

INTERVIEW WITH CECILIE JUUL MIKKELSEN

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BA AND MA IN ENGLISH AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? AND WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING SINCE FINISHING UNI?

After getting my degree in January last year, I enjoyed a few months of unemployment and the benefits that can entail (getting into a good work-out routine, and shopping for groceries at odd hours of the day). I then got a 3-month internship at a small start-up, which eventually hired me to do some freelance work. After a few months, I landed a job as copywriter for SELECTED FEMME / HOMME, which is a part of BESTSELLER. That's what I am up to as of now - mostly collaborating on ideas for content, writing short and sweet texts for Social Media, Newsletters, SELECTED stores etc.

HOW HAS YOUR TIME AT UNI PREPARED YOU FOR YOUR CURRENT JOB?

I've asked myself this many times, seeing as my degree and previous experience differ quite a lot compared to my colleagues'. The obvious answer would be that the linguistic and communicative skills have been pretty important. Meanwhile, the way my working life is structured is actually pretty close to the way uni works in terms of exams and deadlines. As a DEEPLY unorganized person, I think uni has prepared me for handling deadlines and getting an overview of the tasks at hand. During my time at uni, I was also involved in a lot of volunteer work which has also benefitted me, as I am continuously communicating and engaging with many different people and departments.

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON YOU LEARNED DURING YOUR TIME AT UNI?

Not to sound like a broken record, but I think an important lesson is that it is okay to make mistakes. I have always been a bit perfectionist at heart (quite a cocktail when you're also pretty unstructured), so if I make a mistake I can literally lie awake at night thinking about it. But I have learned and am still learning that mistakes happen all the time and that no one will die from them (unless you're a doctor or something).

WHAT IS YOUR BEST MEMORY FROM YOUR TIME AT THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT?

Honestly, while I wouldn't want to go through it again, I think some of the times I reminisce the most about are the exam periods. There was something really special about the collective suffering during the exam periods, the late nights at the library and the whole "brothers-in-arms" vibe that really tied some of us together. To me, many friendships have been strengthened during these times, as morbid as it sounds!

WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE?

I am pretty content where I'm at right now. I enjoy working at a big corporation, and I think there are some exciting aspects to working in the fashion industry in terms of sustainability. They're facing some big challenges if they want to stay in business and that's pretty exciting to be part of!