

Documentary Concept

Student 5: Low Achieved

NZQA Intended for teacher use only

What is it about?

The concept for my documentary is a promotional expository

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documentary for the local NZ band [REDACTED]. The documentary will be about the history and future of the band, it will inform the audience about the evolution of the band from their previous alternative rock band [REDACTED] to the now post rock/math rock band [REDACTED]. It will be about the struggles and achievements of a completely unknown band who are practicing to be professional musicians. This documentary shows the lives of four young boys and their passions for music and live performance, playing and performing from a young age the band have evolved through the years into highly talented multi-instrumentalists.

Who are the subjects?

[REDACTED] (Drums), [REDACTED] (Guitar), [REDACTED] (Bass and Guitar), and [REDACTED] (Guitar, Piano and Bass) who are all close friends of mine. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have grown up together and met [REDACTED] around year 8, they are all best friends and have been for years. I met them in year 9 and have been best friends with them since. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have lived literally next door to each other for most of their lives, best friends since kids.

What aspect of them is most captivating?

That all four of them are in a math rock band together. They play post rock with elements of math rock, jazz and emo, they have been together in the band for about three and a half years, they are coming out with their debut album soon. They have all grown up together and are all best friends, the aspect of maintaining their friendships through the highs and lows of music making, really taking a toll on their friendships. The fact that they are all best friends and still functioning as a highly technical math rock band is what captivates me the most, even though their level of skill is high they still joke around and have fun. Each of them have been playing their instruments for a long and have a passion. The productivity of their music making is also a captivating aspect, the way that they create music is fascinating, coming from it in a very technical angle and making their style unique and impressive.

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What is the message you want to get across?

That even though we live in such a small country, we still have talented musicians making great music. Through the years they have developed such a strong musical bond going through all sorts of genre's from indie rock to noise and now settling on a post rock/math rock kind of feel. They are been each others inspiration and have pushed each other to produce something original and unique music that people genuinely enjoy. They have come from humble beginnings, playing together as kids in school talent shows and are now beginning to be noticed in Auckland by other bands and the public in general.

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Practicalities

Location: Venue for gigs, [REDACTED] House, School (Possible) Interviews: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

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Equipment: Camera, Microphone, Tripod

Things needed to get: Prior info on the band Permissions: I will have full permission to use the band's music.

What problems might you encounter and how might you solve them?

Getting all four of them at the same place, at the time same time. I could solve this by interview theming and shooting them playing during their band practices. Their band practices happen once a week and requires all four of them to be there to practice their live sets. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are probably the most well spoken of the four of them and would be easiest to interview but [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are a bit harder to get a straight answer out of them. Also with such a relaxed friendly atmosphere it might prove difficult to focus and get my work done.

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Who is the target audience and why will they enjoy this topic?

The target audience for my documentary is for anyone who hasn't heard of open or already knows about open but wants to know more, in theory it is all ages but it is intended for people in this media class, this documentary will give you an inside look into the band and it's members. The DIY home grown aspect is what I think people will enjoy, that even though these kids aren't professional they can still make interesting and genuine music which is a encouraging message especially for others that want to make music, █████ shows that you just have to be good to be recognised which is the way it should be.

Treatment

Medium shots of the band members during the interviews will be used to establish a connection with the characters of the documentary; █████, █████, █████ and █████. These medium shots will help the audience feel for the band and it's struggle throughout their young career in █████. The close ups will be constant throughout the film and will create a sense of narrative with the members of the band talking about their ups and downs and events of importance in the lifetime of █████. The close up's of each member will be done so that each member roughly takes up the same amount of space and lines up with the others so this shows a closeness and link between the four very different members.

The style of these medium shots will be similar to the medium shots in the documentary 'The Archive'; about a man who owns the most amount of records in the World. The same kind of sizing and position in the frame, to create a sense of friendliness, this welcomes the audience into the world of █████ and really helps them see what █████ is all about.

Shots of the instruments and gear will also be shot similar to how it is shot in 'The Archive' documentary them as if they run by themselves a dissociative sense of importance. This will other and separate different parts of the documentary from each other help document the things █████ use and manipulate to make their sound. This kind of straight on shot sizing will help send the message that █████ shoots straight down the middle, that they are functional and successful.

In my documentary I will utilise montage for my live recording, showing a bunch shots of the band playing and the audience listening in quick succession. This montage creates a sense of liveness and importance as if it needs to be shot from many angle and everything needs to be captured. I will also utilise split screens to show all four members playing at once, to show them with harmony with each other and showing the audience they are on the same wave length. The split screen will show everything going on and truly how complex it is to play. Split screen will not exclusively be used for the gig performance, when they do a controlled performance at █████'s house split screen will also be present.

The archival footage that will be used will give a sense of grandness and show the audience truly how long these four members have been with each others, how they have evolved from their musical style and how they have developed into a highly functional live band. From their humble beginnings of their school talent show to now playing paid gigs at bars and event centres.

All of the music and non diegetic sound will be from █████'s bandcamp with the rights given by the band to use it in the documentary.

The music is the most important part of the band so must definitely have a carved out place in the documentary, in the live segments the band will be overlayed with the sound to depict crispness. The reason for this is because the RODE microphone that will most be used for this documentary is not good enough to pick up on all the nuances of their music so outside noise must be overlayed to really showcase their music effectively and to show the audience █████'s talent.