

Photography : my way to shout!

V N 9SGI

Task 2



Nan Goldin

Nan Goldin's work is famous for gritty and realistic style pictures that show all the real parts of life and tell stories like photographing people's personal lives and what revolves around them. However, her self portraits are posed in a careful way and each photo varies in the relationships of her subjects and the gazes that are between the photographer, subject and the viewer. The gazes in her photos are confessional and they challenge the relationship with a woman and a male gaze. Goldin explores experiences like desire, love, violence, and death.



Fig. 1 Nan Goldin, *Nan One month after being battered*.

In this self portrait Goldin stares definitely at the camera. Even though she is bruised and in a rough state, she stares with a strong gaze. Her right eye is bruised throughout with a red eye. She has a swollen eye on the right and her left also has some bruising along the edges. However, she still looks confident and calm.



In this photograph, there are 2 shirtless men both presumably drag queens as Nan likes to have them as subjects in her photo to honor them. One of the subjects stares directly at the camera with a full face of makeup and no shirt. They have a kind of confident expression like beauty and boldness. They stand holding the shoulder of the subject with their back to use with something around his neck. The photo is taken with much attention being focused on the subjects since they are nicely illuminated in difference to the dark background behind them.

Fig. 2 Nan Goldin



Fig.3 Nan Goldin, *Nan and Brian in bed 1983*

Her work is able to capture all the underlying tension. In this photo is like a snapshot of real life. The light that shines in to the room as a signifier of a new day. It looks like a personal moment and the viewer is shown the subject in the foreground back, and Goldin, in the background faces him almost looking longing. In order to recreate her photos I would have to be able to capture the gritty and realness of her photos. To be able to recreate the messes in the back, the bright light that flashes on to subject creating shadows behind them and the confronting stare they offer.

Nan Goldin

Draft/Planning

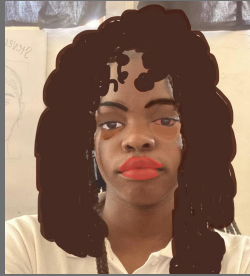


Fig. 4 Authors' Own,

In this first recreation i tried to match my facial expressions with the one in the first photograph, like the pursed lips and the confident stare at the camera. For my final i will try to perfect recreate the state with more intensity and passion to perfectly resemble the photo. One other thing needed for my final is a dark setting with one main lightsource to shine directly at me .



Fig. 6 Authors own

In this second recreation i used 2 fellow students to help me come up with a sort of compost kind of way i would make my final photo. After comparing it i was able to see that the next photo will also be needed to be taken somewhere dark, with a light that shines towards the 2 subjects too. Instead of making them boys in makeup though, i might just use girls or people i have a connection with like the way Nan Goldin had a connection with the drag queens.



Fig. 5 Authors own

I think for this recreation i was able to get it pretty close to the actual photo. The changes i will make would be to change the setting to a lighter and more wrm looking room, have the light coming from the subject on the left side and really try to be accurate on things like the angle at which the photo is taken or the expressions.

Zanele Muholi



Fig. 10 Zanele Muholi, *Sebenzile*

Their eyes are a piercing color of white that contrasts to her deeply black skin. There is a usage of props like pipes or combs that symbolise specific things in her photos. In order to recreate this i would have to have access to a blank background and be creative enough to come up with props that i can use that also carry significance to the final piece. I would like to keep the exentration of the skin to appreciate black beauty.



Fig. 11 Zanele Muholi, *Regal strength and stoicism*

The photos contain black or white backgrounds that either blend with the color of her skin or contrast. Their also usually has her lips shaded a white color, or they are the same color of her skin. She does this to highlight and appreciate the black skin of hers and to accentuate. their portraits usually contain things like random items that she wears and makes into the props of her photos.



Fig. 12 Zanele Muholi, *Stedelijk Museum*

They stare directly at the viewer in a confident affirming way. Their skin in this photo is a contrast to the white background which makes it look their skin look even richer and fine. Their lips are like the same color of the background and instead of hair, decorative looking mop are on their head.

Zanele Muholi Draft/Planning



Fig. 13, Authors own

Here i had to come up with a solution with a pool floatie and a vaseline cap as well as a bedsheet. I think that i would like to still use the same cap that i used before, in my final recreation. I think it would be easier to see if i could get some spare pipes that i could use to mimic the ones the artist has in the final. I would also make sure that the angle of this photo matches with the one of their photos.



