

Personal Statement

Lloyd Miller

I am an adventurous photographer and I am inspired by City Life and urban sprawls. My most recent project has involved me standing on a rickety balcony at the top of Newport Market, creating photographs that contain aerial views across Newport. This is a new creative venture for me, as until recently, I have been a dedicated animal photographer. I am excited by this new direction because it has taken me out of my creative comfort zone.

I think, in the past I have worked with animals, especially albino amphibians, because I am fascinated by how some of them cope in a domesticated environment without their major senses, albino animals are often blind. I am inspired by the work of Steven Dalton and his technique of freezing motion with his camera. By using photographic techniques, he captures animal behaviour and has demystified animal movement. Much of his work has been published in the National Geographic.

I work as a freelance photographer in my spare time. The quality of my work can be seen by me being commissioned on a paid basis to shoot photos of the Newport Seals disabled swimming club for their new publicity brochure. I am the Newport scout districts official photographer, and I will be covering all major events including the Remembrance Day parade. In order to achieve a variety of shots here, I travel using a bicycle to circle around the parade, and ensuring that everyone is in the shots. I also get a perspective and aerial view by accessing certain building rooftops. I have been also asked back by my old school, to take photos for an annual food fair held in Brighton, the photos were published in a local magazine.

The National Deaf Children's Society have featured my family in an article in their magazine, on how going on a adventure holiday with them has helped me and my brother back at home, and educationally. I was asked to provide photos to accompany the publication. I have recently negotiated a retail space for free which will be used to exhibit my upcoming exhibition entitled "absence".

I am studying a national diploma, to get me started on the photographic learning process. My favourite part of the course so far has been the location photography, as it reflects my own ideas and work, and has involved me getting exclusive access and permission into fascinating local empty buildings mostly above shops in the centre of Newport. This has been an adventure, mostly exciting, sometimes dangerous because of the decay of these old buildings. Sometimes I am disappointed that this is not possible either by locked rooms or not getting permission to enter a building, although disappointing to start with I then challenge myself to get around the obstacle in my project.

A college brief to design the front cover of a magazine, allowed me to develop my animal photography skills, for this, I visited the insect house at Bristol Zoo and was inspired by the visual impact of the beehive. This gave me an interesting textured picture and a glossy final product. My National diploma has also improved my research and essay writing skills.

I am a unique individual and I have a wide variety of interests. I am very good at managing time on my own. I have a great interest in collecting gemstones since 2004. I can now identify most gemstones and crystals on sight and have also used these to inspiration for some of my photographs. I also am undergoing training with the scout movement for becoming a qualified Cub

Scout leader, I will end up with a wood badge, which represents a leader that has completed the training.

I think I am suitable for the course because I have strong feelings for the photographic work I produce. My visual senses have been honed and enhanced by my deafness and this has meant photography for me is the creative extension and expression of my eyesight.

I hope to live a long and happy life associated with photography, facing challenges that life gives, I look forward to the benefits and challenges that university has to offer.