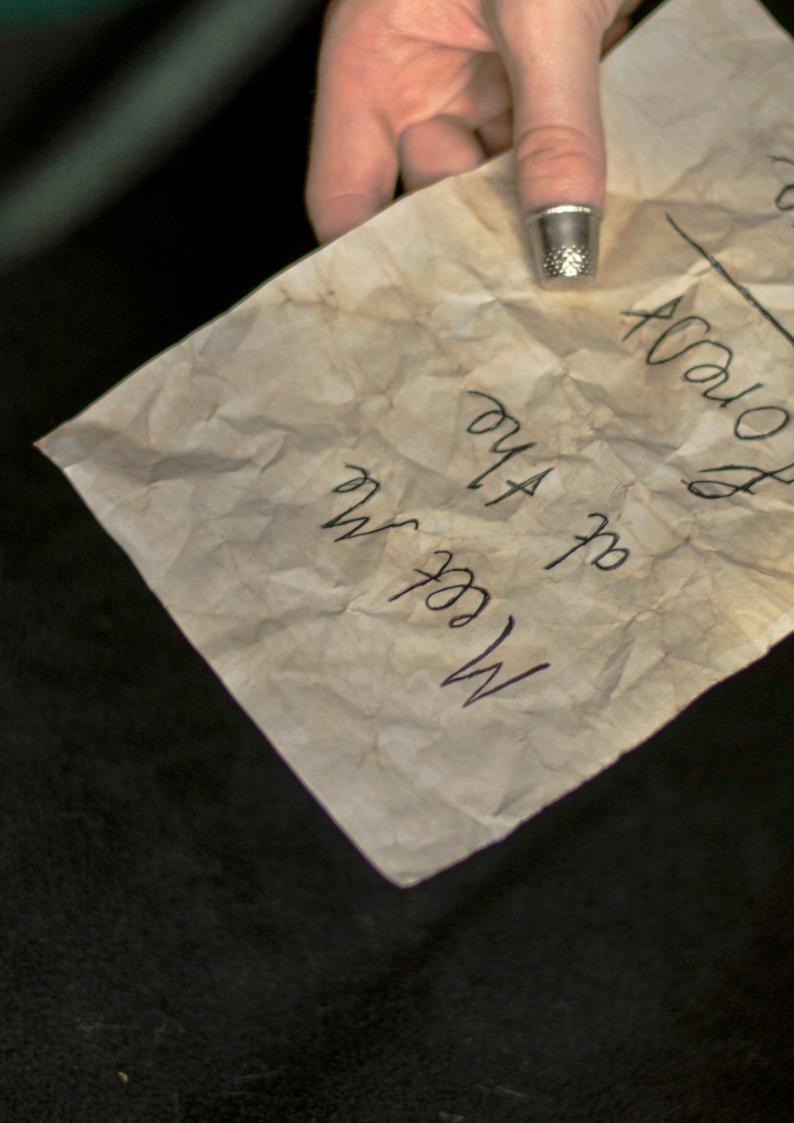
Mad Hatter's Disease

The inspiration for this project was Alice in Wonderland as I enjoy fantasy imagery and my photography has a narrative base. I like to create a whole world within my images, from costumes to makeup to background the work can be seen as both fashion and sequential art.

Instead of creating the story based upon Alice herself I have chosen to base the work upon another well-known character, The Mad Hatter. The work explores the issue of industrial poisoning and how it effects workers. In the 19th century hat industry mercury was used to clean the hatting felt.

"Mad Hatters disease" is a group of symptoms caused by mercury poisoning resulting in uncontrollable muscle twitching, hallucinations and paranoia. The images illustrate in story form how the madness presents in the hatter and his eventual demise at the hands of Alice. Creating a dark version of the original classic children's story.

