

V A N E S S A H A R D E N . c o m

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

My skills lie in product design and fabrication, idea generation, scenario building, analysis of social network interaction and technology projection.

I enjoy exploring the application of mainstream design processes to niche groups. Previous projects have identified areas within society, and explored these through design and new technologies. This has enabled the creation of instruments inspired by the unique behaviours of specific groups of people.

AWARDS

- ~ BluePrint Best Exhibition at 100% Design London (September 2009)
- ~ Helen Hamlyn Design Awards Nomination (June 2009)
- ~ The Valpak recycle-more awards: design for a better environment (June 2008)
3rd prize (in collaboration with Nicolas Myers)
- ~ OCAD Medal Winner (2005)
- ~ Nora E. Vaughn Award (2005)
- ~ Excellence in Jewellery Design Award (2005)

FORMAL EDUCATION

- 2009 MA Design Interactions @ Royal College of Art, London UK
- 2006 Diploma Advanced Study Program: MIT Media Lab @ Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA USA
- 2005 BDes Material Arts and Design: Metalsmithing @ Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD) ON Canada

INTERNSHIPS & WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2009 Creative Technologist @ Burberry, London UK
 - ~ 3 month contract
 - ~ Merged design with new technologies to influence agile application development in marketing, digital media, and on line arenas
 - ~ Involved in the early concepts and ideas stages of a project through to final execution
- 2008 Design Intern @ Experientia Interaction Design Consultancy, Turin, Italy
 - ~ Conducted research into the future of communication
 - ~ Developed creative strategies
 - ~ Designed prototypes that focused on the enhancement of users' experiences

- 2007 TESL/TEFL English Teacher @ Berlitz Japan, Tokyo, Japan
- ~ Taught conversational English to a range of students from children to businessmen
- 2006 Residency @ XS Labs, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada
- ~ Collaborated on projects that involved material and methodology experimentation
 - ~ Combined traditional methods of metalsmithing with electronic and technical applications
- 2005 Research Assistant @ BEAL Institute for Strategic Creativity, Toronto Canada
- ~ Worked in an interdisciplinary team that specialized in the delivery of applied research
 - ~ Consulted for multi-platform project development
 - ~ Focused on context-aware emotional and cognitive responses transmitted in multi-sensorial environments
- 2003 Costume Design Intern @ Northbound Leather, Toronto, Canada
- ~ Designed and fabricated a costume inspired by Josephine Baker
 - ~ Exhibited costume in the annual Northbound Leather Fashion Show

EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 100% Design London, UK
- 2009 Degree Show, Royal College of Art, London UK
- 2009 Interim Show, Royal College of Art, London UK
- 2008 Interim Show, Royal College of Art, London UK
- 2007 Currents Exhibition OCAD, Toronto
- 2006 Collision X, Cambridge, MA, USA
- 2005 OCAD Medal Winners Exhibition, Toronto
- 2005 MAAD Thesis Exhibition, Distillery District, Toronto
- 2005 Annual OCAD Exhibition, Toronto
- 2005 Go West Juried Exhibition, Toronto
- 2005 “MAAD about you too” thesis auction, Toronto
- 2004 “Findings” Joint Exhibition, Toronto & Nova Scotia College of Art & Design
- 2003 Northbound Leather “Peep Show” The Docks, Toronto
- 2003 Women’s Collective Show, Central Hall OCAD, Toronto
- 2003 Annual OCAD Exhibition OCAD, Toronto
- 2002 MAAD Show OCAD, Toronto
- 2002 Annual OCAD Exhibition OCAD, Toronto

SELECTED PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

~ Planet Green (Dec 31 2009)

<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/home-garden/guerrilla-gardening-weapons-production.html?campaign=daylife-article>

~ Broken City Lab (December 18 2009)

<http://www.brokencitylab.org/blog/vanessa-harden-the-subversive-gardening/>

~ Design Boom (December 17 2009)

<http://www.designboom.com/weblog/cat/8/view/8523/vanessa-harden-the-subversive-gardener.html>

~ Trendhunter (December 14 2009)

<http://www.trendhunter.com/trends/mouse-assisted-interplay>

~ Gizmodo (December 14 2009)

<http://gizmodo.com/5425996/do-we-honestly-think-people-like-those-below-would-join-a-pet-mouse-dating-site>

~ Design Boom (December 13 2009)

<http://www.designboom.com/weblog/cat/8/view/8467/vanessa-harden-mouse-assisted-interplay.html>

~ Design Indaba Magazine, South Africa (November 2009)

~ BBC1 Country File (October 11, 2009)

~ Craft Council Magazine Blog (August 2009)

<http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk/crafts-magazine/blog/photo/2009/rca-show-two?from=/crafts-magazine/blog/>

~ Wired UK Magazine Blog (July 2009)

<http://www.wired.co.uk/news/archive/2009-07/01/get-tooled-up-for-guerilla-gardening.aspx>

~ Endless Parade of Excellence (July 2009)

http://robcruckshank.net/2009_07_01_archive.html

~ The Valpak recycle-more awards: design for a better environment (June 2008)

<http://www.valpak.co.uk/nav/page1699a278.aspx>

~ Material Beliefs (June 2008)

<http://www.materialbeliefs.com/events/rca-ibe.php>

~ www.photoblog.com (February 2008)

<http://www.photoblog.com/hutchinsonshaun/2008/02/02/reason-to-design-106-rca-08.html>

~ Alt.CHI (Computer- Human Interaction): Tug n' Talk: A Belt Buckle for Tangible Tugging Communication. (May 2007)

<http://web.media.mit.edu/%7Edharry/tugandtalk/>

~ Razor: On The Edge Column (October 2004)

http://www.northbound.com/images_aboutus/clippings/razoroct2004.jpg

~ Beal Institute for Strategic Creativity: Emotional Vehicles in Dataspace (August 2005)

<http://www.bealinstitute.org/projects/index.php#pro11>