***Statement of Intent***

Researching about architectural photographers has allowed me to see that architectural photography is not just about old and contemporary buildings; from my perspective I think it is about the relationship that people have with buildings and in a sense how buildings have a relationship with people.

Eugène Atget was the first photographer I researched, his collection *Old Paris* consisted of pictures deliberately taken early in the morning when there were not many people on the streets. At the time modern Paris was being constructed so peoples’ attention was more focused on this than the traditional side of Paris. Through his work Atget was trying to bring peoples thoughts back to the old Paris that he loved. Atget did photograph people, not just structures & buildings, when he did he caught them in their natural environment involved in everyday tasks. This is what I aim to do in my own work with a modification. I will be using a Canon 600D to take my photos, achieving an old vintage look will mean that I will need to edit them to add more character. I plan to use the effects available in Photoshop but would also like to experiment with artistic techniques.

I also researched Alexey Titarenko, a Russian photographer; his use of long exposure defines his style. His love for his country and his use of photography depicts how civilians were affected after the fall of the Soviet Union. His famous series '*City of Shadows'* intrigued me as I thought the long exposure causing a crowd of people to become vast shadows expresses the bleak and uncertain feelings that were felt after the Soviet fell. I intend to use his techniques to produce a similar effect. I will have to experiment with camera shutter speeds to capture motion and lighting to see how I can create my desired effect.

Eric de Mare is my third photographer who I will also look for inspiration from, his collection of photos, to me, are much simpler than the other two photographers. He was also a architect and a writer. Most of his collection shows canals, viaducts, industrial buildings and its people, I chose this photographer because my title is *'Structures & Buildings',* **structures** are: *'anything composed of parts arranged together in some way; an organization' (Dictionary.reference.com)*

Therefore I believe a structure can be anything that has been made by man, I could take it further by arguing that structures are all around us, including ones composed by nature. Some of his photographs were of a graveyard, at first I did not understand why he chose to photograph this but then I began to understand that a gravestone is something that stands in place for someone when they die, it's their representation and so de Mare was trying to show that there is a link between structures and buildings.

Studying de Mare allowed me to take the meaning of *'Structures & Buildings'* to a whole new meaning.

In conclusion, I plan to style my work on all three photographers however mostly on Atget, I want my images reflect the atmosphere of his work yet some with techniques of Titarenko and the meaning that comes with de Mare's images. I intend to show the relationship between structures, buildings and people, I want my work to show how people depend on structures and buildings and how buildings depend on people.

I plan to experiment with my photos to see if I can make my images just as meaningful as my photographers, I intend to practice Titarenko's techniques by doing 3-4 studio shoots adjusting my settings each time and evaluating. Performing at least 6-8 photo shoots at different destinations would be realistic, I do also plan to experiment as much as possible with ideas & techniques that I have come across on *art2day.co.uk*.