

# Professional Practise

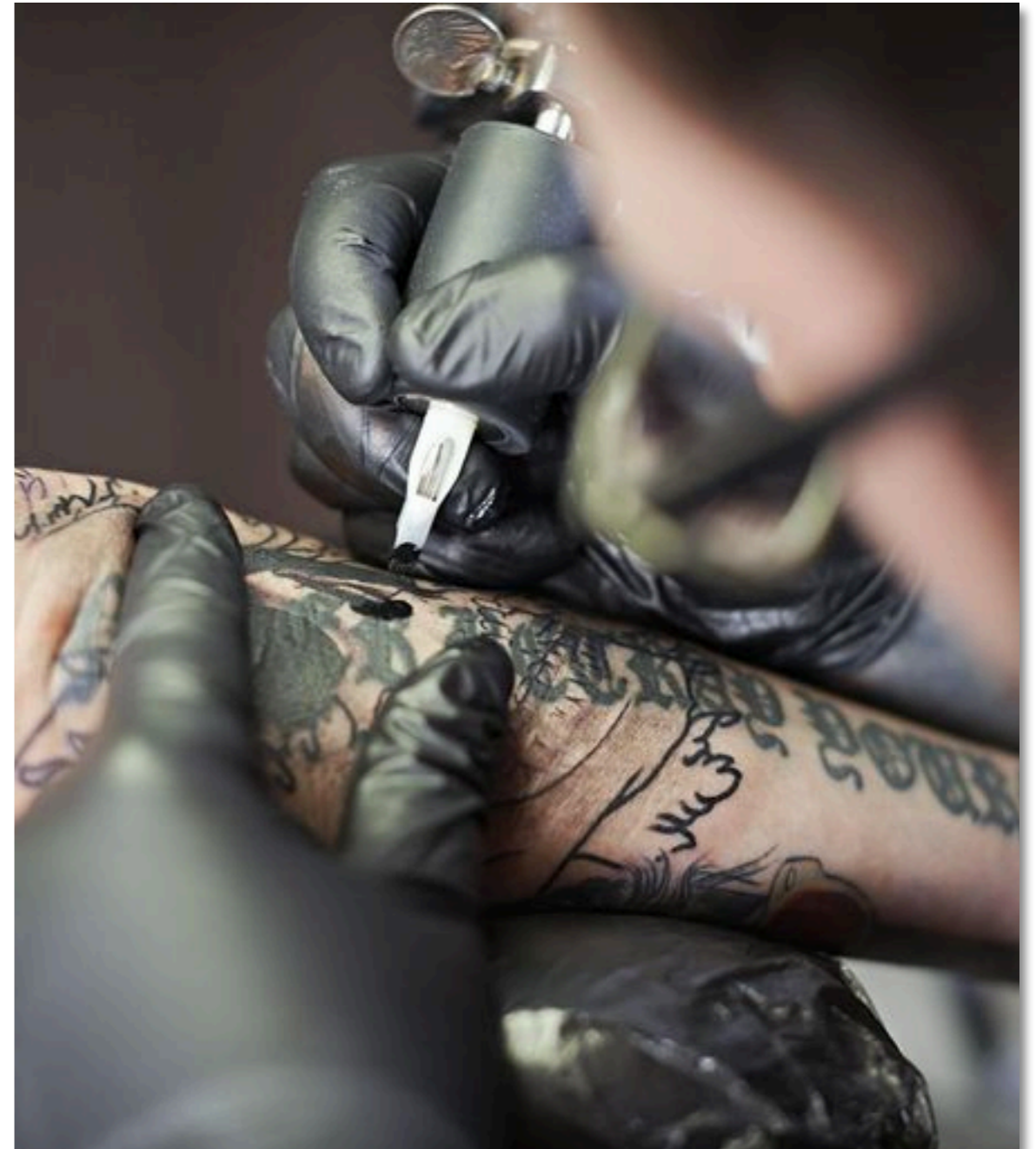
Sophie Owens

# Final Aim

The plan for me it to become a tattoo artist, for this to happen I need an apprenticeship. Tattoo apprenticeships can be very difficult to find however once you've reached that stage it's about building a client base and practising the craft. I would love to travel and complete guest spots all around the world so that would be the best possible outcome. I want to be able to learn from someone's work that I admire and works in a style that I'm comfortably with but will also push me beyond my limits as a tattoo artist.