Fig. 14 Authors own

Here i was able to get the style of the photo pretty accurate. I think that the use of a bedsheet instead of a sort of scarf is a good substitute. I used a plastic bag to look like her hair because i was not able to get my hair like her. And i think for the final i will just edit the combs in.



Fig. 15 Authors own

I used some pom poms to create the hair, but for the final i would like to use actual hair to really capture the structure that her hair has and its dimension. Then, i will also edit the photo to enhance the look of my skin so that it looks darker and richer. I think i would be able to edit the wall striped in.

Pieter Hugo



In this series by pieter hugo, the subjects are in conditions that would be considered rough or a place like a village in nigeria. These photos are very real and often simplistic, the backgrounds are not edited or changed and the props laying around are real everyday things like stray litter. The photos contain subjects that are staring directly at the camera and they have unfazed straight expressions.

Fig. 19, Pieter Hugo, *the street performer and his hyena*

the photo here shows a man is standing with a hyena at his leg, his stance is however strong like asserting dominance. He wears clothes that seem well used and the background is one of a village which really highlights the realness of the photo.



Fig. 20 , Pieter Hugo, *Nollywood photography*

In this one the three boys covered in a white powder stare at the camera as their hands hang at their sides. The small boy in the middle sits on the prop which in this context is a water barrel. They are covered in some kind of white dust and face unsmilingly.



Fig. 21 Pieter hugo, *Aditi Priscilla*

In this photo the girl sits with her hands wrapped around her legs. She wears a white dress, white something used to symbolize purity and innocence. She stares at us with eyes that almost contrast her skin.

Pieter Hugo Draft/planning



Fig. 22 Authors own

This photo helped me look at the photo and understand what I would want the positioning to look like. I think I need a traditional wear for the subject in the photo as well as a rough and dry looking background that is more authentic looking. The camera positioning is also at the bottom and eighth in front of the subject. In the final I think I will also have to edit the photo so that it matches the color scheme of the original. I plan to either edit in a hyena, or get a dog to pose for me. Considering the circumstance this, an edited hyena seems best.



Fig. 23 Authors own

For the test recreation I saw that the person in the middle would need to be smaller to actually resemble the boy in the original photo. But, for a draft I can now see that the center piece I will use should be at the same level to all the other subjects in the photos so that it looks more balanced.



Fig. 24 Authors own

In this recreation I think I was able to match the tone of the picture. With the coloring scheme of the picture. But, I need to wear/find a poofy dress that would resemble the one in the original photo. I would also make sure that the camera is positioned closer to me.

Final Recreations



Fig 1.1

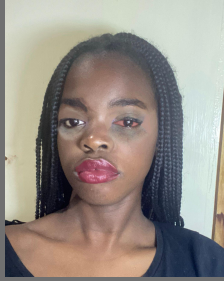


Fig. 7 Authors own

In this final i used the same makeup i used in the photo at the right. I stood in front of a white door and then shined a light to highlight my face. then i went into picsart, and i added a bruise sticker and colored it so it would match the complexion of my skin. I did this too both my eyes and then in an app called Ibs Paint X, i colored my eye red, added a bit of eyebrow color and touched up on the lip color. I think if i was to do this again i would opt to go and take this photo with hair that matched, and a proper background that looks like the one in the original.



Fig. 8 authors own



Fig. 2.1

For this final recreation, i applied some makeup to my eyes and tied my hair up to kind of look similar to the one in the original. However instead of it being a man in the photo i used myself as a way to appreciate myself like how Goldin appreciated the drag queens. I shined a light on me and my brother whose shoulder im holding and after i went to edit the photo. I put a dull looking filter and then changed the saturation to make the picture look cool instead of warm like the original.



