

John Kontos

Details

Name: John Kontos

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Personal Overview

I am an individual that is passionate about all that I set my mind to. I execute my work to the highest standards and encourage the same of the people around me. I enjoy working with people that value teamwork as an essential component in producing a stimulating, creative and successful project and work environment; and value those that I work with. I am also an understanding individual. Acknowledging that an open mind, combined with valuable experience, can achieve many more results than either education or experience can achieve alone. I am a fun, friendly and outgoing individual that isn't afraid to speak my mind, but I also possess a diplomatic and understanding side to my personality.

Work Experience

Freelance Graphic Designer/Art Director – Various projects, March 2006-Present

As a freelance graphic designer I have had the opportunity to work on a range of projects from music industry covers and websites to annual reports, brochures and other promotional material for clients, including working on projects for Quark Systems, IDG Media, Jardine Lloyd Thompson and Universal Records. I have also gained agency experience, working on a variety of print projects as a freelancer at Live and Breathe (for customers such as Airwick, Argos, Chester Barrie and Palmer & Harvey), and also at Likely Co, where I art direct online ad campaigns for various digital media, for clients such as Fanta and Groupon.

I have been responsible for implementing strategic design for clients. This includes conceptualising, planning, management and execution of the projects. This is a situation I very much enjoy and it builds on my already established experience and is strengthening my list of contacts in the communications industry. I have also established many good personal and professional relationships. Other standard responsibilities include presentation and collaborating with teams. During this period I have also won an award for Best Investor Relations Project for my previous work on a Robert Wiseman project.

Graphic Designer/Art Director – Hemscott, London 2001-2006

My five years of experience as a creative for Hemscott (an agency whose clients include 33% of all FTSE 100 blue chip companies) allowed me to work on and for many exciting, interesting, varied projects with the same superlatives describing the companies and the people that I worked with. I was responsible for the implementation of design projects for T-Mobile, TD Waterhouse, HBOS, GalifordTry, Whitbread Group, Country & Metropolitan (graphic design for various communications projects). During this period my work involved a wide variety of interaction with copywriters, account directors, clients and designers. My presentation skills during this time increased dramatically due to mixing with the many clients from such diverse backgrounds. It also allowed me to understand, much more thoroughly, the finer details of a client's business and gave me an acute ability to search for the client's strong points and promote these accordingly to good effect. Other standard responsibilities included presentation and management of projects as well as collaborating with my team members.

Graphic Designer – One To Call, London 2000-2001

As an employee for One To Call in London I was responsible for implementing design projects for the company's client BabiesWeLove. This included conceptualising, planning, management and execution of various communications projects. The projects that I worked on were for retail key components, such as Promotional Marketing materials, Brand Reinforcements and Advertising.

During this period I became a competent Marcomms expert for the execution of all the client's projects. Other standard responsibilities included presentation and the collaborating with my team members.

Junior Graphic Designer – Visionworks, London 1999-2000

As my first position, while rounding off the end of my degree, I implemented the graphic design for a small web design agency. This gave me a thorough insight into working with clients.

Education

BSc (Hons) Digital Art & Design – Thames Valley University, London 1996-1999

BTEC Media Studies, A'Level English – Westminster College, London 1995-1996

Other Skills

I have very good project management skills, excellent English communicative skills and I am completely Design-industry IT-literate. Quark, InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, Acrobat are my standard tools. I also fully understand the processes involved in executing design strategies. This gives me a complete knowledge of the process from original concept to final project delivery.

Awards and Exhibitions

First-prize winner of the Best FTSE SmallCap website 2006.

Poster Exhibition of my work in Shoreditch, London November 2005.

Featured designer in the UK graphic design magazine Digit, November 2005.

Interests

I enjoy playing guitar, socialising and travel.

References (professional and personal)

Gérard LeCain – gerard_lecain@graffiti.net

Russell Clarke – uncleclarkie@yahoo.com

Asitha Rodrigo – asitha@mac.com