**14.06.21**

**So, how did you find the process of taking all these pictures? And like you know reflecting or whatever?**

It was fun 'cause normally I see these things, which I don't like. I think a bit about it but it's like I think about and move on with my day and forget about it. But like seeing things in the flesh and looking and thinking but then going like” Oh yeah like I'll take a picture of it like”, it kind of stays on a bit longer if that makes sense, uh-huh.

**That's cool, so it gave you like more time to reflect on stuff.**

Yeah, and also things that kind of like I'm used to it like this is this picture right there? Like it's a place that I'm very used to, I walk past like all the time so I never thought about taking a picture of your thinking about it too much. But it's all of those things I will say actually no, I do take this for granted 'cause it is a nice walk.

**Yeah, I guess if we start with this one so, as you know, all these interviews are getting like being turned into a transcript. So yeah, if you can just tell me, kind of what we're looking at here. Or why you chose to take this picture when you were when you were tasked with taking photos of things that represent nature for you.**

So basically I lived in every edge of Hackney Downs at some point, like I'm post Rd Clapton Dalston, like Pembury, literally every corner and it's one of those places that at some point I actually complain about. It was like people only ever want to go to Hackney Downsm like I'm so sick of it and when I was in France and I realized how much I miss green spaces, it got to a point there like I thought I'd actually kill to be in Hackney Downs. So I I said I take for granted but I don't anymore.

**So that's one of the main places you think of when you think about nature in the city?**

yeah.

**What were you doing when you were like taking this photo?**

I think I was walking to X’s house, so I left a friend's house to go to another friends house during the day. Yeah, and I was just like because I actually could have taken another path. There is probably a bit closer actually, but it's just through the streets, but I thought you know. Well like this, I have to walk from one place to the other. I'm gonna take the greenest way

**uh-huh so so you're saying about this kind of representing nature in the city? What was the nature in this photo?**

It’s is the open sky. The fact that you can't really see high buildings blocking the sky, view the trees and I know that they're like man made is not like they naturally grew there the way they are now. But at some point they did so I think it's like an attempt to recreate the original nature green spaces that were there at some point and have a space for people to enjoy that it's not just full of concrete.

**Yeah yeah, yeah. So what are the benefits of Hackney Downs for you? Why are you going out of your way to…?**

Just to spend time in that place and. I think it's like a fresh air thing, like it's not as fresh as going to the countryside, but if you have the option of walking down Dalston Lane or Mare Street or walk amongst the trees in the park, and that’s not the only way to get around as you can see, you could also ride a bicycle. Yeah, it's nice and it's relaxing and they even if I'm not just like going from one place to the other for meeting friends, it's a lot nicer to sit on the grass and like take your time an it's not busy so you can focus on the people you're with. You don't have people like. Little like half a meter behind you talking really loud like you would in a pub. For instance.

**Yeah, so like you're talking about it being like a social space. Well, how it works in terms of like, sharing the kind of natural world with everybody else?**

It's a bit tricky 'cause I I love the idea of having that as a social space. But I do get a bit annoyed at people who leave trash behind, so for instance like last week I was in a park with a friend just like enjoying the day. And as we were walking there was a space. There was clearly where a group was sitting and they left every single can and bottle behind. Yes, I think that is really nice. We have that, but it would be great if people actually appreciate and looked after it. Yeah, 'cause again, I cannot pub. People can be disrespectful which is not nice. I'm not saying it's good, but because it's a. Is a public space, but it's like a business. They have people cleaning after whoever left crap behind where they know park. Yeah, they might have that, but like. It's different and they shouldn't be looking after people's rubbish. They should be there to like look after the plants and like the place itself or the things that you need to look after and not cleaning after people who should actually be happy to have a place like this right?

**Right so so the kind of nature that's in Hackney Downs, requires people to look after it and like you said, it's kind of unnatural in a way**

yeah, is unnatural, but it's I. I find it hard to explain that 'cause again, like it’s man made, like someone planted the grass and the trees. They weren't the same stuff that were there. Like before London became London. Yeah, but in a way this nature. So like you plant, the trees are planted the seed and nature doesn't think. But again as a public space you do need people looking after it. Otherwise humans trash it like they do it. Pretty much every place.

**OK right yeah yeah. That's interesting. Could you say that humans are kind of like. Unnatural in that regard**?

Yeah, I find that like… yeah we are animals, but. Yeah we are like advanced animals with consciousness, but unfortunately not many people like to make use of this intelligence to actually look after the rest of it and the rest of nature they use that to like just claim spaces. So they either in a small scale like, claim a little pass or claim like a square foot on the park, or claim a whole country like. I think it's just a human thing there. It's not great. And again, this whole idea of taking green spaces and building concrete to make money. 'cause I guess I like park is not really a source of income to anyone, and we're really blessed to have so many parks in London. Don't know if that made any sense, but yeah,

**yeah yeah, that's interesting. So it's like it's like the Council don't like make money out of they don't charge you an entry fee to the park it's given us like a social good.**