Fig. 9 Authors own



Fig. 3.1

For this recreation i went to my brothers room and set up the bed so that it would face the mirror like the original. I then positioned myself and then after taking the photo, went to settings to make it look warm like the original. I added a warm filter in the camera app on my phone.



fig.12.1



Fig. 16 Authors own

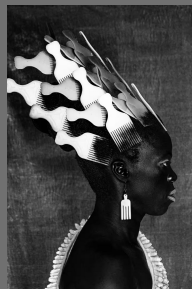


Fig. 11.1



Fig. 17
Authors own



Fig. 10. 1



Fig. 18 Authors
own

For this photo I started with black and white paper for the background. I cut the black into a circle and then added the white stripes. After that, I needed to make the circular thing on top of her head. At first I did this with a Vaseline container but now I just resorted to using paper. To make the pipe looking things I folded some paper and then stuffed some of them with more paper to make it be able to fold. I wore a black shirt to match with my skin color in the photo and I wrapped the papers around me.. When I was finished I added the black and white filter and tried to enhance the color of my skin with no avail. I think next time I would try to find pipes that I could actually get and use and also try to find an app to allow me to edit the photo fully.

One thing I did well with this photo is the facial expressions and look. Like the contrast in lip and face color or the way that their eyes stare directly in front like mine. In this photo I used a bedsheet to go around my shoulder to look like the one that she also has around their shoulder and I think that they match in similarity besides the texture that is in her photo. For the comb part I decided that it would be easier for me to just edit them online into my photo. But I started with prepping my hair in a bun, and then supporting it with a lotion bottle, then wrapping it in a plastic bag. Then I started by getting a plain sticker of a comb, then I made it white and added it to my head. I copied the sticker around and added one to my ear too. After that I went and made my skin a bit darker to match with the theme of the photo and then editing the background a bit.

In this photo I used a black wig in order to kind of replicate the mop she has on her head. I separated some parts to add some kind of dimension and also tried to fold them to get them a little more geometric looking. I wore pink lipstick to contrast my skin and stood in front of a curtain to mimic the one in the photo. After taking the photo I proceeded to edit it a bit and put a black and white filter on it as well as trying to make my skin appear darker than the hair.. They also has very visible collar bones and they are somehow highlighted with white to make them stand out more.



Fig. 19.1



Fig. 25,
Authors
own

To recreate this photo i first got my subject (my brother) to dress in a skirt made from stripes and then i had him wear a kitenge shirt which made the photo look more traditional. I got my dog to mimic the hyena but it was hard to get her in the right positioning as the original photo. After taking the picture i went into the camera editing app, added a warm filter and changed the saturation slightly.



Fig. 20.1



Fig. 27,
Authors own



Fig. 21.1



Fig. 26, Authors
own

In this dress picture I was able to get an old dress that was kind of the same size as the one in the picture. One thing it lacked was the real exaggeration and poofiness of the first and I also don't have a head ribbon or gloves. The coloring of the original photo looks like it was taken outdoors however I took mine indoors. The angling of my legs is also something I noticed was different since the girl in the picture's legs are facing slightly to the right. So the subject is sitting at a kind of angle.

In this photo i was able to get 3 subjects. I think their positioning was pretty good because I was able to get it to look like the one in the photo. However there are many things the photo lacks like a brick background and the attire that the boys are wearing. I think if I was able to change something I would find the right subjects to use in my photo and the right background.

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Task 3

My way to shout!