## **Why a tattoo artist?**

I've loved the idea of being a tattoo artist since studying my GCSE's although thought it would be too difficult for me to pursue. After thinking about it more I realised that if it was what I wanted to do then I would work for it. I believe that tattoo's can help people whether it be deal with a experience or help feel better about their physical appearance and being able to help people with that it important for me in reference to my artwork.



# So Far...

I've been in contact with a couple of tattoo artists who I know through friends, family and work colleagues for advice and what the best process is for me. I know that to become a tattoo artist I have to get an apprenticeship and so after graduating the aim will be to create a portfolio and try my best to achieve that. Hence the more people that I speak to within the community the better I will be able to develop a portfolio suited. My social media following will also play a big part in getting into contact with potential employers. I have started to build a collection of pieces that I will be able to use within my portfolio and have been practising with a professional tattoo machine to further my skills within the field and to gain as much practice and experience as I can for future employers.

I also contacted a tattoo artist based in Porthcawl about advice as she has been able to set up her own business indecently which is something that I admire and would love to achieve in the future.

To  enquiry@abievetattoo.com X Cc Bcc

advice enquiry

Hi,  
My name is Sophie, I'm currently studying illustration at Cardiff Metropolitan University and looking to graduate in July. I want to become a tattoo artist in the future with the hopes of opening up my own business independently or potential with other artists. I'm from Bridgend and really admire what you have achieved with your studio in Porthcawl so was just enquiring about any advice that you thought would be helpful for me! I know that you're super busy at the moment but anything would be super appreciated thank you! After leaving uni I will be developing a portfolio better suited to tattooing than my current one as I know that an apprenticeship is very hard to come by. |

All the best,  
Soph



Abigail Gadd <abievetattoo@gmail.com>

Wed 08/05/2019 18:50

Hi Sophie,

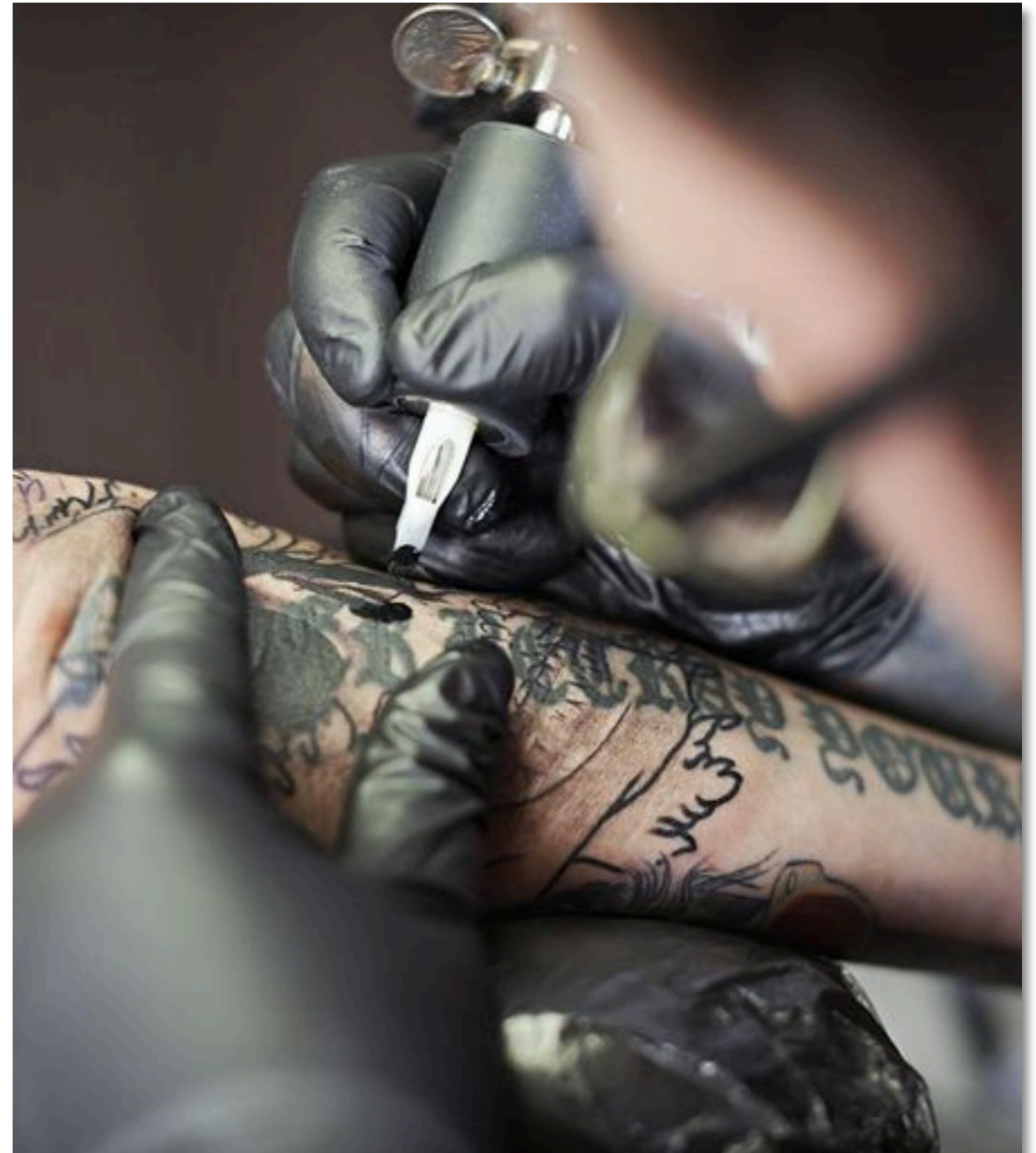
Thanks for the email, this sounds awesome!  
My advise would be to initially get tattooed as much as possible and then like you said try to get an apprenticeship. That's exactly what I did. I'd suggest trying to get into a shop which has artists who's work you admire and just go from there really.