Yeah exactly and I think because of that as well people feel entitled to like. Yeah, it's mine like I I'm allowed to be here and they leave their crap behind and don't think about it

**That's really interesting. Thank you. I'm going to click on. So what I've done is with some of the pictures. Is I've like put two to a slide and like what was normally done with all the other interviews where I prepared more is like done them more thematically, so I've kind of tried to do that, but some of them are a bit a little bit random. So like I don't know how much these two photos go together for example, but if we just started on the first one and what what we what we looking at there?**

So that was also in Hackney Downs, and it’s the idea of like wild flowers growing up. 'cause again is a nature. Just doing its thing. 'cause yeah, the trees were planted there and we get the field of wildflowers on the other side of the park that I don't think is there this year. But normally someone actually looks after them. They plant the seeds and wait until they grow. But this is basically like just. Wild little flowers that I don't know if I can see the weeds or what but like yeah they just grow one is on whatever suits them right? I don't know. They also cheers me up 'cause they're so tiny but like just bring some colors.

**Yes, there's a few things I'd like to talk about it, so like that kind of man-made Meadow- it is there actually at the moment? It's really. It's really pretty at the moment, I went past today. So like say these little flowers, these daisys, and then those ones in the meadow that have been planted there. Are they in terms of how kind of natural or unnatural they are, they the same in a subtly different or like how do you see that?**

I'd say they’re subtly different, because in a way like they're all wild flowers at all, like going down there all nature for me, like they only exist because. Nature, both to the point of them existing and the Earth’s atmosphere being adequate. If that's how you put it, but I guess they like with the meadow someone actually planned that they went there and they put a little fence so people don't step on it and they flowers like they get to grow properly and there's different flowers. They pick the seeds in all of it, with these they just grow somehow, I don't know birds drop the seed there or shit it out. They are just growing wild on their own, like no one actually planned for them to be there, so that feels more natural. That randomness, yeah it does because again, I'm not an expert on plants, but I don't know if the dasies got there from like birds eating seeds and shifting them around 'cause I know that with some plants that's the case but if that's the case it's like the the park is man made, but that’s where they end up nonethless. There is just animals acting by their instincts or plants growing by their own system. Yeah. And then, like you said, the grass has been put there by people. But then this is an example of nature. You know, coming through so yeah, and just reclaiming the space.

**OK, that's interesting. What other ways might nature like reclaim space or do we have any pictures of that?**

I think there is another one of like some I don't know. I can't remember if it’s a flower or plant growing through the cracks in the pavement

**And then and then the one on the right? Obviously we're not in Hackney Downs anymore with this one.**

This one, like there is a thing on top of it, so I can't tell if it's Clissold or where is this one., that's just by Hackney Central, not far away, yeah? The church there. I wanted to take a picture from the other side, but I did when I was on a bus but. Again, this was the same idea that like yeah, you have a building on the back, but it's like a man-made park, but you still don't see the rest of the state, so you don't see the high buildings and. If you go to central London, you have one building next to the other weather. With this one you have the church, but you do have a nice garden and really tall trees. And it just gives the idea of like. It's a kind of isolation and like a peaceful place 'cause I spend quite a lot of time in the church out like on the other side, and that one actually. You can see more of like nature, reclaiming space 'cause there's a plant growing over the graves and some of the graves being pushed out and you can see roots of trees there lift graves as well which is quite interesting. I didn't get to take a picture of that by just didn't work that way. Y

**What's natural or involving nature in this photo? 'cause it seems like, like again, we could say here. Like you know, people built the church. They put those trees there like the hedge. The little hedge there has been designed…**

So basically if you're looking the branches like right in the middle where they go? Kind of like this. They're like some little birds sitting there, so it's kind of like this idea of like that. But it's just like, yeah, it's man made, but they found shelter there. Then they go back to where it feels natural to them.

**Yeah, OK, that's interesting. I think I've got weather… the graveyard ones… here is this ones, yeah.**

This will actually wasn't happening was in Cambridge OK, But yeah is a church yard that is completely overgrown and is the idea that was talking about the other church out of like? You stop looking after it and they just like reclaiming the space so you can see like the grass is really tall when they not much about it is designed. If you can tell like there's a Bush but like. It's something that kind of like people seem to just have let it go.

**Yeah, what does that like represent to you? What? Why did you wanna stop and take this picture?**

Oh, it's a mix of things like I like graveyards. But I really like to see when things overgrown 'cause again like it's just the idea that I, even if men started then put there in the first place. You can just let it go and nature will always do his thing. I and if there was a design, maybe the Bush in the back used to be a bit more well trimmed. The tree is made more sense but I to the point that people just let it be. It actually looks even more beautiful 'cause it's just the natural state of things.

**What would you say is like, the natural state of things? What this more? The other day, how would you describe that?**

I'm just selecting things grow as they would so they if you have a bush like you don't try to shape it as a like cylinder or something like this. You just let it grow like that little one on the right is like all spiked up and I I guess that like people were looking after they would try to make you look a bit more presentable. But like that's just how this plant looks I guess.

