

Tristan Lajarrige | Concordia Fall/Winter 2020-2021 Independent Study Project Proposal

My goal for my last semester at Concordia is to professionalized my artistic practice. Taking an Independent Study course would not only allow to polish my craft but also learn how to create work autonomously (without the guidelines of a regular group class). I am adamant about learning how to develop a whole project during two semesters with only the directions of my current PHOT 300 teacher, Pascha Marrow Macpherson.

In my latest book and screen-based project, *The Official Exercising Guide for Artists*, I created a set of instructions that directly informed the design of my images. Next year, I aim to experiment further with the process of image-making. I am still interested in conceptualizing my photographs through text; it is a handy way for me to give meaning to seemingly arbitrary subjects. The method of performing a physical action to create a picture is an idea that I believe has a lot of potential, and I want to continue to play with it.

Besides, I am still very drawn to the book format, and to the different forms, both online and offline, a project can take. Aesthetics of post-internet art influence me to create work that is easily accessible through a screen. Creating merchandise, like t-shirts, is also an idea that I am considering pursuing next year, as my work currently draws inspiration from sources in popular and commercial culture. I have been thinking a lot about the relationship between art and commercialism. The picture-perfect imagery from advertising inspires me to create work that appeals to a broad audience.

For now, I am considering the idea of creating a set of games that are only possible using a camera. Indeed, I would create a certain amount of simple games, and taking photographs would be part of playing them. Once again, instructions on how to play the game would explain how I achieved the images presented in the work. The project would employ a book format, and, as mentioned previously, I am also thinking of creating merchandise as some kind of reward for completing the games (this is still a bit unclear in my head).

I am not sure how independent study works, but to answer the proposal requirements indicated on the form, here is a possible timeline: we could meet once every two weeks to discuss articles and theoretical texts, and to show work-in-progress.

First semester midterm critique: October 22

First semester final critique: November 19

Second Semester midterm critique: February 19

Second Semester final critique: April 7