Name: Daniele Marzeddu

Date of Birth: 1978

Date of Interview: 18/1/2018

Duration: 00:11:43

So today is the 18th of January 2018. My name is Daniele, Daniele Marzeddu. And I'be been here in Milton Key... No.

The year of your birth?

Ah, yes, yes, yes. Shall I start it again?

Just say your name and the year of your birth.

Ah OK, so my name is Daniele Marzeddu and my year of birth is 1978.

Would you like to give a little bit of background prior to you coming to Milton Keynes?

So I came to Milton Keynes quite recently because I relocated here six months ago, cos I had applied for a job here and then this company called me to work here. Cos previously I was living in Devon and the glorious Devon, Exeter, and well, so, I can say that I came here randomly, cos I never thought of being here between the Midlands and the southeast of England cos actually I really liked to stay in Devon. But I think that Milton Keynes is quite a good place and also I enjoy going by bike, there's plenty of redways, cycleways, so it's quite a fantastic place for bikers. And I can say that also winter time is not too tough, and it's ok.

So when you first came to Milton Keynes was there anything specific that struck you about the area, the architecture, the place?

Yes, I can say that I really loved the contrast between Venice which is the city I come from, well I come from, I grew up there, so very ancient and old, old city, and Milton Keynes which is a state of the art, modern architecture from the sixties, which I like because I am passionate about architecture and history of architecture. And to me, it's also good, it's also interesting because I am working as a photographer and I can shoot lots of spaces, and specially I like Milton Keynes at night, cos the light, the lights are so intriguing, the contrasts between the buildings and the lights, so I can play with my camera, it's so marvellous.

Are there any specific buildings in Milton Keynes that interest you? And for what reason? Or is it just a general [unclear].
Well, I quite like the skyscraper where there is a, I want to say any [unclear] close to the inn. So it's a place that has a restaurant inside. So it's a building with plenty of glasses.

The Hub, the whole area of the Hub with a fountain in the middle?

Yes, the external part of the Hub, as well as the Network Rail building because it's like a city itself. So it's a kind of Japanese style of life. You can imagine Tokyo, with a massive amount of let's say ants inside, all the workers [unclear] think about these workers are like ants, they work together, they cooperate for the technology. It's quite [unclear] interesting. So, yes, this city is to me let's say so intriguing because it's actually the reflection of modernity and it's quite good for having a sort of anthropological study.

Would you like to talk about anything to do with your activities in Milton Keynes? Is there anything like that you'd like to talk about? You don't have to.

Oh, well, well actually, I am doing different jobs, because I am working as a photographer, I am working as a sales representative; I am working also as an Italian teacher. And, well, I can say that I'm pretty relaxed here, because I settled pretty easily. It's just even better than Devon, cos it's much more multicultural, which is the idea I used to have of England when I first decided to come here, but actually, I ended up in Devon. So Milton Keynes is quite a microcosm, if I can say that. And I'm having relationships with Africans, and Muslims, and Chinese people, avoiding Italians [laughter].

So that's some of the successes you feel about Milton Keynes. Are there any other successes, or failures of Milton Keynes just from the short period that you spent here? Anything that's not working well here maybe?

Well to me, cos I like nightlife, during the week is quite dead, and it's hard to find places where to go, apart from the good venue such as the MK11 or the Crauford Arms. But apart from that, the place itself is so safe, I can leave my bike outside of my house without any risk, and also the traffic itself runs so smoothly.

Are there... If you were creating a city such as Milton Keynes, are there any features that you think could be added?

Well, what I miss is sort of better recycling service, cos actually I struggle on how to throw away glass, I don't know where to put it. And yeah, compared to Europe, here, the recycling services is a bit worse. So I would...

Italy has some of the best, doesn't it, Treviso area [unclear].

Yes, especially... Yes, exactly, Venice and Veneto area is one of the most efficient area, areas regarding the recycling services.

Is there anything we need to talk about [unclear] *something you'd like to ask, Charlotte?*

Well there's that question of the future, do you see your future here? The future of Milton Keynes and your personal future here?

Well that was kind of, yes that was my last question, but I don't know if there is anything to do with...

Yes there's the question of the future of Milton Keynes and [unclear] *and do you see yourself* [unclear].

So do you see, do you think you have a future in Milton Keynes or are you just a passer through?

Well, I don't believe in destiny, so it's all about case and random. So possibly I could stay, possibly I could go away, you never know.

And the development of Milton Keynes in the next 50 years, do you have some, do you have a vision of the way things might develop in the next 50 years?

Well, I see robots running around, so hopefully, they can carry me around [unclear] so yeah...

[unclear] *with the robot living in the future.. that's quite nice.*

Could we return to first impressions?

That's what I was thinking you know. You wanted some stuff regarding didn't you, earlier sort of stuff, that kind of thing?

You mean the first day?

OK, the first day. So you've only been six months here, so you need to think back. But what, I did ask about first impressions, so your very first day, when you came to Milton Keynes, what stood out for you?

Am I allowed to swear?

Yeah...

So, it was fucking rainy, so grimy, so spooky, well spooky... it was very, very well dark, I'm a bit dark as well. No actually, it was very rainy and it was August, and I said to myself: "Ah, what am I doing here."

And is there anything we need to do here as an ending, do we need an ending?

Well, I wondered, has that feeling changed at all, or is it still how you feel every morning when you look out of the window?

Do you still think "fucking hell" when you get up in the morning?

Obviously [laughter]. Yeah, I feel like being possessed by something very evil.