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byronenicholsonyr3.wordpress.com/category/professional-practice-portfolio-364mc

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1. 2014

1.1 November

Justification of the Canon C100 (2014-11-24 11:55)

The Canon C100 is a specialist piece of equipment its simply not just a camera, it comes with a rig and a Ninja. You will need to go through a 2 stage process in order to access the equipment.

Firstly you need pass the skill instruction, you will then have to write a justification on where & when you will be using this equipment.

This equipment has to be managed, due to the expense. There is one of these cameras for the whole of the year. Your tutors and course director will then be deciding the access rights based on this justification:

Why do you think you need to use this camera in your work?

I think I need to use this camera in my work, to demonstrate my use of using the next wave of industry standard equipment, so that I can further advance my abilities in camera workflow.

Do you want to be using the Rigg & Ninja? What is the reason for this?

The rigg is great for tracking shots, while the ninja is good for an alternative way of monitoring my filming, as well as being able to record footage through it and ultimately push the standards of the c100's quality.

Where & when will you be using this camera?

I would be only using this camera for specialised shoots that I feel would use the advantages of the canon c100 well.

2. 2015

2.1 May

Research on camera operator's portfolios (2015-05-22 22:01)

For my profession portfolio I want to narrow down the roles I would identify within myself. Ideally I want to explore the avenue of being a camera operator with the view to becoming a cinematographer as time progresses, this for me would be down to my hard work in studying the role of a first assistant camera, a camera operator and a cinematographer.

As a media profession how do media workers impose their work outwards towards the public, well I've found some rather good examples of camera operators who've identified the roles within their job and have marketed themselves pretty well.

Ed Barton is a director and camera operator who I've taken interest in how he presents his portfolio online, as his website demonstrates the profession proficiency a media worker needs in creating a portfolio suitable for his line of work. While dissecting his website, the background is colourful with a basic layout with the main headings Contact & Kit, Film & Video Credits, Photography.

The contact & kit credits illustrates the camera gear he has to offer for any potential clients that wish to employ him as a camera operator, Film & Video Credits section breaks down almost like the history of all film and video involvement up to date with details of his role, what company it was for and the designated director or producer.

The theme of the layout is very basic which makes it easier for people engage and find what they seek.

Looking at another camera operator Scott Houston's online portfolio is confidently presented with essentially what his working title is in bold writing, therefore the viewer automatically understands his ideal role, where he's based and a box to 'get in touch', three boxes specific to media initialed television representing the media industry, film representing the film industry and video representing the commercial side of videos. Every section is detailed which is highlighted extensively throughout his work as corporate or news type of media he specializes in.

What I gain from this portfolio is the clear and concise approach of how selling his ability to perform and produce industry standard content for all types of clients. as the vast amount of experience he shows is also highly backed up through his showreel, pictures, blog page and so forth, therefore attention to detail is vital to display.

Within my field of work these notable professionals are a prime example of how to create an ideal professional portfolio for your desires specialist area of media, marketing themselves to their potential clients and finally promoting why clients should opt to use their skills to provide themselves a sustainable media product worth investing in.

contact list (2015-05-22 22:02)

Contact list

Steffan Zachian is a director and film maker at her own company rooftop entertainment, we met while I was on an internship as she was looking for freelance workers to join the team and I've constantly kept up to date with the work created by the company.

Contact wise

- Email
- Phone number
- Social media

Ben McNeil is the owner of Birmingham film studios and the director nexi tv who create tv programmes that are commissioned and air on local or regional television, I met him through being approached to work on one of the programmes he directs on, he's a great candidate as working for him is a pleasant and he has a vast amount of knowledge he's willing to share.

Contact wise

- Email
- Phone number
- Social media

Dave Hasting a former teacher at Walsall college and Stafford college who is an award-winning writer a director at his company light beam productions he always is looking to create films and looking for new talent to emerge and work with.

Contact wise

- Email
- Social media

Paul stringer a photographer and videographer at paul and is the head of media at beatfreakz, met as I was an intern in 2014 with beatfreakz and I've constantly been in talks of helping out with seminars with teenagers who are interested in the art of media.

Contact wise

- Email
- Phone number
- Social media

Najma Hush met her through the Walsall arts festival and we are currently working on poetry video which will lead into some poetry festivals as such. She provides a different aspect of idea to bring to the table, as she is also a poet-ographer.

Contact wise

- Email
- Phone number
- Social media

Indy Singh is the owner of aidem digital and the award-winning Asian online magazine called desiblitiz.com. I worked voluntarily for his company in 2011 and was offered some great experience along the way. Hopefully in the future I

can provide a service and work together on projects in the future.

