

Curriculum Vitae



Stefan Gulassa

OBJECTIVE

Designer with emphasis on lighting, furniture, interiors and all forms of architectural detail.

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The inspiration for my designs derives from a fascination with unique perspectives, a deep love of materials acquired from years of hands-on craftsmanship, and an aesthetic that emphasizes integrity and elegance. Each concept, while respectful of client values, is designed to elicit fresh insight and a sense of harmony and soul that transcend time.

CLIENT ENGAGEMENT

While proficient in the professional tools of design, I have disciplined myself to draw all of my initial ideas by hand in order to engage clients and fabricators in a visual dialogue that leads to quick and efficient communication.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Head designer for 8 years at a major Seattle-based manufacturer of high-end interior furnishings.
- Creator of a line of hundreds of furnishings exhibited as exclusives in showrooms across America.
- Skill in collaborating with clients, architects and fabricators to create award-winning designs.
- First-hand experience with wood fabrication, metal machining, welding, forming, casting, finishes, patinas and on-site modification and installation/modification.
- Public speaker comfortable with large audience and media relationships.
- Featured in numerous articles in national design magazines and architectural publications.

EXPERIENCE

Gulassa & Co., Inc. Seattle WA (www.gulassaco.com)

'99 - '08. Principal designer at Gulassa & Co., a high-end design and manufacturing company that is nationally and internationally renowned for their award winning design and unparalleled craftsmanship. Specializing in furniture, lighting, interior design and architectural details for over 20 years. I co-created two lines of contemporary furniture sold exclusively to the trade in five showrooms across the states. I headed up a staff of over 20 in house artisans, drafters, wood workers, fabricators and finishers. I was in charge of all design, art direction, company identity, creative solutions and product design. Under my design direction and acting as a partner in the company we were able to increase our presence nationally by obtaining new showroom contracts and increasing line sales dramatically.

Acme Design, Oakland CA

'88 - '99. At the age of eighteen founded *Acme Design*, a freelance industrial design and graphic design company specializing in designing toys, furniture and sport equipment. My ability to design and recognize simple and effective aesthetic solutions combined with my experience in concept development, idea generation and prototype making made Acme Design a strong company that allowed me to pay my own way through private education.

Visual Engineering LLC, Singapore

'97. Photographer for *Visual Engineering LLC*. Worked as an assistant photographer and took part in the defining the company's goals and helping achieve them. Assigned and published photojournalism article on East Timor.

California College of the Arts, San Francisco CA (www.cca.edu)

'94 & '97. Instructor of *Design Drawing II*. Created curriculum covering subjects from conceptual renderings through sketching and perspective to mechanical drafting. Taught advanced students in limited computer rendering while encouraging the students to develop their own hand drawing techniques.

Pioneer Productions, Budapest Hungary (www.pioneer.hu)

'96. Production Assistant for *Pioneer Productions*, a film production company specializing in commercials and short films. Organized shooting schedules, designed sets, props and supervised construction—all within constraints of tight deadlines.

Peace Corps Volunteer, Tunisia Africa

'94 - '96. Designed and built a model house in Tunisia for the U.S. Peace Corps. Working directly with the Tunisian Ministry of Housing in a USAID funded project. My assignment was in housing and I redefined it into sustainable architecture. I reintroduced vernacular building techniques with a progressive site layout. Challenged the contemporary ideals of a Tunisian modern house and fused in traditional concepts and orientations to better suit the climate and environment.

EDUCATION

B.F.A., Industrial Design. California College of the Arts (Formerly California College of Arts & Crafts) 1994

Materials and manufacturing processes, 3 years, California College of the Arts 1994

Glass Blowing and Cold Working, 1 year California College of the Arts 1994

Photography and Art History, A.I.F.S., Paris France 1989

Attended *Value in Tradition* IASTE fourth conference, held by Dr. Nezar AlSayyad, University of California, Berkeley. Tunis, Tunisia 1995

Fluency in Arabic: Scored "Advance high" on the international test ACTEFL 1996

Student of Hiroshi Teshigahara school of Sogetsu. Studying Ikebana floral design. 1997

AWARDS

Seattle Homes & Lifestyles. *Seattle's Top 100: The people, places and things that define Seattle*. 2006

Seattle Homes & Lifestyles. *Design Achievement Awards: Four Designers Changing Seattle*. 2004

CLIENTS

Architects

Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, Callison Partnership, Cottle Carr Yaw Architects LTD (CCY), Gabellini Sheppard Associates LLC, Gwathmey Siegel & Associate Architects LLC, Miller Hull Partnership LLP, Olsen Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects, Steven Holl Architects, Stuart Silk Architects Limited PS, Suyama Peterson Deguchi Architects PLLC

Interior Designers

Christian Grevstad Inc., Doug Rasar Interior Design, Emily Summers Design Associates, John Saladino (Saladino Group Design Services), Naomi Leff Associates Inc., Madeline Stewart & Associates, Marc Melvin Design, Nancy Burfiend Design (NB Design Group), NBBJ, Terry Hunziker, Victoria Hagen Interiors, The Wiseman Group

Others

His Majesty King Abdullah II the King of Jordan, Paul Allen, Larry Benaroya, Jeff Bezos, Jerry Bruckheimer, Tom Cruise, Bill Gates, Chris and Heather McQuarrie, Trey Parker, Brad Pitt, Ray Romano, Howard and Sherri Schultz, Jerry Seinfeld, Lino Tagliapietra, Donald Trump

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