

SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN

# INTERVIEWS



WORK BY BETH DUFFELL. PHOTOGRAPHY BY YASMIN ENSOR

## BA (HONS) DECORATIVE ARTS

Your interview will help us to decide whether we feel you are suitable for the course, and will help you to decide if this is the right course for you.

Your visit will start with a welcome talk and a tour whilst we look at your portfolio, followed by an individual interview of approximately 20 minutes. At the end of the interview we will answer any questions that you may have, on an individual basis.

### During the interview we will be looking for:

#### Commitment

- A good knowledge of the course and an understanding of its specific features;
- well informed reasons for your decision to study this course; and
- a high level of enthusiasm for the subject and ideas about career goals.

#### Critical understanding

- Evidence of critical thinking and knowledge of visual cultures;
- an awareness of contemporary Art and Design issues related to your subject choice; and
- an interest in exploring the wider context within which your subject operates.

#### Communication skills

- An ability to articulate your ideas and opinions verbally;
- an ability to express your ideas in writing;
- a good command of spoken English; and
- good interpersonal skills, such as listening and questioning.

This information is for those applying to join this course in September 2016.  
This information is correct at the time of printing. Nottingham Trent University reserves the right to change this information without prior notice or justification.

# PORTFOLIO ADVICE



## BA (HONS) DECORATIVE ARTS

**Below is an outline of the types of things you will need to consider when preparing your portfolio:**

- Aim to bring approximately 15 pieces of work. There is no need to window-mount the work, or spend money on mount board. We are happy for the work to be float-mounted onto plain white cartridge paper or thin white board.
- Please select a range of work which shows us who you are and what you are interested in, as well as showing a range of Art and Design skills.
- We are interested in looking at a variety of creative work, including design, photography, life drawing, mixed media work, digital work, as applicable and relevant to your area of study. Due to the fact that some applicants have worked on more 'design' projects than others, your focus may vary. What matters most is your potential and passion for the subject.
- We like to see evidence of your working process, so bring your two most relevant sketchbooks and any working drawings which relate to specific projects in your portfolio.
- Bring a piece of writing in the form of an essay or report, completed as part of your studies.
- If you keep a visual diary or scrapbook of Art and Design interests please bring that along too.
- If you have 3D work which you wish to show at interview, it is often useful to bring photographs rather than the actual piece, unless it is easily transportable.

**Within portfolios and sketchbooks we will be looking for:**

- A quality and range of visual concepts, and level of innovative thinking;
- good presentation and the ability to visualise ideas;
- your ability to handle a variety of technologies, materials and processes;
- your willingness to experiment in a range of visual media;
- good observational skills in drawing.

If you are applying to us from an Art and Design Foundation Diploma, BTEC Extended Diploma or HND course, please do not include A-level or AS-level work in your portfolio; it is the work from your current course which we are most interested in looking at.

We do not expect you to bring along specific types of equipment, computer hardware or software. If you have any particular requirements and would like to bring extra equipment with you in order to demonstrate your portfolio work, please let us know when you confirm your interview with us.

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