Contact wise

- Email
- Phone number
- Social media

Andrew Daley he is an award-winning film maker, photographer and director, he's finished university and now venturing in work as a media professional and has constantly offered guidance throughout my university time in how to conduct myself, how to approach people and working wise.

Contact wise

- Email
- Social media

Matt King is a writer, actor production assistant on lightbeam productions, known him since college in 2007 and have worked together previously. He is a great ambassador of how media should be taken seriously and he constantly strives for better all the time, he is a great person to isolate for my future involvement within media

Contact wise

- Email
- Social media

Ryan Robinson is self taught and is a creative person as a film maker, owning his own company and own show online. Met through watching his music videos and understanding what he wants to achieve within media. Understand technology and is a great person to speak to about starting up your own business from the ground up.

Contact wise

- Email
- Phone number
- Social media

Nick Clarke is a camera operator, cinematographer and lighting technician who works at Arri headquarters in England, met through facebook's west midland's media production group. I wanted to use his expertise as he studied music at university level but has found success within media .

Contact wise

- Email
- Phone number
- Social media

Working at The Birmingham Film Studio (2015-05-22 22:02)

To gain more experience within the industry being a camera op I approached a colleague who was working for Birmingham film studios and was offering me an opportunity to become acquainted with the crew down the studio and be involved with the on going project they have on the specific day as a camera man.

While introducing myself I found out that the opportunity was present to witness a show recorded for the new television channel big centre tv. This is the first time I'd be involved in a broadcast that goes out live to the west midlands area and this would be an occasion to savour.

As I arrived at the studio, greeted by band members and the production team which consisted of students of other universities and employees of Birmingham film studio, it was intriguing to how I could network with the team as well as gather information so I'd be able to understand the role required of me, how rigorous the job can be, but also how exciting filming for a studio is.

Although on my first day I wasn't given a definitive role due to the amount of people who were involved within the production crew I took the chance to shadow fellow workers, understand how the gallery and the floor really connect to ensure the workflow is fluent and balanced. This opened my eyes to a newer experience that'd love to be indulged

in, if the occasion were presented to me again in the near future.

Therefore to summarise my first day working at the Birmingham film studio, I would say that it was a challenge to adapt the new surroundings around myself at the time. As a new environment seemed daunting at first glance, however the desire of learning and adapting guided me to involve myself in almost all of the situations on set.

So the valuable lessons I learnt for that day while on set were to take the initiative and be proactive, as the experience of understanding how to interact with fellow media workers on a set will presents itself numerous times, therefore shying away can be damaging for a group, as team work and professional etiquette is essential in exhibiting your behaviour and mannerisms, as this will affect how people perceive you in the surroundings of a team environment, as well as making sure that you all are helping each other in the crew to achieve the same necessary goal.

This gave me the impotence to involve myself in wanting to research further about the company via the website and apply for the intern job, which was present at the time. As this job was voluntary, the experience would be a massive step to emerge from and gain huge and valuable experience within the industry.

Hopefully this experience will underline my progression in pursuing a career within the media industry and help shape the avenue I wish to take in order for me to reach my goals and achievements.

The second time I gained access to the Birmingham film studio was eventually to help film a show called sound-check, which would be broadcasted live online first then to a television network called big centre tv. The opportunity I yearned for came and it was a thrill to film and work to a deadline, knowing that the world can witness your filming ability, while ultimately enjoying the entertainment on display. Working within a television environment was an added experience to my usual norm, as to feel the strain and level of demand that comes with part taking the role of television camera operator can be rigorous, liaising with the floor manager, other camera operators, vision mixer and the director is a process that benefits the team to the desired outcome of a great show.

Overall I've had a taste of shadowing a team for the first day and then implementing everything I've saw into practice along with my own version of how I work in to play. This has been a great experience and because of this I've been offered to carry on working with the Birmingham film studio with on going projects as they come. I've gained valuable insight and networked with some new people that hopefully within time I could possibly work with them on future projects.

Reflection of my Portfolio (2015-05-22 22:02)

I think as my portfolio is a outwards world into my work, I find at the moment the website satisfactory, as it achieves the ultimate goal of me promoting how efficient I am within media, my goals I've set and the work I've produced. Because my portfolio will constantly improve along with my career, I plan to keep updating this portfolio and give my work the justice it deserves. As within any business venture you need to "Be clear about what you want to achieve online before you start investing time and money in marketing your site" (Lachtnáin, 2011) This came into consideration, as my portfolio is created with a free website as I feel within the position I'm in at the moment it's best to start small and work my way up first and foremost. Although with my portfolio I chose to start again due to the original portfolio not inadequate for my taste, as I constantly tinkered and changed things such as the background

colour, how the page would open as you clicked a tab or when you first click the site I felt it didn't represent what I was trying to project to a potential client. My first attempt at an online portfolio I created a site with a background colour different to the page colour to make the site stand out along with the border, with my name and my alias in the border with separate colours, I found that this was a failed attempt to overdo a website that could be better achieved if I understood how I thoroughly the impact of how an online portfolio can create. Therefore this time I care-



fully bits apart I didn't like about the portfolio and tried again.