Thanks  
Abi



# Future Plans

After graduating I plan to build a strong portfolio full of artwork and tattoo 'flash' designs that I can take to tattoo studios when asking about apprenticeship. I will continue to build my social platform adding more tattoo suited work to my website and online portfolio to try and create more flow to my accounts. I will continue to speak to friends and family that are within the business to keep my work current and to a standard that is important to potential employers. After building a portfolio to the best of my ability I will begin going around to studios and leaving my work and website links. Once I have become able to tattoo without the need of an apprentice title and have a big enough client base I would love to start my own business. Open my own shop and either work on my own or even manage a team of artists as I enjoy a manager role.



Summer 2019	Autumn 2019	Winter 2019	Spring 2020
Build Portfolio ready to apply for tattoo apprenticeships.	Find suitable tattoo studios to apply for and continue building portfolio.	Keep advancing within tattoo field improving my work and skills.	Keep advancing within tattoo field improving my work and skills.
Advance social media following Instagram Twitter for use as a blog/ sketches Build a website for potential business ideas	Keep creating art work.	Hopefully be apprenticing at tattoo studio.	Keep advancing within tattoo field improving my work and skills.
Spend some time travelling and learning about my art style and where I would like to take it further	Maintaining social media platforms.	Maintaining social media platforms.	Maintaining social media platforms.
Work PartTime.	Work PartTime.	Start business/brand concepts for potential future business.	Continue business/brand concepts for potential future business.

# Live Application

To ripplezerowaste@gmail.com

Cc Bcc

DisplayEnquiry

Hi,  
I'm a student at Cardiff Metropolitan University studying illustration. For my degree show I have developed a series of weavings to show how plastic pollution is impacting on the natural environment. I was wondering if it would be possible to exhibit the work in the shop, I know that you have a display at the front of the shop already but thought it would look really lovely on the walls while I was there the other day. I'm trying to work with local business' in order to encourage them to reduce their waste, I've managed to convince the coffee shop that I work at to switch to compostable bamboo cups and separate bins for recycling and hope to spread the word through more business'.  
Some of the pieces are on my portfolio in the link, please let me know what you think.

<https://sophieleigh.pb.studio/>

When I was working with the idea of using tarot cards I was going to contact a subscription box business that would be able to potentially include one of the prints of the cards in one of their boxes but since changing to the weavings I struggled thinking of an application including them. After visiting a zero waste shop in Cardiff; Ripple I thought that they could be displayed there and so contacted the owner through email about the potential to display them there and also explaining my intentions for the pieces to help other business consider the waste that they produce through their practice.

I also emailed and have spoken with many tattoo artist though friends, family and while getting tattooed myself about advice on the best things to do for an apprenticeship. Which mostly includes being very persistent and having a solid and high quality portfolio that stands out form any others.

