

Mike Andrews

Graphic Designer

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University College Falmouth - 2006-2009

First Class BA(Hons) - Graphic Design

Exeter College - 2005-06

Art Foundation ABC Diploma

A Levels - 2003-05

Fine Art - A

Media Studies - A

English Literature - B

History AS - C

GCSE's - 1999-2005

1 A*, 3 A's, 5 B's, 1 C

Skills

Competent using a range of software particularly InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop and Dreamweaver. I'm also comfortable using CSS and HTML, and have a basic understanding of Premiere and Flash.

Aug/Sept 2009

300 Million, London

4 week placement

I recently participated in a 4 week work placement at 300 Million, a busy branding design agency. The main thing I learned from the experience was the importance of time management. I was kept very busy and had to get used to organising my time and working effectively with the rest of the studio.

2008

Fitch Design Consultancy, London

4 week placement

During my second year I managed to get a month-long placement at Fitch, a large branding and retail design studio in London. I gained invaluable experience working in a large studio on various branding projects including Vodafone and the Jewish Museum London. Working at Fitch gave me a taste of how the industry works in terms of pace and structure, and put me in a good position to come back and finish my degree with all guns blazing.

Personal

Graphic Design is very important to me. It is where I have found that my instincts and intuitions are best placed. As well as having attraction towards the implementation of typography and image, I am also very interested in the social context of design and the influence we can have on societies and cultures and vice-versa. I think it is an inquisitive and analytic nature that draws me towards the industry - a need to find out how and why, to go deeper than just the aesthetic - and I think this is an integral part of design, informing the way something looks rather than remaining separate from it. I am interested in what graphic design can do for people - whether its a clear signage system that prevents people from getting lost, or something that evokes emotion in people, I believe it is an influential set of communication tools that a graphic designer has at their disposal, and we should be aware of how we are using them.

I also have a keen interest in photography and music. I write and play my own songs live, and I believe that being able to get up and sing in front of an audience is something that's helped my confidence greatly. I also think its important to keep up to date with current affairs and stay politically aware. One of my favourite things about graphic design is how it is influenced by everything else - I think the most important thing is simply to be interested in the world around you, as that is the context in which we work.