

Christopher Gilbert

Details

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DoB: 26th April 1986
Favorite Color: Orange! Sometimes blue as well.

Personal Statement

Currently, I am a student and freelance artist, residing in Manhattan Beach, California who is committed to transitioning into the workforce 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 passion is in creating with visual media, I am also an avid fan of music (everything from Bach to Clap Your Hands Say Yeah), literature, cinema, and secretly (as a guilty pleasure) a keen observer of popular and celebrity culture.

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 concepts, to create high impact, hip, and memorable graphics without sacrificing the fundamentals of strong design. Creating has been, and remains a life-long passion 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 lend a creative, culturally aware, and diverse voice that can resonate with anyone, anywhere from Los Angeles to Beijing.

Education

El Camino College

Sep 03 – Present, Continuing

AA Double Major: History and Photography

My time at El Camino has mandated that I not only do my general education requirements, but also to repeat my High School studies. In 2006 I completed my GED with near perfect marks, while I continued to gain credits to transfer. I am pursuing a transfer to a U.C. school to get a Bachelor's degree, and from there get a M.F.A. degree from an Art School.

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Mira Costa High School

Sep 00 – Jan 03

Though I received good marks throughout my Freshman and Sophomore years, I left halfway through my Junior year due to a religiously motivated attack against me based on my partial Jewish Heritage. I transferred early into El Camino Community College where I was forced to repeat all of my high school credits.

Experience

Graphic and Web Designer; Web Business Manager, Popcornopolis, Venice California

August 07- Present

I work 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 have done the majority of my work focusing on branding, growing, and managing this business, while also ensuring the brand is unique, fresh, and graphically sound. I also do print projects including signage, flyers, and in house documents requiring design in any sense.

“Juror”, www.worth1000.com

October 02 – April 07

I was selected to be a volunteer staff member on Worth1000, a photoshop and photography competition website with over 400,000 members. I was required to vote on, and choose “gallery picks” from, a diverse array of contests. As a juror, my vote was more powerful, in an attempt at ensuring scores were ‘fairer.’ Another main responsibility of mine was responding to “Live Help” sessions, a customer service function built into the site, wherein queries from members were responded to, resolving their issues and helping them easier participate and function within the site. As a juror, I was also required to moderate the site’s integrated IRC chat room, a function which I still carry out, despite my resignation as a juror.

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Freelance Designer/Photographer/Photoshopper

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 (Canon, Nikon, Minolta, Pentax,)
35mm SLR film cameras	- Proficient (Canon, Nikon, Minolta, Leica)
Digital Video cameras	- Proficient (Sony, Canon)
Light meters	- Proficient
Digitizing Tablets	- Proficient
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 from film in the darkroom

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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 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 ImageReady - Intermediate

Adobe GoLive - Intermediate

Audacity (Audio editing) - Intermediate

Microsoft Office Suite - Advanced

Microsoft Internet Explorer - Advanced

Mozilla Firefox - Advanced

Opera (Web Browser) - Advanced

Quark - Intermediate

Adobe InDesign - Intermediate

Apple iMovie - Advanced

WebCEO (Web analytics) -Advanced

HTML coding -Intermediate

CSS coding -Intermediate

Languages

English - Fluent

Spanish - Basic/Intermediate (Reading/Speaking)

Latin - Basic (Reading only)

Achievements

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- In High School I took part in Model United Nations, and was awarded several commendations for my performances in various state wide conference events.
- Awarded as the top seller in California of “Extended Service Plans” by Ritz Cameras in 2005
- 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.

Hobbies

- Photography- Life long passion, and I strive to never be without a camera, wherever I am.
- Travel- I love exploring the world, and other cultures. I have travelled extensively, through 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. Acrylics and water colors 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.
- 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.