

1. Could you tell us how you would identify yourself as a practitioner and the context in which you'd like to work including who your audience or target market would be?

At this moment in time, I'm still unsure as to the exact path I'd like to go down with my career, however I know I've always had a passion for performing so I personally would identify myself as a theatre practitioner who wants to specialise specifically in being an onstage performer. I understand that my degree has given me skills to be a facilitator if I choose to be, but I would like to help people by simply giving them joy and a chance to escape in a performance inside a theatre. I would like to work within a theatre environment, maybe starting off working behind the scenes i.e. front of house and customer-based roles. In doing this I would be putting myself within a theatre environment to gain more knowledge, to then be able to work to go to auditions and eventually make my way towards being an onstage performer. As a performer I'd be interested in all types of theatre, my learning has prepared me for contemporary theatre so I have relevant skills for that style, I know that contemporary theatre can be very abstract and so I'd be more inclined to go towards a traditional but I've always had a passion for musical theatre and would be happy to make my way into that field of performing, meaning I'd need to be part of an agency and present myself and my portfolio as a performer. As I'm open to different types of theatre I believe my audience can be anyone who has a love for the theatre and going to the theatre, however in saying this, it would be great to get younger people interested in theatre so we don't lose a passion for the art form. In the future it would be interesting to see if, after completing some performing goals, I could be part of a professional company or even create my own company, however, this isn't something I have a goal for at this moment in time.

2. How is your identity as a practitioner both reflected in the portfolio; and produced by the portfolio?

I believe my identity as a performer reflects in my portfolio as the projects I have mentioned are all performance projects I have been a part of, in these reflections I have mentioned the skills and experience I have gained from these performances, particularly skills in contemporary theatre. This portfolio shows through images and language what my identity as a practitioner is. In the portfolio the use of photos are all of performances I have been a part of and had a part in devising, the photos show either the process of making the performance or the actual performance itself and this brings out the performance aspect of this portfolio. The language used in the portfolio is language that brings out my performance side and shows I am skilled in that area. However, I have also included the relevant language to show my skills for a future employer that may want to hire me for a customer-based job. As my future career as a practitioner is not completely decided upon, I wanted the portfolio to show both sides to me as a performer and as someone who can be around a work environment that does not necessarily include performing. The colours of my portfolio and the way I've chosen to set it out show how bright I am as a person and how big my passion for performing is, for example, by the way I have chosen my header for the portfolio. I wanted the portfolio to be simple, easy to navigate but still interesting to look at and read. The bright colours produce a welcoming and easy going vibe, which is how I'd like to see myself as a practitioner, the header image shows my love for the stage and the portfolio is easy to get around so the information needed to show my knowledge and skills is easy to find. I have mentioned more than once in the portfolio how my degree has given me skills; I need that brings me across as a theatre practitioner who would like to be heavily involved in performing on stage. Overall, I believe my portfolio brings to light my passion, skills and work ethic as a practitioner who is still deciding on a lifelong career but would like nothing more than to perform for a living.

3. Drawing on evidence from your portfolio, what would you identify as the most significant moments of insights to your learning as a practitioner?

Throughout my life I believe I have experienced a large number of moments where my learning as a practitioner has been deepened and where I have learnt a great deal about myself as a performer and where my skills lie. However, throughout the last three years of my university degree my eyes have been opened to wide variety of challenges and new styles that I would have to learn or overcome. One of the biggest moments of learning for me as a practitioner was learning about and being part of the contemporary style of theatre, this was something completely new for me and it was difficult for me to understand the meaning of theatre 'without meaning'. In understanding this style eventually, I found that throughout my years I could use this style to benefit me and create/ devise new pieces of theatre, much like the ones listed under projects on my portfolio. Another big learning curve for me was, and what made me re-evaluate myself as a performer, was creating my own piece of work in my third year (also listed under projects). The reason this broadened my learning was because it took me out of my comfort zone but also gave me a lot of creative freedom. At times, the creative freedom made it difficult for me to focus and come up with ideas, it took a lot of time and work to get my piece to where it needed to be. I was not used to being a leader/director in a performance situation but I used my initiative and stepped into the role to make sure my cast knew they could rely on me. I did not realise just how difficult it would be and this gave me a chance to gain new skills and knowledge of this kind of work. I really had to push myself to make sure I got an end result and this made me learn how to be confident in my own work, how to push myself and learn where my limits were and how to lead a group of people to create a piece of theatre that included everything I wanted it to include.

4. What do you want to do next and how do you think your portfolio evidences and helps this ambition?

As mentioned above, I am currently unsure as to where my degree and my love for theatre will take me. My ultimate goal is to perform on stage as a career, whether that be in contemporary theatre, traditional theatre, or musical theatre. I understand that this might not happen right away and that I may need extra training, extra support, or another job to support this. In taking these things on board, I would like to work in or around the theatre to gain knowledge and to be working in a place I am passionate about. Once I am earning a living, I can think about anything extra I may need to happen or people I may need to contact for opportunities. My portfolio evidences and helps this because I have created content that shows off my skills and best attributes, it shows not only how I am as a performer but also as a person. It shows what I have learnt over the years, what I have done before this point to get to this point and what I have achieved while gaining a degree in drama and theatre. In my portfolio, I have highlighted the performance experience I have, both in creating performances and being part of a cast in performances, I have also briefly touched on my past performing experience, such as musical theatre and college experience. This portfolio shows how much I have learned from my university degree and how I can use that for projects in the future. As well as this, my portfolio also gives the relevant information to a future employer that I may work for, for example someone looking to hire me for a front of house role at a theatre. This shows how passionate I am about the theatre as well as showing them I have the skills needed to take on such a job. In conclusion I would like to get into the theatre environment and within that, progress into performance prospects. In the distant future I may want to look into being part of a company or making my own company but that would come with a lot of experience and knowledge, while

this is not confirmed it may be something I want to look into in the future. However, for now I would just like to work in a theatre to be around something I'm very passionate about every day.