

Benjamin Spear

BRAVE THINKING demands brave expression. Talent and wisdom supply innovative ideas with power in a rich marketplace of ideas. Partnership-focused with strong collaborative capabilities and a dynamic creative network, dedicated to discovering brave people and expressing unique vision.

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Portfolio
thinkside.com

Experience

Thinkside, Principal 2003–PRESENT

Created and developed an agency-level communications design firm focused on branding and identity for cultural innovators.

- > Midem
- > Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston
- > Berklee College of Music & Harvard Law School
- > Proteus Fund
- > Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy
- > American Heart Association
- > Rafanelli Events
- > Big Brothers Big Sisters of Massachusetts Bay
- > Voter Activation Network

Olson Zaltman Associates, Research Consultant 2003–2007

Engaged with project teams for the collection of qualitative market data through digital imaging, a key component of the firm's patent-bearing research technique.

- > AstraZeneca
- > Cadbury Schweppes plc
- > ChevronTexaco
- > Harvard University

Schwadesign, Junior Designer 2002–2008

Provided full-scale studio support, accelerating in the firm's emergence in the New England design landscape.

- > AIGA Boston
- > Boston Jewish Film Festival
- > AIDS Action Committee of Boston
- > Friends of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Capability

Creative. Full creative throughput, from research to rapid prototyping of ideas and concepts, hand sketching with two- and three-dimensional consideration, story-boarding, color stories, and related workflows.

Entrepreneurial. Created and maintain a multi-disciplinary cross-sector network, communicating the value of design to clients, colleagues, and peers.

Collaborative. Co-founded Ad Hoc Boston, a community workspace for creative entrepreneurs, providing critiques and events for the creative, entrepreneurship, and social justice communities.

Leadership. Managed several employees, identifying strengths, assuring quality, and providing opportunities for growth.

Administrative. Marketing, sales, project management, accounts, performance tracking, and vendor management.

Technical. CreativeSuite, HTML, CSS, Flash, offset printing, WordPress, Mac OS. Fluent in Spanish and Italian.

Education

Boston University, College of Fine Arts

BFA Graphic Design 1997–2002

Conservatory studio foundation, focus on critical seeing and classical hand-work. Drafting, printmaking, design history, advanced design studio, and team-building assignments.

Scuola Internazionale di Grafica, Venice Italy

Semester Abroad 2001

Book arts, history of Venetian painting, stone lithography, graphic design, Italian language.