

Rasha Kotaiche

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Profile

Adaptable, bilingual and outgoing are three of the many qualities that I offer as a person. As an employee I describe myself as versatile and a quick learner, but also critical when needed; I believe in working towards what is asked but giving my own input based on my skills, experience and knowledge. I'm an individual who thrives off group progression, and aim to motivate others to help achieve their goals. I'm looking for a role that offers me a position to contribute with my expertise, but to also continue to learn and develop from as a creative. The experiences I've learnt from means I offer a range of skills from creative production, to organisation and management, to customer service. I am happy to travel where and when required.

Education

September 2018 - July 2020 - Nottingham Trent University Masters in Photography - High Commendation Stage 3 Modern Standard Arabic - 1st

Across these 2 years I produced a series of portraits (You have your Islam and I have mine) and a short film (Forget Me Not) centred on cultural identity and intergenerational migration. This work can be found in the Projects page of my website. I also wrote a research paper about the use of photography & social media as a form of protest in the Lebanon riots of 2019.

Alongside the course I continued to develop my network by collaborating with other artists, organisations and taking on different roles that included organising and leading teams through live briefs.

September 2015 - July 2018 - Nottingham Trent University BA(Hons) in Photography - 1st

My exploration in cultural identity started in my second year and continued across 4 years. This focus gave me the chance to develop my practice by focusing on different areas of the topic. It provided me with travel, meeting an array of people and produce work in different formats including digital and analogue photography, video, book making and exhibition curation. These can also be found on the projects page of my website.

September 2008 - June 2015 - Mcauley High School & Sixth Form

A2 Subjects: Media Studies (A) Film Studies (B) Sociology (D) 10 GCSE's (A-C)

Volunteer Experience

October 2015 - July 2020 - Nottingham Trent University + Student Union

Arab Society Vice President - Global Week, Lebanon Stall Host + Photographer

MA Photo Course Representative - Global Summer School Photographer and Assistant

Second Year Exhibition Leader and Curator - BA Photo Student Mentor

Photography Society President - BA Photo Course representative

Present Work Experience

Youth Relief Support Worker - Epic Doncaster

February 2022 - Present

- Monitoring young people at EPIC Hub, the Youth Club in Doncaster Frenchgate
- Liaise, book and organise artists for creative workshops
- Build a rapport with Young People to allow them to express themselves, and provide a safe environment

Marketing Manager - ArtBomb Festival

January 2022 - Present

Artbomb Festival is an annual mini-arts summer festival located in the centre of Doncaster. In 2021 I was the Project Admin, for 2022 I am the Marketing Manager.

- Website redesign and development of brand identity
- Social media marketing
- Audience Research
- Customer Relationship Management

Founder + Project Manager - True Tone

November 2020 - Present

As a co-founder of True Tone, I have taken responsibility for successfully managing the organisation

- Initiated the organisation, its feasibility, working out budgets and resources
- Carried out the planning; defining our aims and objectives, assigning roles, produced schedules & timelines
- Scouted and booked creatives to host workshops
- Contacted organisations and schools to promote opportunities
- Designed and run the True Tone website

Key Achievements: Attracting over 100 participants from across the Doncaster Borough who took part in our series of online workshops, receiving positive feedback and desire for more. Creatives reaching out to be included in our website's directory, which has been widely used and appreciated for those looking to work with a creative. Our Directory bringing creatives together, collaborating and creating new local projects.

Photographer and digital artist - Freelance

September 2013 - Present

My freelance career started off in photography, and has since developed into working with video, content creation and book+web designing. I pride myself in my versatility in the work I produce, having experience in various genres of photography and videography including music, events, fashion and product. I work in both studio and on location, with knowledge in lighting for both. I've worked with a variety of equipment and software from digital to analogue, canon to fujifilm, Lightroom to CaptureOne and digital printing to the darkroom. I've worked in different environments, with different concepts and with people from all over the world.

My greatest achievement is the contacts I have made, worked for and continue to work for after developing a trusted relationship with all. Some of my clients include Jack Garratt, August Charles, Heju, Right Up Our Street, Public Acts, CAST, Nottingham Contemporary and UCLA, to name a few. I have an ongoing position as a content creator for home-jewellery business, The Colourful Aura.

You can see my work on my website - rashakotaiche.com

Work Experience

Project Admin - ArtBomb Festival

January 2021 - August 2021

Artbomb Festival is an annual mini-arts summer festival located in the centre of Doncaster. In 2021 I was the Project Admin:

- Liaised with artists, volunteers and caterer; booking, confirming, scheduling, and collating data and invoices.
- Programmed the festival; scheduling times, dates and locations of each event.
- Co-designed the logo and branding of the festival
- Documented the festival; photography + videography + producing an overall video

Key achievements: Attracted over 200 attendees and received high praise of the festival that has led to being funded for an annual summer arts festival. Reached out to different schools, colleges and independent artists to volunteer, and has led to leading educational sessions for aspiring artists to learn more, gain experience and attend more creative activities.

Nottingham Trent Global Lounge Assistant

July 2019 - August 2020, *On-Site and Online*

Aside from the upkeep of the Lounge I developed a great rapport with the staff and with the students who attended. I helped develop the transition to a virtual lounge due to covid, in which we continued our activities online. I assisted in helping make the student's university experience better.

- Planning and hosting events including multiple karaoke, quiz, film and game nights.
- Hosting the weekly cultural lunches where we provided food, music, activities and discussion - including preparing my own Lebanese cultural day.
- Taught Arabic and English at the weekly Language cafe and provided photography tutorials.

Key achievements: Developed a team-work system keeping a good flow of service during activity nights and cultural lunches. Signed up 30 volunteers to host a cultural stall during Global Week. Introduced students to one another to help create new bonds and tackle student-loneliness.

Project Manager of NTU's 22nd Photography Festival

October 2017 - July 2018

I managed a team of 14 students to produce a city-wide photography festival. I oversaw all aspects which included:

- Planning, producing schedules and deadlines, managing the budget and assigning roles
- Oversaw production of the catalogue and website
- Scouted and liaised with venues, technicians and suppliers
- Assisted in group allocations

The festival was 2 weeks long with 76 students exhibiting across 11 venues in June 2018. At the end of June I helped produce and curate an exhibition of 30 students as part of Free Range Festival in London.

Key Achievements: Won Photography Undergraduate of the year for my dedication and for successfully executing a city-wide festival, attracting over 3000 people across 11 exhibitions. Sourced new venues for future exhibitions. Exhibited my work across 3 venues including the New Art exchange.

Nottingham Trent University Art+Design Student Ambassador/ Photographer

October 2016 - July 2020

I started off working as an ambassador for my course, providing tours of the facilities to prospective students on interview and open days. This then moved into other related roles such as telephone campaigns and travelling to Manchester and London to represent the course at UCAS fairs.

Developing a relationship with the marketing team, who hosted these events, allowed me to begin working for them as a photographer, shooting their student profile series and university events. I also assisted in video production and collaborated with the Knitwear course staff on a publication.