As you can see my second attempt of creating an online portfolio I tried to create something a bit more basic and less in your face, with the title of the website having two colours, but the font size was small, therefore it had no significance bearing on the site, in which the name of the site should always be the biggest font size, the colour scheme of grey, yellow and black didn't bring forth a clean and professional look that welcomes people to look at my port-



folio.

Therefore I opted to scrap the website and start again, however this time use the basis of my research to create a basic layout that presents itself as clean, concise and furthermore represents the image I want to portray to a potential customer. As you can see, the progression from one template to another is evident throughout the pictures with the final template more a finished article than the other two attempts, I found just having a basic layout with the right colour scheme and having the right idea along with the research worked for me. With all this being said the achievement of creating a portfolio that represents me within the media industry is just the start to promoting what I do within the industry, as I will carry on reinventing myself



using other forms of promotion to carry out the same outcome as an online portfolio can present.

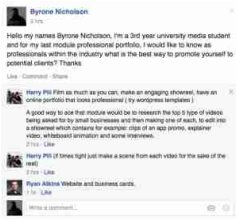
References Lachtnáin, Antóin Ó. Making An Impact Online- On A Shoestring. London: Bloomsbury, 2011. Print.

Website - portfolio (2015-05-22 22:02)

<http://banicholz.wix.com/portfolio>

Professionals talk - research (2015-05-22 22:02)

While asking professional media workers through social media as research, the main question I wanted to ask was what is the ideal way to create interest for my work or find potential clients in media, I found a camera op by the name of Harry Pill who answered the question by stating that you should “ film as much as you can, make an engaging showreel and have an online portfolio that looks professional”

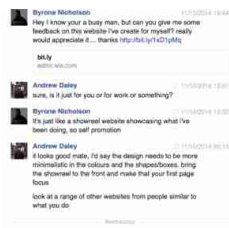


This would illustrate what media practitioners create in order to make opportunities for themselves and this practice is something I should take into consideration if I want to improve my employability skills within the media industry. Along with Ryan Atkins who presented another valuable way to market yourself by using a “website and business cards” with this method of marketing this can form a stable portfolio for people to become interested within the business you have and can ultimately generate business too.

I spoke to a director by the name of Steffan Zachiyah who had her say on the matter of what is the best way to connect with possible clients with the response of “putting yourself out there by attending networking events”

By acting upon this information you’d be demonstrating as a media worker being proactive and this could potentially produce another avenue to create future connection, by going along to specific event dedicated to bringing creative people together in one room can have it’s benefits. Also using social media “so they can stay up to date with what you’re doing” as people with social media platforms it provides the power of creating an online identification, in which anyone can witness your products or media footprint as you have knowledge and control to upload your activity worldwide.

I spoke to Andrew Daley an award winning film maker who’s working at time inc who spoke freely about giving me feedback on my professional portfolio stating that, he witnessed the first version of my portfolio



“it looks good mate, I’d say the design needs to be more minimalistic in the colours and the shapes/boxes. bring the showreel to the front and make that your first page focus, look at a range of other websites from people similar to what you do”

While taking on board the advice from Andrew I will attempt to amend the things he’s illustrated within my portfolio, as I find there still is room for improvement within my portfolio.

I asked another professional within media industry Matt King who gave me his feedback as well with this response “That’s a pretty good site, neat, tidy and very efficient at telling people what you do, and proves it!”



This feedback has aided in me being able to realize that my portfolio is validated, with a well-presented message, which tells people what I do and is backed up with the footage that accompanies it.

Overall asking professionals within the industry what they think of my professional portfolio and how to access potential clients has been a great insight into the industry. The way professionals interact and how they perceive industry standard to be will hopefully give me a better understanding. With this information this should provide me the right knowledge and confidence to publish my portfolio and give me the appearance that an aspiring professional within the industry should be looking for at this present time in my career.

The role of a Camera operator (2015-05-22 22:02)

As my desired line of work within the media industry would be to progress from a camera operator to a cinematographer, firstly I must understand what the role is as a camera operator. So what does a camera operator do? Well according to creative skill set, camera operators “are usually the first people to use the camera’s eyepiece to assess how all the elements of performance, art direction, lighting, composition and camera movement come together to create the cinematic experience.”