**OK yeah yeah that's interesting. Like how? How far along are we in this photo? You kind of have natural is it versus how? Unnatural?**

Uhm well is a natural because it is such a chance. So at some point people design it to be a certain way, but their natural points that again at a different point. People just stop looking after it and then. It became natural, if that makes sense. Like things just thought like following its course. OK, yeah, that makes sense. What I mean in terms of the benefits to people. What do you think is better when things are? Is there a benefit in things being controlled and being you know less natural or untrue? I think it really varies from like person to person. I think that some people like things looking pretty like flower garden, very well designed and made like. I don't know where the color pattern or species and they followed certain rules to keep things in a certain way. But I think that also having things natural makes people a bit more humble 'cause it makes you realize that you can't control everything. Yeah, and you shouldn't have to control everything. And another thing that I like to this one is because the church are there like religious people have the habit of believing that no more to or their soul will live on, and I don't know. It's just a grave showing there. In the end we're all going to become worm food. I like that.

**cool. On that note, I'm gonna click over to the next one. So yeah, this is one where I've kind of bunched three up together. So yeah, maybe if we want to, the first one is that in Clissold Park?**

Yeah, the deer. Yeah, and I guess that is man made and everything but this one I think is one of the examples of benefits of it because I guess they for some people isn't it wouldn't be easy for them to see a deer, or get their children to see different animals. So it's one of those occasions that if they are well looked after, obviously it's nice to give that experience to people in like allow them to see something that they might otherwise not have the chance to.

**Yeah, what what, what? Why is that Nice or what are the benefits?**

To the community and those kids in seeing that grazing deer? I think I don't know, but maybe that's just me, but I think it allows people to develop like more compassionate feelings 'cause it's quite easy to watch TV or see cartoons or pictures of animals and then. Also watch cartoons and films about people hunting. If you never seen that for yourself and realize that, yeah, that is a human. Sorry I living creature and it does exist and has habits and it looks beautiful and is living its life would like this. Their friends. I just being happy. Yeah, it just makes it real. 'cause it's the same idea when people buy meat in the supermarket and like is chopped chicken but when they see a roasted chicken, but don’t want to eat it because it looks too real, I guess that if you have like a living animal it makes it real. So I think that you know makes people get more compassionate to be used to it.

**Yeah yeah, so there like societal benefits too. Yeah yeah. Do you know who like? Who owns these deer?**

I have no idea. Actually have no idea 'cause they have the birds as well and I don't know if they've been rescued and then became a thing. I don't know. Someone bought them and made us with a purpose. I actually had no background story about it, yeah?

**I guess that's kind of different to this little chap we have in the middle there. Oh yeah, yeah. So yeah. What are we looking at there and what were you doing when you you took that picture?**

So I was on the bus, probably coming back from work. Yeah, and it's a little fox in a Council state. Yeah, and again, I think that's one of the things that when I first moved to London and I saw Foxes, I was on the phone with my mom and was like Oh my God, there's a fox here! She said don't be stupid like why would there be a fox in a middle of the road in London? It can’t be a fox, it must be a dog, so it's 100% of folks and we didn't realize foxes actually live in like urban places. But again, it's like the sort of animal that they were here before us. Like before, people start building cities. And they decided just like to adapt and stay there. But I I guess that's another thing like nature can be adoptable even though I wouldn't say this ideal because ideally like the fox is shouldn't have to go through all of that. 'cause if you look at the foxes is in the countryside they are healthier and bigger. They don't have the same risk of being run over by a car or bus. Yeah, but. You know there's a little sign of them. They still being there, and the fact that they. If people moved out and just abandoned and became a ghost town, more animals would probably reclaim the space.

**So I mean, like, you know, we've talked about like London before humans being here or calling it London, or it's developing the city and stuff. And then you know, maybe in this like apocalyptic situation, like after everybody's left is it like? I mean is it kind of like nature and and humans? And is the active, us like building these cities and having these urban environments unnatural?**

In that case I think so. 'cause I think that there was a point that it still makes sense because other animals do live in groups and like to look at ants like they build their own thing like bees and all of that. But at the same time you look at ants and bees and like different groups are quite separate, like if that makes sense. And I think with humans we just expand. Join and expand and join and take over all the spaces. So I think that unnatural part comes from our great numbers and trying to amplify everything and make it greater and bigger and busier. And think about ways that that thing can make more money instead of adapting and making sure. 'cause again, like I guess that if we have the benefit that we like, we have a conscious and we are intelligent and all of that we could actually use that to build space. Is there like we have benefits but so do the other species that we're sharing the space with.

**Yeah, that's interesting how we can work together.**

Yeah, 'cause again as you said, like in this situation you look at different places around the world and you see the animals coming back to places where they once were. And obviously we drove them away and as soon as they were all locked inside and not doing anything they slowly started to creep back in right?

