

Project Proposal

For my Intensive Production project this semester I am producing a series of six images that reflect on the nature of the image itself as well as the idea of “meta images”.

My original idea was to work with the visually straightforward technique of Picture-In-Picture Photography.

Picture-in-picture is a method used to add to the context of a picture by adding a second image.

My idea was to use this technique to address the decontextualisation of media footage by showing what is “outside of the frame” of the original image.

This offers a critical approach to the “truth of Photography” and the nature of an image.

A more subtle approach to the use of Picture-In-Picture Photography would be a reference to another existing images or the image itself.

“Any picture is a visible mark, no matter how simple...is capable of becoming a metapicture.” (Mitchell, WJT)

Pictorial self-reference is, in other words, not exclusively a formal, internal feature that distinguishes some pictures but a pragmatic, functional feature, a matter of use and context. WJT Mitchell claims that any picture that is used to reflect on the nature of pictures is a metapicture.

Susan Sontag outline how pictures are “miniatures of reality’ instead of interpretations of events, they take one element of the truth and are therefore based on something real.

We therefore have the presumption that images act as some sort of evidence of reality.

“While real people are out there killing themselves or other real people, the photographer stays behind his or her camera, creating a tiny element of another world: the image world that bids to outlast us. Photographing is essentially an act of non-intervention.” Sontag, S.

Therefore my aim is to make my images a series of “self reflective images” or in other words “metapictures”.

In addition my method of exhibition will aim to push the restrictions of a normal image by providing more than one layer of the image.

The first layer will be the picture itself; behind it the second layer revealing an additional source of information.

The plan for the exhibition is to hang each individual image a few centimeters in front of a square of wallpaper.

The wallpaper itself will hold some sort of reference to the original image, contextually and stylistically.

The images itself will be 30 x 30 cm and framed in a simple frame.

This method of exhibition is aiming to enhance the concept of “photography beyond the frame” and also helps the viewer to understand the reference more clearly.