

Emily Manning

Photography Portfolio

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Emily Manning graduated from University for the Creative Arts in 2020, her practice involves both constructed photography for her personal work, and documentary style portraiture in her professional. This multidisciplinary way of working allows her to separate these two elements of her practice.

Using primarily Polaroid photography in her personal projects, she uses her own emotions and experiences to guide this part of her practice. Not only is photography used as a way of empowerment towards her niche audiences, but to help communicate her own emotions to others close to her. Polaroids are used as a way of expressing emotions she has felt and allowing insights into her mind. Emily has explored topics such as love, emotion, identity and race; displaying her photographs through zines to create an intimate, private experience for the viewer.

Medium format photography is Emily's preferred way of shooting when approaching professional work. This allows her to give deeper consideration into the compositions of her images and allow better communication between herself and models. Her way of shooting follows a documentary approach to portraiture and fashion, exploring subjects and products within the natural environment. Emily has produced headshots for clients, following this niche style of shooting.

Dear James

This series explores Emily's relationship with her boyfriend. Focusing on the struggles they have faced to guide the project, she uses Polaroid photography to create a fantasy of a perfect relationship that she wishes she had. The work challenges memories and emotions from their past relationship by capturing false memories from the past as a way of expressing how she feels to her partner. This work was made in collaboration with her boyfriend, as a way of becoming closer and working through their differences.





Out of Many, One People

“Out of Many, One People” is Jamaica’s national motto, based on the population’s multiracial roots. Emily explores her own racial identity, in hopes of creating work which can be relatable and uplifting to people of a similar background to her, as well as educating outsiders on issues surrounding this topic. This has also allowed her to talk about her feelings towards being mixed race to people close to her. The work is poetic and rich in narrative, providing a deep insight into Emily’s mind through the use of Polaroid photography and text. Emily decided to focus on her own emotions to guide the project. She has produced work which depicts the everyday struggles of being not only mixed race, but being from Caribbean descent.



I am British, I don't feel mixed enough. I feel like I don't fit in with other mixed race people because I'm only 1/4 Jamaican.



Sometimes foundation doesn't cover the paler
parts of my skin.



I wish I was more tanned, maybe then I would look more
Jamaican.



When I was a child I was lucky enough to visit Jamaica with my family. I was too young to appreciate the experience.



We no longer have any photos of this trip, my memories of it have faded.



Strangers have sometimes come up to me asking where I
am from and touched my hair.



I need to stop being so defensive.

Commercial work

Emily has began to build her commercial portfolio through concept shoots which give a sense of her style of photographic style. These images were shot on a Mamiya RB67.