# Creative CV



SOPHIE LEIGH

## CONTACT

10 Osborne Close CF31 1YJ  
sophieleighart@hotmail.com  
07535262267  
sophieleighillustration.wordpress.com

## EDUCATION

**13 GCSE's (A\*-C)**  
Brynteg Comprehensive School  
2011-2013

**A-Levels (A-D)**  
Brynteg Comprehensive School  
2014-2016

**Illustration (BA hon's)**  
Cardiff Metropolitan University  
2017-2019

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

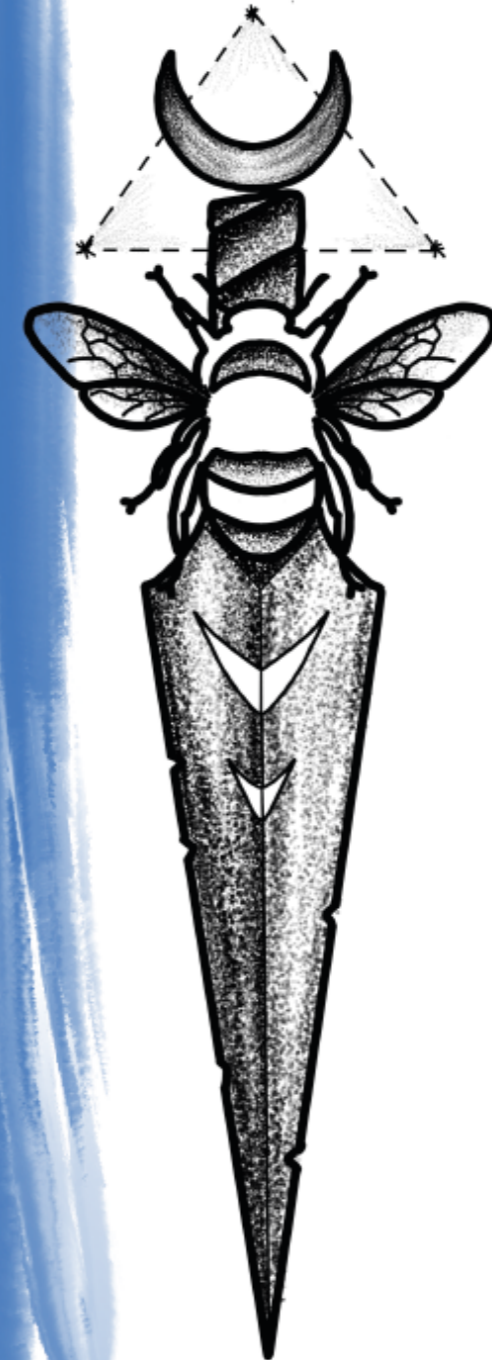
I enjoy working with a variety of styles however my preferd is realism as I enjoy finding the details. I've worked with many different mediums and happy to paint, draw and create 3D pieces with found materials. My most recent works focuses on plastic pollution within the environment linking with the concept of the anthropocene. I want to develop my work further by creating some unique artworks and work that reflects my interest in tattooing and shows relevent skills suited to it. I've had many different jobs that envolve different skill sets while also studying at university which has allowed me to develop my time management skills in order to meet deadlines around my work schedual to ensure that everything was completed in time. I've enjoyed my time in education and am looking forward to pursuing my ambitions of becoming a tattoo artist.

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Marco's Cafe Barry Island 1/07/2015 - Current Waitress	Serving and making coffee for costumers as a trained Barista while also making baguettes/panini's in the kitchen. I have been trusted with organising the invoice books and deliveries within the shop. Keeping track of the stock and filing the safety/hygiene documents ensuring they are up to date and correct.
Botswana Porthcawl, Treco Bay 8/07/2016 - 04/09/2016 Cleaner	Cleaned caravans on sight, vans had to be cleaned to a very high standard and within a time limit. Beds had to be stripped and made, floors washed and all dishes cleaned and put away.
Cherry Laurel Pub 1/06/2017 - 28/08/2017 Waitress	Served food, organised tables and eating area, cleaned area and took customers orders.
Vans Macarthurglen 15/11/2018 - 1/2/2019 Christmas Temp	Serving and greeting costumers while attending to their needs for more sizes and enquires about the brand.

Voluntary work  
Disposable Cup Campaign - Cardiff Metropolitan University  
GIF and Poster to show results of amount of cups recycled by students and staff to raise awareness of waste on campus.  
Menu/Graphics for Marcos cafe to how new prices, food labels and information boards.

Interests/Hobbies  
Reading, water sports, weaving/sewing, hiking, photography.



