

SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN

CREATIVE PORTFOLIO ADVICE



WORK BY BRIONY COUSINS

BA (HONS) FINE ART

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

- Aim to bring a body of work that reflects your practice, approximately 15 – 20 pieces of work. We are happy for your work to be presented in a way that will help you to talk about it with us. We suggest that you mark your work clearly with your name and address on the back, in case it is accidentally left behind.
- Please select a range of work which shows us who you are and what you are interested in. It should ideally represent your most recent work produced on your current course, or independently. Think of a preferred order for the work as we will be initially looking at it without you being present.
- We are interested in looking at a range of your practical work. A particular emphasis should be placed on self-motivated work. You are advised to include a large proportion of this, as this should indicate your own personal potential and passion for the subject.
- We like to see evidence of your working process, so bring examples of your visual thinking and ways that you can show how you work through your ideas. This can be in sketchbooks or as additional worksheets to the 15 – 20 pieces of work.
- During your interview we will specifically ask you to identify two pieces of work from your portfolio to talk about, one which you feel was successful and one which challenged you in some way. Identify these beforehand and be prepared to discuss them.
- We would also like you to bring along a short critical essay which you have written recently on some aspect of contemporary art, i.e. a recent exhibition visit or film you have seen. Please also bring a typed sheet listing of the artists or other sources, including recent exhibitions visited, that have influenced your work.
- 3D work and significantly large 2D works should be represented by photographic or digital prints.

Within portfolios and sketchbooks we will be looking for:

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

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.

If you wish to show us additional work on a laptop computer, particularly moving image work, please bring this with you ready to run. Make sure the computer battery is fully charged for this day.

This information is for those applying to join this course in September 2018.

This information is correct at the time of printing. Nottingham Trent University reserves the right to change this information without prior notice or justification.