**So this is in the pandemic specifically?**

Yeah yeah yeah. And so there. Just like do you feel like they? Yeah I think we talked about that mostly in the first one, so we probably don't need to. Going to again, but they're like they're kind of edged out by people. And then when there's no people then they kind of. Things kind of even out, and they they appear again. And yes, that is quite interesting. 'cause again, like I know that there's a bit of a strong opinion, but like I do think that humans are the worst kind of like parasites. Because if you look about it like. Yeah, we get some animals in the city, but. It's not the same as going to a more isolated place, but if you go to the woods or like a forest, and while I don't know like middle of the ocean, you see so many different species just coexist in an like somehow we just managed to like push all of them away and make them all scared of us.

**Is this the same in like Hackney as it is? You know, like where you grew up in Brazil,**

Not at all. Though I grew up in the countryside, so my street was a dead end. St that ended in a farm, in front of the street was another farm, so there were a lot less people around an. That obviously there's still an implication of having people in house, but there were like strict rules about how big your house could be like. Your house couldn't have more than three stories, and. It is a very particular place to leave. Yeah, but I did have like monkeys and recently my parents said there there was a leopard that was just about the town. Just happy stroll. Wow. That's pretty, yeah. So it's very different, like hackneys in London is a city and is really busy. So even though there are many green spaces, I wouldn't push to the point of saying like that. We have an actual heavy wildlife thing.

**OK yeah, and 'cause it seems like when we've been talking about nature in there as a lot of the other photos is kind of more about vegetation – it seems like green stuff feels more like nature rather than anything else. I mean, you mentioned the birds, but otherwise there's very few other creatures,**

yeah, that was the birds in the other one, but it's really hard to see and take a photo. And I was on the bus as well and I saw a heron in Clapton Pond, or some slightly different animal, but then I think that people put him there. The one in the middle is because the foxes refused to leave I guess. So like they just sent out and the third one actually like I took a picture because it wasn't expected 'cause I was on the 4th floor of a building in Stoke Newington Church St, not near any of the parks and this little guy just showed up [snail]. We didn't have a garden. Anything so I have no idea how he ended up there.

**This is just for the transcript, so this is the snail, yeah?**

But like again, no garden or anything. So it was quite nice to just find us now there.

**Yeah, yeah, so is that. It's kind of. I don't know what does that. What does that make you think finding this animal in this like? Place where you wouldn't expect it. A very human place, probably.**

It felt like finding life where didn't seem that. There was nothing living in it does it makes any sense? 'cause it is a building. And then there's no plans is just a floor boards and bricks and I yeah, no vegetation, nothing like that and it seems all they I did like that. Nothing of that is like alive and sunny. There's a snail and it's now in the middle of the house.

**I mean, I, the photo that we don't have it necessarily here, but like the plants coming up through the cracks. It's similar kind of vibe to that?**

Yeah, it's like life appearing in like in unlikely places. Yeah, yeah.

**That's cool. I mean is that is that is that natural? Or because you could say almost like, oh, that's quite an unnatural thing.**

Yeah, I guess that it’s natural, but I like to in my head think that is nature like defeating. Certain challenges, I guess that we impose on it.

**Yeah, OK, that's interesting.**

The snail has some like kind of benefits for you to see that. Well, for me personally, yes. 'cause it makes me happy like I wouldn't say that everyone feels the same way like my flatmate was just like ‘take this thing away from me’. She wasn't very friendly, but it does make me happy every time I find like a little bug somewhere. I don't know what it is but it cheers me up.

**OK, this is cool. And so yeah, good flick these on now. So yeah, there's a couple of. Folks, I say one, we're looking like up from the ground right to the sky and the tops of the trees, and one where we're like right on the ground with the dandelion and the butter cups on the on the grass.**

So yeah where I don't know if he's taking the same place but no the first one was around Enfield. They I don't actually know exactly where I was. 'cause some friends, took me out for a walk. Uh, and we were just that for the day and at some point I looked up and I saw that looks really beautiful and there's no way you'd think that this is in London and there's like no visible air pollution and I just looked it wasn't very beginning of the summer as well. So you can see the like. Some trees have more new growth and it's like everything coming back to life. Yeah.

**Oh and where where was it was with those trees, like once had been planted by people. Do you think or was that this field more? More natural in anyway?**

I don't know the background of the place, so I actually don't know to what extent… it’s near the station in Enfield. They might have been there for awhile 'cause I know that there are some trees are being there for a very long time. But again, like I don't know about this specific area. They don't look like super old trees anyway, but it didn't seem designed like when you looked around from like a normal level like it didn't seem like they were designed to be there in a certain way or they weren't like all the same so far. Bit more natural.

**Yeah, yeah, that's cool. Yeah, I think. I guess we've sort of. Spoken about this in this image. Probably I mean we spoke about the trees. We haven't really spoken about the sky so much, but why is it the trees that are the focus of the image?**

But yeah, the trees and the blue sky was just fortunate that was there to give a good yeah. But I guess also like the lack of sky pollution, 'cause during the pandemic obviously we didn't have a. Well, people couldn't really travel as often, as they did. There was a big difference. At least I could tell in London when you looked up and you wouldn't see as many planes in the sky and sky pollution and things like this and they actually this one. You can't see any of that. So again it's a plus 'cause it wasn't a focus, but normally in London at any given point you see the little trail of the chemicals of the airplane.