This means that you are constantly working along side a team of creative people to illustrate the desired shot or camera movement echoed down from the director. With the role as a camera operator you are the vocal point of demonstrating the outcome of how all the planning of shot list, storyboards and scripts as they start to unravel. Therefore the job is demanding with attention to detail highly recommended.

To find this out I have to ask the question of what the job description entails, as a camera operator's role can be either freelancing or employed to work within film or television the role is similar, however to really understand the role I've used the site of national career service to gain a better definition of the role.

They've highlighted the role qualities in which you'll need in order to be successful within the role as these are some points that I need to be aware of:

Skills, interests and qualities

- good practical skills and knowledge of camera equipment
- an interest in photography, film and video
- good communication and 'people skills'
- the ability to carry out instructions accurately and with attention to detail
- good colour vision
- calmness under pressure
- the ability to work as part of a team
- patience and concentration

good levels of stamina, for holding and moving camera equipment and working long hours.

These skills, interests and qualities are just a number of factors that encourage those who're passionate about this craft tend to have in common with other professionals within the media industry therefore it's peril that these things are put into practice early on within the person's on going career.

Last but not least what type of jobs are available for the role of camera operator and how can they progress within the industry. While searching through indeed.com I found an array of jobs that are tailored to a camera operator, as these are just a few to name:

- Videographer
- Temporary camera operator
- Multi skilled studio operator
- Technical operator
- Cinematographer
- First assistant camera operator
- Second assistant camera operator
- Focus puller
- Video cameraman
- Runner
- Camera assistant
- specialist operator

These are just a few of the avenues in which a camera operator can apply for if they are qualified with the right amount of experience and can prove this throughout their on going work. This will hopefully give me an understanding of what particular role I can identify myself with, within the coming years and gain a steady income being creative and pushing my skills to match the standard of the rapid changes within the industry.

Reference

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobprofiles/Pages/tvorfilmcameraoperator.aspx>

http://creativeskillset.org/job_roles_and_stories/job_roles/3073_camera_operator

<http://www.indeed.co.uk/Camera-Operator-jobs>

Social media impact on my portfolio (2015-05-22 22:31)

For the professional portfolio module I want to create a website that projects the professional efficiency that my work thrives off. This would be the outwards portfolio that I'd present to anybody wishing to find more information about the work I create. Therefore through careful research I've created a linkedin, twitter and a website dedicated for the purpose of portraying my media to the entire public worldwide.

Before coming to this conclusion, I firstly researched on how media practitioners involve social media within their work, how they'd use social media to promote or create an online identity for people to engage with an online community waiting to explore your work and collaborate as "social media is a networking tool that allows you to meet people who you'd never run into or meet in your daily life" (King and Keck, 2014)

Therefore it's essential that involving myself within the social media platform circle, the presentation of my portfolio must reach the full potential required to attract future clients. Hence why the understanding of how the advantages and disadvantages of social media need to be recognised before plunging right into the public eye.

Choosing to use twitter is a great way to involve follow professionals who are constantly on the move and want to stay in touch within the media society as "mobile phone-mediated communication helps people tell each other about their days, which brings the communicating individuals closer" (Murthy, 2013)

This also helps media professionals to understand how their fan base responds to their work by tweeting their interest through a re-tweet, favouring the original tweet or replying back. This can create a public campaign for a media project that strikes a public interest, with using just 140 characters, keeping messages short, precise and straight to the point.

Operating LinkedIn the professional social network, the resourcefulness of the product can be measured by the productivity of a person's engagement. With any media professional finding potential job openings within this

profession, it's vital that using such a social network like this that offers you a different way of creating a online resume or portfolio, is a huge plus as connecting with fellow media practitioners and professionals help you as well as that give out testimonials towards your work as " Providing value to connections is key to business success in social media. LinkedIn is no different" (Bodnar and Cohen, 2012)

The strength of connecting professionals to other professionals can be shown throughout a person's interaction with people online with their own profile. This is a vital part of the on going process of collaborating, participating with people with the similar interest as one another.

As I wanted to create a suitable online portfolio for people to see my work, I came to a dilemma on how I should pursue creating this site. As "Whichever route you take, you're the one who will be making the final decision on design" (Plumley, 2011)

Therefore based on the type of websites that I could opt for, I choose to use the helpful free website called wix.com. This gave me the dedicated, individual a simple way of creating an online web presence. While using this website as a tool I found as a beginner within the world of building websites, this carefully crafted site aided me in projecting my ideas and making them flourish into a portfolio of my work.

Overall using these social media platforms will in the future ascend my professional portfolio into the media industry and put my work in the same light as the professionals I've highlighted and researched about.

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