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Since tailoring my end of Degree project around socially engaged practice, I have continued exploring this area of photography with more depth and passion than was originally anticipated. Subsequent to the completion of my Degree, I was commissioned by Open Eye Gallery Liverpool, to become part of the Culture Shifts project. This involved working with both established photographer Stephanie Wynne and two distinct women's groups: Wirral Change and Tomorrows Women Wirral.

/ˈɔːtɪz(ə)m/ •

noun: autism

a mental condition, pr and forming relation

at difficulty in communication abstract concepts.

stephanie.fawcett@outlook.com

Both projects explored co-authorship whereby the expertise and creativity of the photographer came together with the life experience of the group, to produce quality

work that was meaningful to participants.

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This opportunity not only allowed me to enhance my professionalism, but also offered guidance and learning experiences. This has encouraged me and strengthened my confidence to continue to work creatively with others and use my artistic platform to give a voice to those who cannot always speak out within society.

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Currently studying MA Arts Health, my research explores how Photographic Representation could aid critical thinking skills in outism (ASD). Alongside this, my experience of working full time supporting individuals with ASD at Autist Together, has influenced the project, A-Symmetric. The need to explore this area in greater detail is in my opinion fundamental. Not only to provide individuals with ASD the freedom of communication but to live a life with as much independence as possible. Undertaking further medical, scientific and psychological research may then allow us to obtain more answers than questions to this mysterious condition. My working method continues to develop in socially engaging practice alongside my academic studies. I hope to continue co-authoring photographic projects that raise questions, discuss and recognise unconscious bias within our society, and to bring about conversations for change.

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What Would You Give Away?

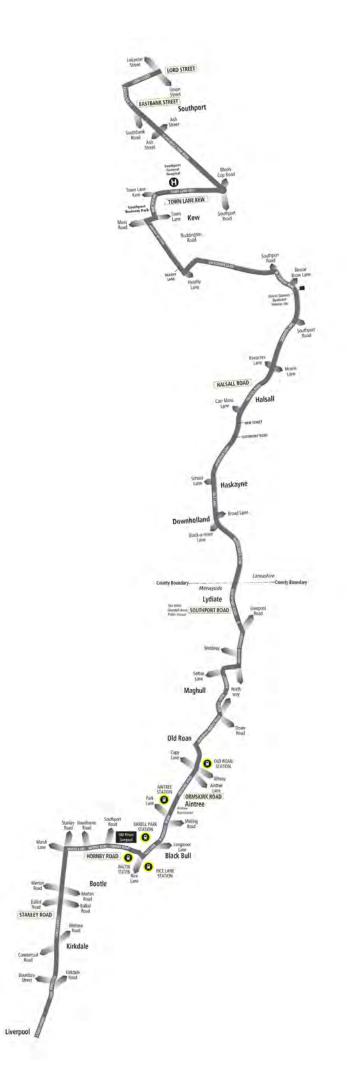
Lauren Smyth

In today's throw-away society, second-hand items are often considered meaningless and charity shops are seen as the end of the road, but these items have a history, character and reusability. *What Would You Give Away* is an exploration of what possessions people pass on to charity shops within Merseyside. I identified charity shops along a bus route through Merseyside which included, Liverpool City Centre, Bootle, Walton, Maghull and Southport. A maximum of £10 was spent in each shop and an assistant was asked to pick items from a list of categories: a gift for a man, a gift for a woman, a gift for a child, a gift for an occasion, a gift for a new home and a gift for someone you're not fond of.

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Using the analogue tradition of cut and paste political montage, this work explores themes relating to Liverpool's past and future. The images layer and investigate a sense of what has gone and what is to come.

In

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Reification

"Men act and women appear. Men look at women. Women watch themselves being looked at. This determines not only most relations between men and women but also the relation of women to themselves. The surveyor of woman in herself is male: the surveyed female. Thus, she turns herself into an object - and most particularly an object of vision: a sight."