**Yeah, yeah yeah yeah cool. Yeah then this this next photo. Like I said, we're down on the ground here.**

Yeah, that that's in the meadow. Is a walk from Cambridge to Grantchester. Actually, that walk in particular like is a famous walk that is being done for by people like students and lecturers like for over 300 years. So again I don't know. If part of it is man-made, 'cause their farms behind the tree, so obviously that. That is, but I don't know if the trees are actually things that were done. They just didn't touch and kept kind of like going in a way. But I think the main focus of that was also the meadow and like the Butter cups and dandelions, 'cause they are wild flowers. So again like it's very unlikely that a person actually put them there.

**Yeah, yeah, OK, let's just say it sounds like in terms of flight. There's some history that you felt like you were. Tapping into there or that was part of the reason why you did that. That walk?**

Yeah it is 'cause I haven't been there recently, but there's another walk in Oxford that I really like. as I was saying I did go there for like the historical walK 'cause it is a famous pass but also 'cause there's one that I really like doing, but I haven't done a few years. Just 'cause I haven't been in town, but there's a similar thing in Oxford. There is a walk through the. Christchurch meadows. Oscar Wilde was known to do that walk and Shelly and a few more people. So is that idea of like? The landscape, especially late in London and other big cities. It has changed a lot, like even in the last 20 years ago when I first moved to London. Bishopsgate. That's completely different in Hackney as well, but for like the last 200 years that particular walk in Oxford like it would look the same as it did when these people were doing the walk, and I can see their journals and letters and talking about that. And I can go and still see for myself.

**Is is that like natural cause or is that because people have kind of intervened and? Does that make the space?**

I think something part of some sort of intervention 'cause it is property of the colleges, so they must look after it quite well. But when it comes to certain meadows and forests like I guess I guess to a point that people don't intervene anymore more than cleaning like they're not planting anything. You’re not chopping down trees or anything like that. They just keeping an eye to make sure that it's clean and safe, and people can still walk about it.

**Yeah, do you think there's anywhere in Hackney that’s kind of similar?**

Maybe the marshes, like parts of the marshes. Especially along the river I, I wouldn't think that people are doing much. Like gardening around that other than cleaning and I again if some branches are about to fall when they know that people tend to walk about there. Maybe they remove that and I don't think they're like doing any Grand Designs, so it's like a kind of managed, but like pretty hands off kind of nature, yeah.

**How natural is that?**

I'm, I think so. It’s about keeping a good balance 'cause again like uh. They're just making sure that while attempting to keep it clean, 'cause again, like people leave a mess behind in most of those places. Uh, but making sure they're still safe place to visit. So again, like where we can sit there without the risk of like a big branch falling on their heads or something like this. Yeah, but still natural enough that they're not designing where certain things should be or. Changing the landscape to me more aesthetically pleasing or something like this.

**Who are these people that were talking about?**

The council? I don't think there's anything else unless it’s private land. My thing is, the management. So in the meadows college, I think that this picture with the dandelions, I remember was owned by Trinity College, they actually owns the path. Uh, yeah, but with the marshes, it's probably the council. That looks after it, like Rangers and stuff. I don't know if they have any third parties that have anything to do with it. Yeah, not sure.

**And with that kind of managed nature? Is there like a continuum of, like naturalness, that's from like wilderness to like something that's like this kind of managed urban kind of nature, or like. Or is it all just part of the same thing, and?**

I do think it's very different 'cause in France, for instance, the big parks there like their gardens and. The floor is like sand and pebbles and then they have the very pretty display of flowers and is beautiful in the trees and all that, but you can tell that that that doesn't look natural at all. And I guess they say if you go to Regents Park, like parts of it is just like an open field is really nice and then you go to the flower garden. I can't remember what they named it like flower, gonna guess but there's a name to it. Uh is still beautiful, but it's not actually natural because flowers don't grow that way. They don't like forming a shape of something around the fountain on purpose, and, uh, with edges of like a different plan, so. Yeah, it's beautiful, but it's just not natural. OK, yeah. And then, like this kind of this, like human intervention by there is like little bit like more. Yeah, it's more like that. They're keeping it and then they keeping it nice, but they're not trying to make it look like something that couldn't have happened just by chance.

**OK, yeah? How I mean, do you feel like something that is like totally untouched? Is that like more beautiful or like could that be in some ways less beautiful?**

I don't know. I think it's relative 'cause there's some people would probably prefer to look at a few. Lovely sorry, I'm a garden with design flowers and like some landscape done to it. Then going to the middle of the woods and seeing these things rotting on the floor and like branches on the way and things like that. But I. I think that's more beautiful 'cause I like things too. I just like to admire nature for what it is like as much as I do think our garden is beautiful is beautiful in a different way. 'cause there's something that's been designed. Whether I actually prefer things to be natural, like as natural as possible, yeah?