oppression

Anxiety

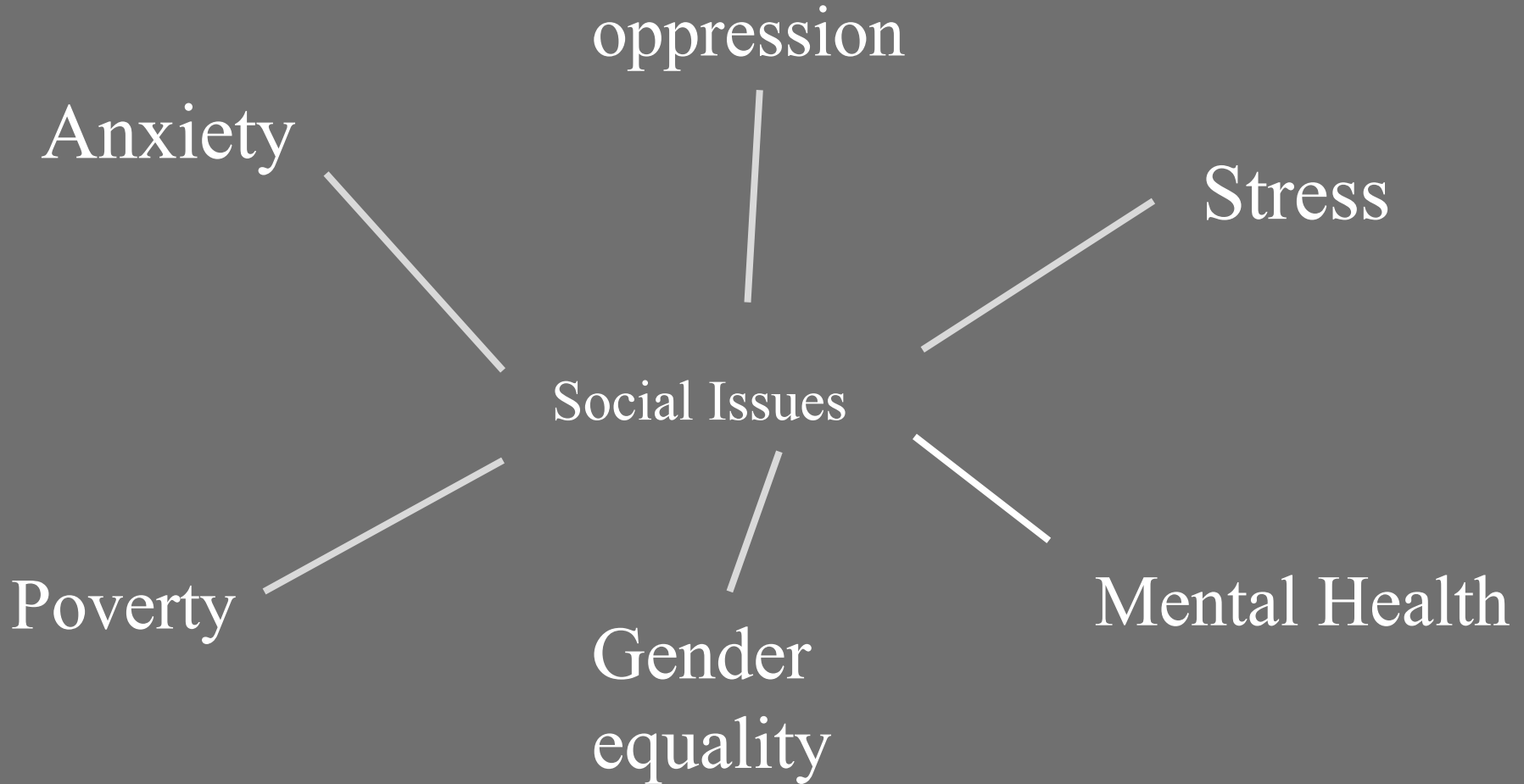
Stress

Social Issues

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Gender
equality

Mental Health



Self esteem issues /Anxiety

Social anxiety is described as the feeling of an overwhelming fear of social situations. It's more than being shy, a fear that can affect your everyday life. This affect your relationships, friendships, work, school, even everyday activities. A person with social anxiety feel worried about situations constantly with no break. You can feel like there are eyes constantly on you scrutinizing your every move. I feel like i can relate to this personal when i am in crowded situations or with people i am not close to. It's like a suffocating, or the one of being trapped. In my photo i would like to show a crowd of people and make myself the center staring at the camera. To highlight the feeling of anxiety and how it makes you feel singled out

Self esteem issues

The feeling of not belonging in a group of people. The feeling of not looking, feeling, or acting like everyone else. You feel like you don't belong in the group of people you are with, you feel insignificant or lonely. Or like the feeling of not looking like the rest of you. When you look at the rest of your friends and you don't look like them or talk like them or *feel* like them. This can also affect your self esteem, and how you view yourself. When you feel left out you start to scrutinize yourself and question yourself which lowers self esteem. In my photo i would like to illustrate this in my photo the same feeling of being left out like in anxiety. Standing with a group of people as you scrutinize yourself.

ALL EYES ON YOU

In this series of photos i would like to demonstrate the feeling of Anxiety and self scrutiny that is felt in social situations. This is felt in many girls as they are always looking at themselves and how they could be better, look better, feel better. In this triptic, i would like to only have female models because no one judges a girl more than another girl. In all of these photos i will be facing the camera staring straight at it. As all eyes are fixated on me in these photos, i fixate my eyes on the camera. In the photos only my face will be directed towards the camera with little focus to everyone else's. This cements the theme of the photos that everyone looks at me, even the viewer, that shows the true feeling of being watched constantly. I will also explore different places for the models to pose within the photos just like changing positioning in each photo. The aim is for these to look realistic but still be able to carry the same message of being singled out, self esteem issues and social anxiety.