# Business Card



SOPHIE LEIGH



# Business Card



sophie\_leigh\_art



sophieleighillustration.  
wordpress.com



sophieleighart@hotmail.com



07535262267



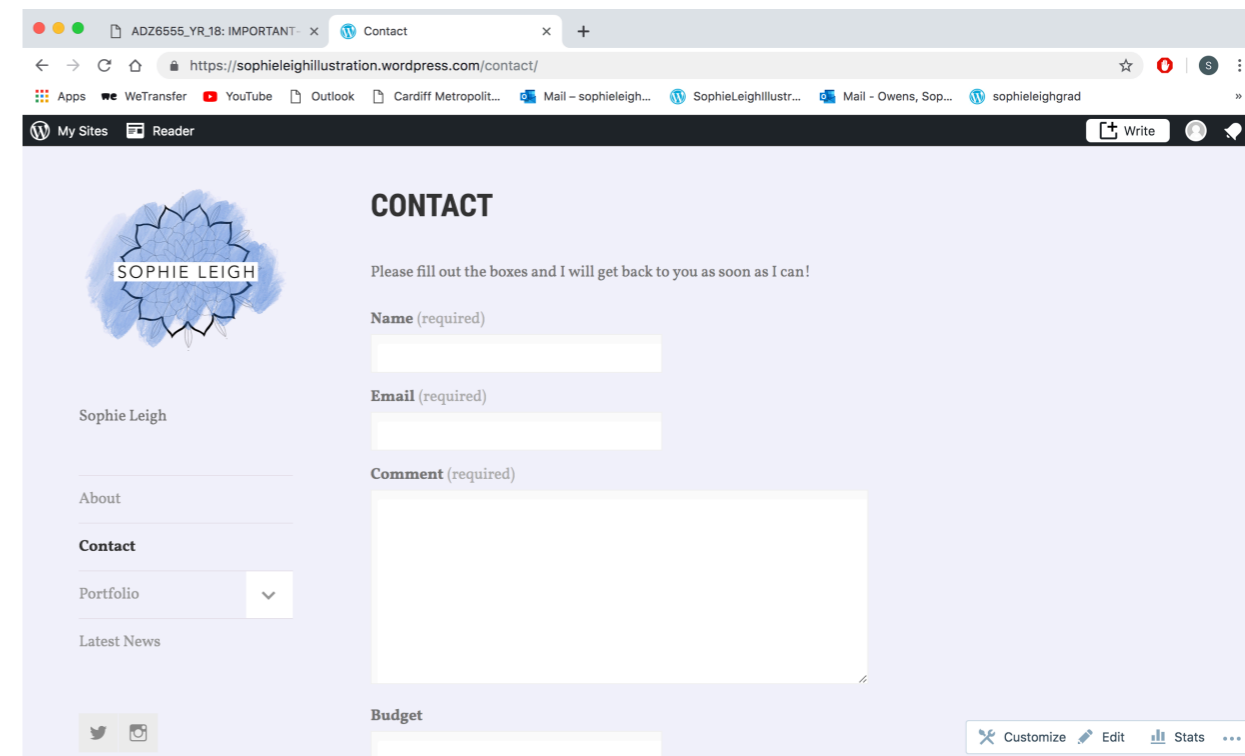
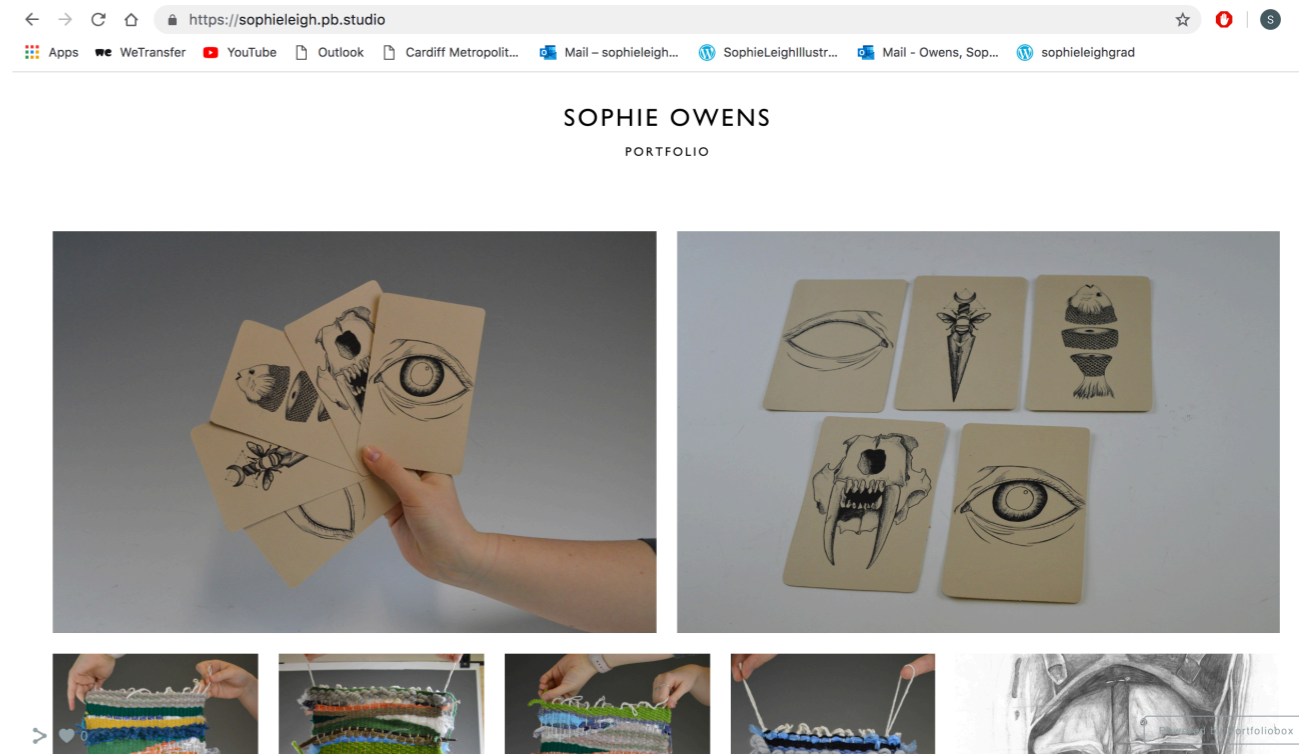
# Web Presence

