

Marcin J Kasiarz

Textile Homeware Designer

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Experienced multi-disciplinary designer, whose research lead practice explores seasonal trends, layers, textures and colour for luxury textiles, combining references from contemporary and classic style. Currently seeking designer role within a leading international design company.

DESIGN APPROACH: Design process: research lead, colour, pattern, colour & texture exploration, hand drawing and painting skills, source materials, prototyping and product development, trend awareness, attention to detail and concept moodboards, collection & technical development, styling, sustainability and ethical sourcing.

DIGITAL|TECHNICAL SKILLS: Adobe Photoshop/Illustrator, Microsoft Software, Computer Aided Textiles, Printed Textiles (hand/digital print/print repeat process within production of printed textiles), photography, domestic and Industrial sewing machines, Embroidery Software, fabric construction, weaving and knit process, quality control and colour matching.

PROFESSIONAL: Collaborative, flexible, excellent communicator & interpersonal skills, project management, critical path designer, solution driven, works well under pressure, proactive, creative, commercially aware, liaison, negotiation and business skills.

Homeware Design Experience

From June 2012 – Designer| owner

MJ McKasiarz Textyles | Soft Furnishing and Design

<https://www.instagram.com/mj.mckasiarz/>

Established in 2012, I have been running a bespoke custom-made soft furnishing and homeware business. Working on multi-disciplinary commissions and supplying to retail outlets with soft furnishing collections that are both contemporary and classic in inspiration. I have established a comprehensive understanding on a designer-maker business model. I can work across multi projects and with different stakeholders including; clients, suppliers and buyers. Delivering high-end quality goods through innovation and design responses to client briefs including artwork, trends boards and samples, as well as running and administering the day-to-day organisation of the business, I have developed a comprehensive approach to homeware design that is trend lead and focused on maintaining a high standard of practice and commercially driven.

Sep 2015- at present Home Design Stylist

John Lewis Partnership

<http://www.johnlewis.com>

This design lead service requires a focused approach to understanding customer needs and meet sales targets. A detailed knowledge of the John Lewis Partnership homeware collections, including style notes and trends within suppliers such as: in house design studio, Style library, Harlequin, Jane Churchill, Bluebellgray, Classic Textiles, Voyage, Morris Sanderson as well as an excellent awareness of current homeware looks is essential for this role. Having worked in John Lewis of 3 seasons, I have established a detailed understanding of the John Lewis customer segmentation and how the store's collections support brand loyalty through careful design selection and buying. I am proficient in engaging and communicating to others design and homeware accessorisation to match and surpass design and interior briefs.

Nov 2014- Apr 2015 Digital Print Finishing Assistant

Centre of Advanced Textiles at GSA

<http://www.catdigital.co.uk>

As digital print finishing assistant, my role was multifunctional and covered all aspects of this digital textile business. I was responsible for consulting with clients (including: Timorous Beasties, John Lewis Classic Textiles, Laura Spring and Topshop) , managing client relationships & orders, preparing digital files of client's artwork using Photoshop and creating test samples based on different levels of saturation. Repeat pattern development, matching colour of original design works and selecting appropriate fabric and design combinations, working with technical notes and delivering high quality finish products for small batch orders to bulk production. Also responsible for cataloguing and archiving individual clients artwork including technical notes.

Other Professional Experience

July 2010 – 2014 Private Bank Analyst

Barclays PLC

<https://wealth.barclays.com/>

Responsible for opening accounts for Key Clients; Ultra High Network, Special Focus, PEP's and VIP's. Being a subject matter expert within the account opening team, I trained new team members and bespoke relevant training for banking office Executives. Working to tight deadlines and strict targets I was part of the government project and become an expert in 7 Days Account Switch, what made me a winner of several awards within the Barclays – Gold Altitude and a Local Recognition Award. To keep company high standard and requirements I was ensuring processes and procedure documents are kept updated.

Education & Qualifications

2015- June 2018

Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow
BA (HONS) Design: Textile Design

www.gsa.ac.uk

Degree Outcome + Programme

Final Stage Collection: 'Abandoned Beauty' Collection

Extended Essay| Thesis: Art Therapy – About the colour, shape and other powerful methods of Art Therapy

Technical: Print, Embroidery, Knit, and Weave, Digital textile design

Trade & Exhibitions:

Premiere Vision Paris September 2018 (pending)

TexSelect July 2018

<http://www.texselect.org.uk/designers/mj-mckasiarz/>

New Designers June 2018 Exhibitor

Degree Show June 2018 Exhibitor

Fashion Show 2017 'Forgotten Places' Collection

<https://www.artsthread.com/profile/?editproject=52730>

Live Projects

Fashion Show 2017 Sponsorship Team. (Raised £14,000 this is a 2% increase on previous years)

Boutique Collection 2017 Accessories Range (Sold Out)

Competition & Awards

Bradford Textile Society 2018 Second Prize Innovative textiles.

Scottish Dyeing Society Competition 2017 Highly Commended

Tea Collection: Scottish Themed Competition 2017 Honourable mention

2014 – 2015

Clyde College, Glasgow
Fashion & Textiles – HNC

www.glasgowclyde.ac.uk

2013- 2014

Clyde College, Glasgow
Printed textiles – NQ

www.glasgowclyde.ac.uk

Competition & Awards

Barrhead Leather Print on Leather 2014: First Prize

Additional Information

As a designer, I enjoy working with others in collaboration as well as consultancy. I find that I am interested in other's life stories and I am constantly drawn to exploring problems and designing options and solutions for them. I am highly motivated in helping others and see problems as interesting challenges to be overcome.

I have the ability to see the big picture as well as the detail of projects and can apply strategies to drive projects to completion. As a curious research lead designer, I find my inspiration from a range of sources and materials from classic textiles, cultures and traditions to contemporary product design, architecture and arts.

I enjoy traveling, gaining new experiences and exploring the global fashion and textile industry.

Holder of a full: Driving Licence.

References available upon request