John Berger - Ways of Seeing

These self-portraits question the way women are regarded and how this impacts our self- image. They celebrate the female form without objectification through disguise, mimicry and perception.

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Michael & James. 2017

Anthony Lavender

In 2016 Anthony graduated from Hugh Baird University Centre with First Class Honors in Digital Imaging & Photography and then immediately interned with world renowned photographer Michael James O'Brien, Associate Chair of Photography at Savannah College of Art & Design, Atlanta USA.

Assisting Michael with both digital and medium format analogue photography, Anthony's internship concluded with 27 portraits exhibited within Michael's James O'Brien's Duovision exhibition at the LOOK/17 International Photography Festival and in Atlanta USA.

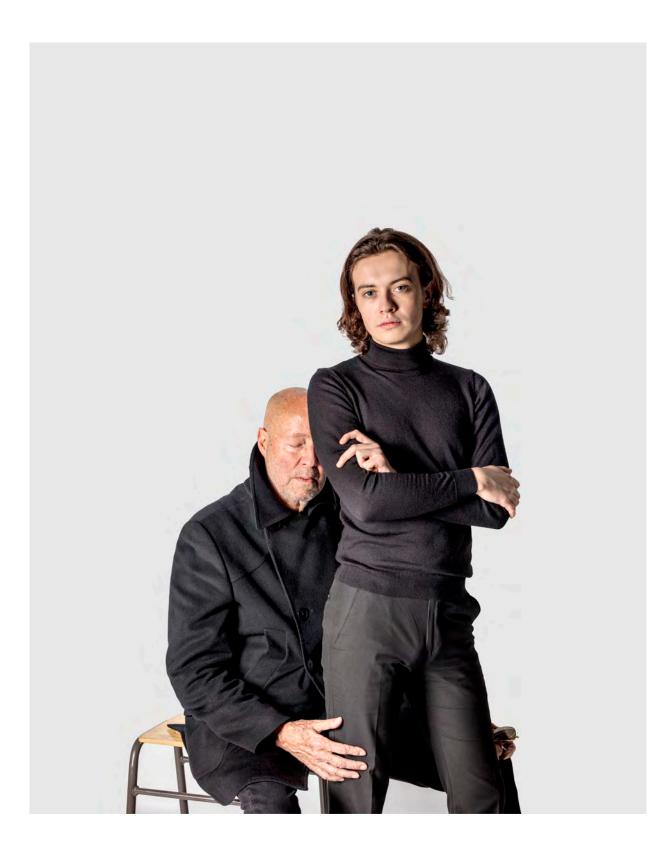
Anthony again assisted Michael in 2017 with a portraiture session at the photography studio at Hugh Baird University Centre. During the session he photographed Michael here with James Anthony Morris, a collaborative artist and musician. The portrait pivots upon Shakespeare's Sonnet 'from fairest creatures'.

Whilst this portrait of Michael & James is being shown here, the work Anthony assisted Michael with during his last visit is being shown in Palermo Sicily as part of the Breaking Myth exhibition. Anthony will also be exhibiting work in Sicily in June 2019 under the curation of Salvatore Lo Sicco.

Following the internship, Anthony went on to be commissioned by the Open Eye Gallery with an emerging photographer award. He also took on the role of Fringe Festival Co-Ordinator at the LOOK International Photography Festival, managing twenty fringe artists across five exhibiting venues.

Anthony continues to carry out portraiture for both commercial use and exhibition.

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Digital Imaging and Photography at The Hugh Baird University Centre

Both the Foundation Degree and BA (Hons) Top up in Digital Imaging and Photography, validated by the University of Central Lancashire, are designed for those wanting to develop advanced practice and a clear understanding of how imagery can be utilised to communicate and express their vision or interpretation of the world.

For more information please visit:

www.hughbaird.ac.uk/index.php/university-centre/photography

Also follow our Instagram and Twitter accounts:

instagram.com/hbucphotography/ twitter.com/HBUCphotography

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