

TRIMESTER I: SUMMARY

In the course of the first trimester I strived to find a balance between what I brought over from my previous experiences and expanding on my skillset and language. I see the works produced in this arc of time, although several of them are still in progress, as a significant development suggesting directions that I intend to investigate more in depth in the course of the studies.

So far I attempted to integrate as much as possible the opportunities offered by thematic seminars and study modules in my own self-directed research, ensuring that the outcomes of both would come together whenever possible. An example of it is the series *Un Posto Tranquillo / A Quiet Place*, which was initially suggested by theoretical and practical research within the Prototyping module, evolving subsequently in a self-directed research and spilling into the Photobook thematic seminar, where I could tinker with the peculiarities of its physical dimension. The color images produced for this work gave me the opportunity to rethink some of my usual working methods and incorporate themes—such as morality and the metaphysics of evil—that have been part of my work in other forms before. It also allowed me to reframe questions of style and step out of my “visual routines”.

At times it was not possible to integrate learning modules into my research directly, but even in these cases I feel I have been able to further my awareness and understanding, also in areas that I considered familiar to a certain degree. Observations matured in the course of these modules have been since at the back of my mind and will likely resurface in one form or another. The Focal Camera workshop or focus groups are examples of it.

In the next trimester I would like to bring to completion or to further some of the works that I have started and have been unable to follow more closely. At the same time I would like to be receptive of the study environment and therefore to keep any arrangement as fluid as possible for the present moment. This means that I am open to rebuild my plans from bottom up if needed, and I will be welcoming catalysts that I am not foreseeing from the get go.

There are also questions concerning issues of various kinds that are a substantial part of the workflow—and even necessary to an extent. The most obvious consideration to make is how to turn them to my advantage. Some of the problems I encountered are of a technical nature, and for these solutions may become evident as I further my knowledge and consider different ways of building up a specific project, also by receiving feedback from tutors and colleagues—and by reaching out to skills instructors as well. The work for EYE, currently under development, is an instance of a project whose roots are, I believe, truly my own, and for which at the same time I am stepping well outside of my boundaries. In these first weeks I already had occasion to expand in directions I would have not taken as readily on my own, but I realize that as I progress there will be elements of it that I will have to rethink and alter, while trying to preserve a certain integrity in it.

Overall I would like to be as efficient as possible in what I endeavor to do and to work on projects that can have an actual realization, without however underestimating my possibilities.