

Jessica Noglows

AHS Capstone Deliverable: Film, 18:33

Film can be viewed at: <http://youtu.be/vTKnHdbKT7E>

Title: Reflections: Insights from the Olin College Class of 2013

Synopsis: Reflections is a documentary film that delves into the experiences the Class of 2013 has had in their time at Olin. Every member of the class has had unique experiences but we share a common thread of emotions and this film seeks to explore the similarities and differences of our paths through our education.

Artist's Statement

The past four years at Olin have held some of the happiest, saddest, and most trying moments of my life. I have grown in ways that are clear to me and in ways that I cannot yet appreciate. I know that my experiences are not exceptional and that each of my peers has also had life-changing experiences in the past 4 years.

My film seeks to explore the experiences each of us has had in our time at Olin College. We all have had unique moments but share a common thread of emotions – happiness, sadness, connection, and loneliness. Through interviews, inspired by other similar documentary films, I attempt to create a cohesive picture of the college senior reflecting on their collegiate life.

As I focus on the individual stories I hope to create a picture of my grade as a whole – a group of individuals who form a tight knit and diverse community. I envision the film to be something we can look back on in 5, 10, 20 years and recall the people we were back then in order to reflect on how we have grown. I hope that younger classes can look to this film as a form of solidarity, to understand that they are not alone in the wide range of emotions they are experiencing.

My influences include the “Fifty People, One Question” film series which, as the title suggests, asks a group of 50 people a single question and yields a wide set of answers. This film series has made me laugh and made me cry as I found myself connecting with the stories told by individuals who are strangers to me but reflect society as a whole. The 1961 film “Chronique D’un Ete” has also provided much influence as I address my own role within a documentary film as the documentarian. “Chronique D’un Ete” interviews citizens in France over the course of the summer. Once again, the people interviewed share a wide range of opinions and stories but all share a common thread of human emotion that entrances the viewer. I hope to have reflected the myriad of emotions seen in these films through a variety of stories. I have also found inspiration in the writings of David Mamet, who through his humorous writings on the art of directing has given me great guidance as I plan the framing and set-up of shots.