**Cool. Let me just click on so this these ones again is these are these when you are you out of London or or? These closer to home.**

No, they are both in London. The first one is St Pauls and the second one is Clissold Park. I know sorry Abney Park. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Well, let's talk about. Saint Pauls first, so this looks like there's like a kind of nice rose coming up through the through the railings there.**

Yeah, and I get like this is not that natural, but I guess that in a way so simple described was very central is around like banks and schools and like the main path of tourists and people in the city. But just the fact that you can see something that it goes back to like this. Now when the plant in the cracks is just seeing something that is alive and is living in like men put it there. But men didn't create that. So I think that was more. The idea is just like being able to see some greenery an. Yeah, something that is alive because it is alive. It's not, it's not robotic is not a car. It's not machinery.

**Yeah, yeah. How about in terms of like time? Like just do you feel like this? This felt like it. Been there for some time?**

No definitely more recent 'cause I've been to that area. Quite a lotand those flowers were definitely not there or the times they've been around. But again, I think it's like an attempt of whoever looks after it. The parish. I don't know of. Making it a more beautiful place and I guess that like again with the city quieting down and stuff is like bringing some life into an otherwise like. That place because there's nothing living about it.

**What what's, what's the benefit? Why would they choose to do that? And you know, like spend money on it.**

I think because it's beautiful and again, like even if people don't think about anything by saying. Like glancing general, especially flowers and colors it does. It does cheer you up and I. Is a path that people take to work and school, and perhaps they. I don't know. They wouldn't think about going to some polls, but seeing a beautiful garden they think about taking a break from their day and maybe taking that fast, yeah?

**It’s more inviting then just looking at a building with Black Gates? Yeah, you like sit and eat your sandwiches. Look at a fence.**

Yeah exactly 'cause across the street again, you have like this just. Black or not black for like Ray like square, sort of beauty and the road. So have two options. You can sit in the benches by the two roads or you can go to the church yard and sit by the flowers.

**Yeah OK. Cool then yeah this one in the another cemetery shot we've got here, but this one looks a bit different to me. To to the last one could you explain you know what what's in this photo and what was going on when you took it?**

Again, it's a grave that looks pretty much abandoned, like I don't know if there any living relatives or people living relatives. It's a bit rundown, but yeah, you have like weeds and overgrown plants. You have a tree behind, so again the tree looks like he's been there for a much longer time than in the other place 'cause you can look at the trunk and is larger. But again, this is me assuming because I'm not a specialist. And I don't know the history about Abney Park. I don't know if at some point it was a well looked after cemetery or if it was something that kind of people mades. 'cause yeah, I don't know how it works. But I think it's again like this idea of like having woods to walk, but it combines with the cemetery and you have like a body put to rest. There is like the base and the lighter and none of us can avoid. So they end of life. But like with plenty of life growing around it, yeah. And what I mean, the vegetation that we've got here as I.

**What do you what do you know what the story with those might be?**

No, but again, I imagine that a lot of it is just animals, droppings and they just the natural course of things. 'cause I highly doubt that people planted weeds around the grave an I think into some Evergreen like growing around the trees. But nothing of it actually seems planned to me. Like maybe the plot was planned by someone who got it in the 1st place and thought I want to lay my relative to rest. It looks pretty, but my feeling is that the body was put there after there's other things were there.

**And how how natural space is this and how much? How much nature is here?**

I feel like it's more natural than some of the other places, so there's a lot more natural than like this. St Paul’s church out there or the church out in Hackney from one of the first pictures where the focus was the bird. But like if you compared the kind of vegetation, this one looks a lot more natural than that. 'cause it doesn't look like there's a pattern or style or anything. It's just like things that look like they just run there and that's it. Y

**Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, definitely. And is it is a? Is that to do with like this one is just older?**

It could be older, but again, I don't think this about being older 'cause how can anyone. That's pretty old. Like if you look at the graves on the other side and look at the dates some of them you can't see the dates for summer, they're just old enough they perhaps even older. But maybe it's because at some point people stop looking after it so much. Or maybe that wasn't good at any given point. Their goal was just to have a place. There actually does look more natural and is a nice place to put someone to rest because it's not as busy or.

**As well, designed like a city cemetery, is this a place like where you're talking about that kind of managed nature?**

Well I think so. 'cause even though it doesn't look like it’s managed, it clearly is because you have clear paths that you can walk and. Considering the amount of people go there every day, you don't really see rubbish around. As always, you expect to see some because again, some people just really don't clean up after themselves, so there's clearly a management around, yeah? OK, and they do have gates that open and close a certain time so they. Yeah, they seem well organized, yeah?

