

Christopher Gilbert

Design Rockstar : Creative Consultant : Sandwich Connoisseur : "Swell Guy"

Details

Name: Christopher Ward Gilbert

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DoB: 26th April 1986

Favorite Color: Chartreuse.

Favorite Animal: Panda!

Personal Statement

I am an Advertising Design Major at Art Center College of Design, and freelance creative, residing in Hidden Hills, California who is committed to gaining work experience in addition to my academic pursuits as a designer, and digital artist.

My skills include, but are not limited to: photo manipulation, photography, web design, creative writing, and photo retouching. Though my greatest strength is in creating with visual media, I am also passionate about music (everything from Bach to Yeasayer). I am an aspiring guitarist, and I sing in the shower... Music is a major part of my being and it definitely influences all facets of my life, and creative endeavors. Literature, cinema, the natural world, and fashion also influence my work.

Though my inspirations are diverse, my own vision remains simple, and my style unique. As a creator, I strive to blend cutting edge, emergent techniques and technologies with tried and true artistic fundamentals, to create high impact, hip, and memorable imagery without sacrificing the principles of strong design. Creating has been, and remains, a life-long journey for me, and my ultimate purpose is to share my imagery with the world.

By speaking in a visual language, and drawing from my keen sense of observation, I can communicate in a creative, culturally aware, and potent voice that will resonate with anyone, anywhere, from Los Angeles to Beijing.

I thrive in fast paced, high pressure creative environments, and I am a deadline-oriented team player who responds well to criticism, and loves to laugh. I am loyal and will not play with matches or run with scissors- The risks I take are purely artistic, and I promise they won't set fires or put eyes out!

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Education

Art Center College of Design (Advertising Design)

September, 2009 - present

Santa Monica College

July 17, 2008 - June 2009

GED

Experience

Graphic and Web Designer; Web Business Manager, Popcornopolis, Venice/El Segundo California

August 07- January 08

I worked as an "in-house" media specialist for Popcornopolis, a boutique popcorn business that operates a series of retail locations, wholesale accounts (including those of premier sporting venues in Southern California such as Staples Center and the Honda Center), as well as a web business. I did the majority of my work focusing on branding, growing, and managing the web side of their business. I ensured the brand maintained a unique, fresh, and graphically sound presence. I also did print collateral projects including signage, flyers, and in-house documents requiring design in any sense.

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Freelance Designer/Photographer/Photo-Manipulator

2003-Present

I have worked on a wide variety of projects for numerous employers on a project by project basis. These deadline based assignments have included:

- Event Photographer; Birthdays, Sporting Events, Conventions.
- Photo Retoucher
- Vector based illustrator
- Logo design/ Corporate Identity projects

Sales Associate/Lab Associate, Ritz Camera, Manhattan Beach

April 05 - Jan 07

I worked as a "Sales Associate," selling cameras and other photographic equipment, as well as a "Lab Associate," using Fuji machines to process and print both negatives from 35mm and APS cameras, as well as processing digital prints. Printing included making detailed color corrections, as well as compensating for poor exposure.

Skills

Digital SLR cameras	- Proficient (All Makes, shoots Canon)
35mm SLR film cameras	- Proficient (All Makes, shoots canon)
Digital Video cameras	- Proficient (Experience with Sony, Canon)
Light meters	- Proficient
Digitizing Tablets	- Proficient (Wacom)
Studio Photography	- I am capable of using a variety of studio lighting, including flash, ring flash, soft boxes, reflectors and tungsten lights.
Documentary Photography	- I am able to function at a high level outside of a studio, and I have experience working at events where I have less control over variables such as light, and backdrops, yet still deliver effective results.
Darkroom printing	- I am able to print black and white prints from negatives in a darkroom setting.
Digital printing	- I am able to get documents print ready, through color correction, and I understand the fundamentals of typography and resolution and how both react with the constraints of printing. I can work with

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images in either a RGB color space for web,
and CMYK for print.

Scanning	-I am proficient at operating a wide range of scanning apparatus, including slide scanners, flatbed scanners, and a basic understanding of drum scanners.
Macintosh Operating Systems [OS 7 - OSX]	- Advanced
Microsoft Windows [98 - Vista]	- Advanced
Adobe Photoshop	- Advanced
Adobe Illustrator	- Advanced
Adobe Acrobat	- Advanced
Adobe InDesign	- Advanced
Adobe ImageReady	- Intermediate
Adobe GoLive	- Intermediate
Audacity (Audio editing)	- Intermediate
Microsoft Office Suite	- Advanced
Apple iWork Suite	- Advanced
Quark	- Intermediate
Apple iMovie	- Advanced
HTML coding	-Intermediate
CSS coding	-Intermediate

Languages

English	- Fluent
Spanish	- Basic/Intermediate (Reading/Speaking)
Latin	- Basic (Reading only)
Pig Latin	- Fluent (Black Belt)

Achievements

- Santa Monica College Dean's List: Fall 2008, Winter 2008/9, Spring 2009
- In High School I took part in Model United Nations, and was awarded several commendations for my performances in various state wide conference events.
- Honor Roll in Freshman and Sophomore Years in High School
- My Photoshop work has earned praise on many digital art online communities, and has been featured in tutorial books. My work has also been published in magazines.
- Numerous wins and trophies competing at Worth1000, an online photoshop and photography contest.
- Awarded as the top seller in California of "Extended Service Plans" by Ritz Cameras in 2005

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Hobbies

- Reading: I am an avid reader, and my many books are locked in a titanic battle for shelf space with my records. While I tend to read mostly fiction, I spend the most time referencing my many art reference books for inspiration.
- Photography: Life long passion, and I strive to never be without a camera, wherever my travels and wanderings may take me.
- Guitar: I'm no Jimi Hendrix, but I sometimes lock my doors, crank up the amp (mine goes to 11!) and pretend to be. I lose time just strummin' away. When my trusty axe isn't by my side, you may also spot me jamming on the air guitar... Don't laugh!
- Travel: I love exploring the world, and other cultures. I have travelled extensively, through Australia, New Zealand, Africa (South Africa, Zambia, Botswana), Europe (France, United Kingdom, Spain), and Asia (Thailand, Viet Nam, Cambodia).
- Painting: A creative pursuit that can be extremely therapeutic and cathartic. Oils and Watercolors primarily.
- Music: I am an avid fan of music from across the globe, and from many eras in history. I am a frequent concert attendee, and I maintain an extensive collection of vinyl records. I am very musically aware, and am always on top of the newest and best emergent acts.
- Wearing Sunglasses: I am passionate about protecting my eyes, as much of my work would be impossible without them. In addition, I am passionate about wearing a diverse array of unique looking sunglasses.
- T-Shirts: Graphic Design is fun to wear! I love my t-shirt collection.
- Video Games: I may not be the best at them (My little brother is an expert!) but I like trying out the newest titles on offer with friends.
- Soccer: I am an avid fan of English Premier League outfit Chelsea F.C. and I follow their progress religiously, though time zone differences often require the assistance of TiVo.
- Art: Besides my own creative output, I am a devoted disciple of the artists who have come before me, whether they influence my personal style or not.
- Typography: Because I love writing, words, scrabble, and reading, I see typography in a special light. My personal type library has well over 10,000 fonts. I love organizing them, almost as much as I enjoy using them.
- Other things that are "neat-o" to me: Bagpipes, fly-fishing, my family, antique stores, cooking, octopi, carnivorous plants, and blue jeans.