My web presence is something that I will be working further on after graduation, getting all of my tattoo related artworks on my websites and gathering URL's that can relate to me as a tattoo artist once I get an apprenticeship as I will want my career to be apparent in my website and social media handles and so it will gradually change over time. At the moment my website is simply but does what it needs to, allows for people to view my work and contact me if they need to for any commissions. My portfolio has a select few pieces of work that is linked to my website.

My Instagram has all of my artworks on and am working on a twitter to use as a blog style output where I can document everything and post less finished and final pieces of work.

<https://sophieleighillustration.wordpress.com/>

<https://sophieleigh.pb.studio/>



# The Show



# The Show

I gained a lot from being part of the degree show, preparing the images and documents that needed to be completed. Organising my writing ensuring it sounded professional and developing my writing skills when expressing my work in a contextualised manner.

I've really enjoyed the process, it's also helped me social skills having to work with others when working in the space and learning more about how to show and display my work other than just on a plain wall.

## Postcard Statement

I like to work with a variety of materials and styles exploring new and innovative ways to explore my subject matter, my work mostly focuses around nature and the environment. My most recent works explore using thread and plastic woven together to create a landscape, identifying the human traces left behind through plastic waste. I aim for my art to encourage and inspire people, to look at their traces and what they will leave behind and the impact that they have.

Name: Sophie Leigh

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Website: <https://sophieleighillustration.wordpress.com/>

Social media: (instagram) [sophie\\_leigh\\_art](#)

## Show Statement

Sophie Leigh

Illustration

07535 262267

[sophieleighart@hotmail.com](mailto:sophieleighart@hotmail.com)

<https://sophieleighillustration.wordpress.com/>

My work started with the idea of traces, I wanted to experiment with what is left behind. After developing the idea I focused on environmental traces looking how the natural traces are being disturbed by human traces. Developing a series of weavings that show how plastic is impacted on the earth's natural landscapes. Working with the idea of the anthropocene where the human impact is the reason for environmental change. In these pieces I wanted to display the journey of how things have developed and keep getting worse and so throughout the pieces the plastic becomes more apparent. I hope this piece helps people to consider the natural environment and how it is affected by waste and plastic that we create. When creating the pieces I aimed to be aware of the materials that I was using. The plastic within the pieces has been gathered by me from local businesses that create a lot of waste through their practice with packaging of products that they use. I aim for my art to encourage and inspire people, to look at their traces and what they will leave behind and the impact that they have on the environment.

# The Show