**Like yeah, in terms of do they have the ownership works?**

Hey again, I have no idea if it's private or if there's a council. But it doesn't really make much difference to me either way. I never actually stopped to think about it. Y

**So move to the last one that I've got here, but I do have some other ones that I just missed off accidentally. So yeah, on the left is this the Saint Johns Church yards, again in Hackney?**

Uh. I don't think it's in Johns OK. Which one is it now? I think this is St Pauls, you can just about see St Pauls between the branches, OK? What what so? Yeah, that was more of the idea of again like just really high trees. 'cause again, like I usually associate trees being high or just really sick with them being old. Yeah, so the faster like yeah, they've been there for a very long time and they create shelter for other things and other animals there start reclaiming his face. 'cause yeah again if I know that the Gray squirrels that we have here are American ones, they came over by ships, but they found a natural habitat here by actually having so many trees and parks in the city 'cause I doubt they would have stuck around if we were just. Like houses and roads.

**What were you? What were you up to when you were taking this?**

I was just going for a walk. She was walking around simples like that was what I was aiming for. Just walking around there then walking along the river and walking all the way to Sloane square. There's always seeing a concert at the night, yeah?

**So what's the benefit of like, you know, coming down here and seeing this this particular view.**

I think that again is really personal, but like it makes me happy. So like I, I do go out of my way to walk around green spaces because I prefer that to be zeros or yeah. Concrete everywhere.

**I don't know is there anything else that you think we should talk about about this one picture on the left here?**

No, can't think much about is really hard to explain. 'cause again, like I know the they're not the natural trees of London are being preserved for like thousands of years, but. Yeah, it just makes me think of nature. 'cause again you can plant a tree, but you can't, I. I don't know. It's not like a beauty like a tree is a thing of its own. It will leave or it will die but like. It isn't living. Does that make any sense? You can place it there, but then like you don't really have full control, but what is doing, especially when it gets this high? Yeah, OK. And then it has to be managed or something. In case like this branch falls off or something. And and again I kind of just that's just sad ending. But if you want to remove it from that, it's not like putting a building down and rebooting it again. If you kill the tree is not going to be the same tree. K yeah. I'm.

**Yeah, then what's this was on the right? Where's that?**

That's a little churchyard near Liverpool Street. I forgot the name of the church, but is a small one really nearby. Liverpool Street station? Uh, and again, like a man made garden, but I think I like just the idea. 'cause Bishopsgate’s, like one of my least favorite parts of London because of all the shiny new buildings and is really noisy and people. I just, I don't anyway because just rushing about it doesn't. It's not a nice place. But then when you turn to the side and you see this little church, it doesn't look like central London anymore. It just looks like a nice place to be. And again, it's like how the green spaces make you a bit more. Calmer and able to relax. That is a lot more inviting than you know the other side of the street.

**Yeah, how and how natural is this and how much does that matter in that context?**

I don't think the design is not true at all, but is a natural response that we have. To feel this way when we look at it and to associate with nature, I think that's the natural part of it. Yeah, to feel to see those green shapes or ever and feel. More rest yeah.

**And yeah, how long like? Did this this one feel like something that's been there for a long time as well? That building looks quite the churchyard. But the church itself looks old.**

Yeah, the building I know is really old. 'cause I know that John Keats was baptized there in my 1793 or 94. So it is older than that for sure, yeah? But I know that the area South was a lot more like natural back then, and even more so before, so I don't know how you would have looks like, but I guess they try to at least claim a little bit of garden space. Y

**Yeah, yeah. And it's the get the same sort of benefits for evening coming to this one on the right, as well as on the left I guess?**

Yeah, it's quite similar, but I think in both cases that you don't see in the picture, but they're all close to busy roads, so you can't really hear the noise of it, so it's just like a bit of an illusion there. If you block the noise, you can allow yourself to get lost in just those green spaces this.

**Like say this one doesn't have like those like flowering roses and stuff. This one looks like a bit more kind of lowkey. To me, yeah. Is this a have any difference in? How natural things are or how what kinds of benefit that you draw from the space?**

I, I don't think there's any difference like in how natural they are, because in both cases someone planted those things there, but I think it depends on the person. Like someone might see this one and not pay too much attention or just seeing how that looks nice and move on. But someone who really likes flowers. My look at the flower, anything like this is beautiful and I want to stick around a bit longer.

**Yeah, fair enough. Uh, now I'm going to. Quickly. Adam. Pull up some of these other images. Di neglected too. Yeah. And then just like share another screen. So you just have to bear with me, no worries. OK, say you. Can you see that? Yeah, cool, so this looks like this Hackney Downs again.**

Yeah, I think both are yeah.

**Oh what made you wanna take say this picture on the left here**

Iit's like a kind of dirt track that yeah. I think was like this idea that like it was. Like the path that I chose, instead of taking a busy world again, it's like that over there. Yeah, wait. Clearly like people used to. Yeah, user path. But yeah, if it was just this idea of like that, you could walk on a busy Rd. But you can also choose the greener space. And if it's not natural, but it feels more in touch with nature.

