

CONTACT INFORMATION

Robin Turner
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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date of Birth: 10 January, 1974
Citizenship: South Africa
Sex: Male

Bio:

Robin Turner is a Johannesburg-based South African graphic and multimedia designer who began his training at the Vaal Triangle Technikon. He honed his skills through an honours degree programme at the Greenside Design Center, and sharpened his teeth through a series of design agencies, garnering awards in the process.

He has a passion for anything digital, which has as a result, led him to break into the New/Multimedia design arena. He completed a master's degree in digital interactive arts through the University of the Witwatersrand in 2011. Robin has been sharing his design knowledge with students at the Greenside Design Center since 1996, where he currently heads this private university's Graphic and Multimedia Design department.

As a keen traveler, and a passionate designer, Robin has attended and participated in numerous design-related conferences all over the globe, and is currently on the Cumulus Executive Board.

He is particularly interested in interactive design, and specialises in physical or human computing, which is an area of interactive design that explores that potential of human/computer interactions that do not require the use conventional digital inputs such as keyboards and a mouse.

When Robin isn't taking technologies apart to see how they work, he's trying to invent new ones - while also developing corporate identities and creating new typefaces.

EDUCATION

School:

1987 – 1991: Sedaven High School

Tertiary:

1992 – 1996: Vaal Triangle Technikon

Studied for a National Diploma in Graphic Design

PostGraduate:

1998 & 1999: Greenside Design Center / Nottingham Trent

Completed a BA Honours Degree in Graphic Design

2007-2010: Wits University

Completed an MA in Digital Interactive Arts.

2011 & 2012: Assessment College

Completed certificate in 'Conduct Outcomes-based Assessment' (2011)

Completed certificate in 'Conduct Moderation of Outcomes-based Assessments' (2012)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

1995 – 1997

Hawnt House

Robin Worked for Hawnt House, a small Graphic Design agency. As a junior designer, robin was involved in editorial, logo and packaging design.

1997- 2002

Greenside Design Center

Robin was employed by the Greenside Design Center, where he lectured in 1st year graphic design, 2nd year photography, and trained 3rd year graphic design students in the software packages required by industry.

1998 – 2001

Those Three

Robin and two other Design Center staff members founded a graphic design agency called Those Three. Partnered with Mozaic, a digital or online agency, Those Three retained clients such as Netcare, Brush-T, Indwe magazine and DeKat magazine to name a few.

2002-2003

Zero27

To gain more industry work experience, and to learn for about the digital sphere, Robin joined Zero27, a design agency with a digital offering.

2005 - 2009

Carbon Thinktank:

Robin partnered a design studio called the Carbon Thinktank. As a creative director, he was involved in a full covering of the digital design sphere, which included the realization of the potential of combination technologies, web strategy and physical computing.

2003 – Present

Greenside Design Center

Robin returned to the Greenside Design Center, where he lectured exit level multimedia students. He is also involved in the curriculum planning and running of the Visual Communication and Multimedia Honours (post grad) programmes. He was promoted to the position of senior lecturer in 2007, and Head of Department in 2013.

AWARDS:

1998 - An Honorable mention in the Nagoya Design Competition
1998 - A silver and Gold in the National Sappi Calendar Design Competition

JUDGING:

2006 - Participated as a judge for the national **Pica** awards
2012 - Participated as an online judge for the international **Poster for Tomorrow** competition
2016 - Participated as an online judge for the international **Poster for Tomorrow** competition
2018 – Participated as a judge for the International Society of Type Designers (ISTD) Education Award for Africa

EXAMINATIONS:

2013 – Externally moderated 3rd & 4th year multimedia design student examinations for the University of Johannesburg

2013 – Externally moderated post graduate (Honors degree candidates) research papers (long essays) for the University of the Witwatersrand

2014 – Externally moderated the final exams for the Multimedia Design undergraduate programme at the University of Johannesburg.

2014 – Externally moderated student research reports for Digital Arts postgraduate (honours) Department at the University of the Witwatersrand.

2015 – Examined the midyear exams for the postgraduate (honours) Digital Arts (Interactive) programme at the University of the Witwatersrand.

2015 – Externally moderated the final exams for the Multimedia Design undergraduate programme at the University of Johannesburg

2015 – Externally moderated the end year exam for the postgraduate (honours) Digital Arts (Interactive) programme at the University of the Witwatersrand

2017 – Participated as member of jury for exiting level multimedia students at Luca design school (Belgium)

2017 – Participated as member of jury for exiting level visual communications students at ECV-Aix-en-Provence design school (France)

PRESENTATIONS, Conferences and Workshops:

2000 – Attended the Icoagrada *Oullim* Congress in Seoul

2001 – Attended the joint Icoagrada/IFI/Icsid congress in Sandton, JHB

2003 – Attended the ISTD (International Society of Typographic Design) Typ03 workshop and lecture

2003 – Invited to judge for the South African editorial competition – Pica Awards

2006 – Attended the D&AD Xchange University Network, London

2009 - Presented to at Cumulus which lead to GDC being the nominated host of the international conference

2008 – Attended the Design Indaba in Cape Town

2008 – Exhibited work at the Wits Arts and Literature Experience

2013 – Attended Cumulus Conference (Design Education Conference) in Dublin

2013 – Attended Cumulus Conference in Porto (Portugal)

2014 – Participated in the ICOGRADA Design Educators working group in Hong Kong

2014 – Co-presented and wrote a paper (with Kathryn Pope) entitled “Implementing the Kyoto Design Declaration’s commitment to socially responsible design education: Reflecting on the challenges facing design educators” at the first Cumulus Conference to be held in Africa.

2014 – Was involved in the 2014 Cumulus Johannesburg Leaders working group in which he helped to develop the first draft of the design educators Oath and Manifesto

2015 – Was invited to and participated in the “Reflecting on Brand Lebanon” symposium in Beirut, Lebanon. As well as conducted a week long Masters Class or workshop in Data Visualisation to Masters students at the Université de Balamand Académie des Beaux-Arts, Beirut.

2015 – Co-presented with Kathryn Pope at RGD Design Educators Conference, Toronto on 10Percent, focusing on the challenges that exist and GDC’s commentary and recommendations on these. The presentation was done over Skype due to budget limitations.

2015 – Attended Cumulus Conference in Milan (Italy)

2016 – Attended Cumulus Conference, and was voted on to the Cumulus Executive board in Nottingham (UK)

2016 Attended Cumulus Executive Board meeting in Taipei (Taiwan), as well as conference in Hong Kong

2017 – Attended Cumulus Executive Board meeting in Moscow, Russia

2017 – Attended Cumulus Executive Board meeting and Conference in Kolding (Denmark)

2017 – Contributed to the content of the World Design Declaration on behalf of Cumulus which was signed in Montreal during the World Design Summit.

2018 - Attended Cumulus Executive Board meeting and Conference in Paris (France)

2018 – Presented Design Thinking, Principles and Best Practices to Southern Sun

2018 – Co-ran a design thinking workshop on behalf of Fliptin, Microsoft and Old Mutual, to empower young girls from Soweto

AIMS AND GOALS

Robin is an ardent advocate for African design, whose goal is to afford a stronger African voice during global design conversations. Towards this goal, he was involved in the startup of the Pan Afrikan Design Institute – and African network initiative that links major design schools and professions from around the continent.

FURTHER INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

Photography, technology, illustration, typography, electronics, user experience design, user interface design, corporate identity and logo design, architecture, physical computing and new media.