Methodology Pt.3

My intention for this photo was to illustrate a pool scene and the anxiety and bad feelings that come with surroundings with lots of girls and partying and phones and chaos. The aim for this photo was to make everything else look like a blur while i stay still and idle to highlight the feeling of isolation. All these photos focus on low self esteem and the feeling of seclusion in a group of people so for this photo i aim to express the singled out feeling in a social situation. The sticking out feeling when you feel like the centre of attention.



For this first phrro i wanted to make everyone look like they were nejoying their time whilst i “photo bombed” in the back to express the feeling of being left out and un-wanted. I held my self to show insecurity and un sureness. However in the next photo i wanted to make the photo look like a glimpse into an actual situation that wasnt staged to add to the realisticness of the photo making it look like it could be something in everyday life.



so, i got my models to pose in the background of the photo taking a picture of themselves as i stood in the forground staring at the camera with an unsure expression. I feel like this communicates insurity whilst still keepiung the realistic feel of the photo.



Then, i inverted the photo and added a blake and white filter to follow the therme of the triptych. I tried to make it look as dark and gloomy as possible to match the way that i would feel in this photo. I then blurred the models in the background to also express the emotions felt by the forgowund model and convey to the audience a kind of feeling like nausea.

Methodology Pt.2



my intention for this photo was to display the everyday feeling of not belonging as people watch you as they scrutinize you the isolated and lonely feeling that is placed when you are put in the centre of attention. Even in a simple situation like a bathroom, the feeling still lingers. However now, unlike the photo before they all look at me starting to close their attention to me and unlike the first photo i move further from the photo into the background and im still the centre of attention.

So first i lined all the girls up to one side and i wanted to make it look like i, was interrupting in the scene drawing attention to me. I made sure that it was only my face that would be seen and that everyone else would be looking at me to follow the idea of “all eyes on you” and the same idea that it would only be me facing the camera.



Then, i decided to take off the lights to follow the dark theme of all the photos. The photo in the left shows the dark and gloomy picture. I added a black and white filter then i lowered the saturation of the photo as well as the brightness.

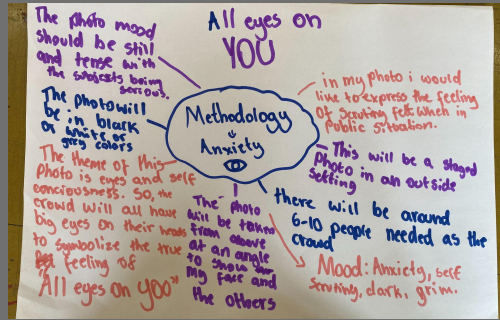


However i wanted to make it look like there was more depth in this photo so i made 2 of the models to the other side to make the composition of the photo look better. Doing this creates more depth in the photo and makes it look like there are layers.



Methodology Pt.3

My artistic intention was to demonstrate the way that anxiety can be seen in social situations. By having all the models surround the one person in the middle encasing her as they watch her. This demonstrates the feeling of being watched in a group of people as they keep their eyes on you. Unlike the other two photos, the other models are now completely focused on me and the photo is taken from a higher angle, instead of just looking at me, they scrutinize me with their hands.



So this was my first plan, like i said in the mind map, i would like to have a black and white photo and then to be surrounded by people facing me. In this photo i would like to have everyone facing away from the camera, looking at me and then me looking at the camera in every photo. The photo is showing the feeling of being looked at all the time and isolated.



So i wanted everyone to stand close to me and have the photo look confrontational. All the models in the photo would have a blank/ judgmental facial expression to show how they judge and add to the mood of the photo. In the final i would like the background to be plain as to draw attention to the models in the photo and not the background



But then, i decided that i liked the messy and suffocating look of everyone holding me as i look into the camera, kind of forcing me to be confrontational with the viewer as they are with me. I wanted it to look more aggressive and forced to show the transition from the first photo where i was ignored, to their attention being fully drawn to me



So i made it black and white to match with the dark and gloomy theme. I did this by going into the camera settings and adding the filter called 'mono' then lowering the saturation and highlights



ALL EYES ON YOU