**Yeah, yeah. Is that partially about like? Do you think people do things like that because they're? It's like about their identity and like. How they? You know, rather than any kind of like directs like mental health benefit or something like that there.**

I think people do for different reasons like I think some people do because they do want to be closer to nature. Some people do because they've been told that is good for your mental health or some people is because they are joggers and they rather breathe the air around trees and in a park, then run by the side of the road and breathe. Yeah gas emitted by cars. Maybe there's something in our subconscious that just goes to the natural state.

**Cool. Yeah, I like how this particular like this path that we're looking at here. How did that come to be? I was just wondering is that is that again like something that the Council have done or is that one of these things that it comes up more?**

You know, because I think, yeah, I think this is just by people looking because if you're compared to the pass on that right. Like the more clear one that's clearly done by the Council would like it was planned. You can tell you supposed to be there, whether on the left. I think I can't see what's on the other side and I can't remember for today, but it looks to me like. Is a shortcut to like some side of the park that people kept taking and like. Eventually the grass start dying and people just decide it is an official path.

**Now yeah, funny how that happens and so in that case is that like. In some ways, like more natural and organic or or, is it just like making too much out of no?**

I think it is. No, no, I think it is because it's like people decided to. Uh, not to put in a bad way, but to behave as cattle and just to follow each other and follow the same path, but that was much more like organic thing then someone building a path and saying this is where you're gonna walk if people buy the their instinct looking and saying I need to go that way. Therefore this path makes sense because it's going to take me exactly where I need to be. Another people following the lead. And like yeah, that makes sense. So I think was it came from there. Whether the order was like the Council deciding where people are going to walk. Yeah, yeah.

**That's cool, what about this? Finally, these two big old trees on the right. That's something that we've not really spoken about.**

Probably like looking at them. Know the other photos. Present them quite like this, I don't think. Yeah, like they look a lot older than a lot of the trees around the park, but I get like I don't know how old the park is or like how do they plan in how it came to be. I need to check my my history but like 200 years ago that Hackney was pretty much a big farmland in that kind of area they were passed around, but it wasn't as it is now. It wasn't even considered part of London really. Yeah, so I don't know if those trees were then when. Say this, say to start to expand and they reserve that space is a park or something. They kept them going and kept the park around them. I really don't know, but they do seem. Less planned on the orders. 'cause I you can see that loads of them were planted like on the path and they followed their passing like guide to the side. But then again like I don't know if they put down the orders there would be where the fields are. Cool and.

**So they're kind of like human process is there, but also maybe some like non nonhuman things going on as well. And yeah, then it just the the. Famous photo of the plants through the cracks. Yeah, so we talked about it. So whereabouts is this?**

Uh, this is Dalston Kingsland towards Haggerston. Yeah.

**If you had to just kind of explain this picture in in a couple of sentences, what would you say?**

I just say that I used just. Nature defeating challenges are lay people put pavement. There is not a garden on the other side or behind a picture or ahead of where there's a petrol station. Is saying really not the most natural space, but they found a way to grow between the cracks an. And I guess quite funny. 'cause I heard people talking about it before their license either get a houseplant and you water a bit too much, or not enough, and they die instantly and then you see plants they do is just growing through the cracks of cement in the street.

**Yeah, do you know if this is? Is this just like 'cause you're saying you mentioned weeds earlier, like is this a weed or is it a wildflower? Is it a garden plant?**

You know I actually have no idea. It looks like there's a lot more than there actually is is because I put my phone on the floor so it looks a bit thicker, but if you look up it was really not a lot. It was just like a little green thing coming out of the floor, yeah?

It's good day, so this is just so that those like non human process is kind of finding their way into all of the human ones. One way or another. That's cool, man. Yeah, and then what's like unnatural about this this picture finally.

'cause the gates I wouldn't say were natural because that's just how we do nowadays. But like. You can trace back like traces that people do, even animals that you can tell there's animal traces in a forest and things like this, and I guess they're having those stones. And the floors are way to do it. It became a way to do it, yeah, but I think the unnatural parties. Fencing things and. And, uh, I don't know. Like the background like that. Yeah, but again, it's up for debate, like who gets into a philosophical debate of development as a society?

**Cool, well I guess that's all of the images really so just yeah just sum up. It seems like there's that sort of like opposition between humans and nature as you would say, especially in the city. But then the natural always finds this little crack that can. Come through make itself present. Yeah. Cool and there's a lot of like benefits for you in terms of like social stuff, but also just like gaining enjoyment and. They kind of being around natural and natural things, giving helping people's personality and there and how they interact with others.**

Yeah, definitely. Especially like for myself like I would love to live in the countryside. I would love to be a bit more secluded from people because I I am social in the sense that I love my friends, but I actually don't like people in general. I much rather be in the park then in the pub for instance. And if I have to do a gathering, I’d rather it be small with people that I know well then just have loads of people that I don't know that well with new people. I don't know so much. Rather live in the countryside, but because of work and my living situations I unfortunately can't do that right now so having green space is it? Is like a compromise, even if it's man-made is a compromise?