

ART CENTER COLLEGE OF DESIGN – CLASS REUNION

CHRIS ADAMICK

While studying fine art at UCLA, Chris Adamick's creative interests broadened to include architecture and design. After graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, Adamick was accepted into Art Center College of Design's Environmental Design program to refine his creative practice. His focus is on architectural environments where space and furniture design come together to create a complete experience.

Adamick received the A.I.A. 2 x 8 Scholarship for his Taschen Books retail space design. The project was later exhibited at the A+D Museum in Los Angeles and at Neocon West, and helped earn Adamick the Angelo Donghia Foundation award. Other projects included an exhibition design for a retrospective of the Situationist International, a hotel suite concept for the year 2050, and a series of mass-customizable products for Avery Denison. In 2005, Adamick worked as a designer with Studio Gaia in New York City for various hospitality and retail spaces, and in 2006, lived in Tokyo while working on the Pacific Rim project, a collaboration between Art Center College of Design, Tama University and sponsors such as Panasonic, Hitachi, Victor, and Axis Design Magazine.

A native of Los Angeles, Adamick is a dedicated musician and surfer. In 2007, Adamick founded his studio, chris adamick design, as a multi-disciplinary design studio focusing on creative concept development for product and environmental design. Additionally, Adamick is a designer with Rios Clementi Hale Studios in Los Angeles.

INI ARCHIBONG

Born and raised in Pasadena, California, Ini Archibong discovered his passion for the arts at Polytechnic, a highly academic college preparatory school. Polytechnic provides a strong emphasis on multidisciplinary education, and offers expansive art programs, which allowed Archibong to explore woodworking, 3D digital art, enameling, batik, sculpture, as well as ceramics, his main artistic focus.

After high school, Archibong began his studies at University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business. Realizing that he could not ignore his creative passion, he opted to focus on fine art and

architectural design. He worked for two years at George Architecture in South Pasadena, where he learned the essential skills of the trade and strengthened his application to the Art Center College of Design. In 2007, he was accepted into Art Center's Environmental Design program, with both an Edwards Entrance Scholarship and an Art Center Outreach Grant.

During internships in San Francisco and New York with Eight Inc., Archibong was directly involved with designs for the Mankas Lodge in Inverness, a proposal for the Norwegian National Museum of Art in Oslo, as well as concepts and design for Nokia's flagship stores launching in 2011.

Interested in the intersections of engineering, fine art, and architecture, Archibong is influenced and inspired by the work of Alphonse Mucha, Santiago Calatrava, and Buckminster Fuller. Archibong is on schedule to receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Design from Art Center in 2011.

EMI FUJITA

Born and raised in Japan, Emi Fujita ventured out into the world when she was only sixteen to attend TASIS, The American School in Switzerland. Realizing that she wanted to pursue her artistic side more seriously, Fujita transferred to the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan where she concentrated on the study of painting and sculpture. As an Interlochen student, she received the prestigious Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation award. After graduation, she attended Maryland Institute, College of Art, majoring in fine art before transferring to study environmental design at Art Center College of Design as a recipient of the General Motors scholarship.

Fujita's artistic talents became apparent at the early age of seven as she became skilled in the art of calligraphy. Throughout the next decade, she won numerous calligraphic competitions including the noted Yomiuri Newspaper award. Fujita's designs continue to be influenced by her cultural aesthetics, as well as the inspiration of Japanese sculptor Isamu Noguchi. In the same manner, she strives to achieve sculptural quality in her work while creating furniture and environments that transcend international boundaries.

DAVID KIM

Born in Los Angeles, David Kim spent his early childhood in Korea but returned to UCLA to study philosophy. Pursuing an interest in art and design, he moved to NY for an internship at Nas Industries, an apparel manufacturer, where he was exposed to the manufacturing process, branding, and graphic design of sports apparel. Subsequently applying for acceptance into the product design program at Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA, he was awarded a Martha Chandler Endowed Scholarship.

Kim's occasional table Skue made its international debut at the 2011 Milan Furniture Fair. His other work includes an interactive exhibition installation for sustainability and sea level rise sponsored by the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach; design of mobile workstations in Herman Miller's Design Storm; and resource advisor in Art Center's Color, Material and Trends laboratory.

ERIKA KÖVESDI

Erika Kövesdi was born in Hungary and grew up in Europe and Vancouver, BC. Her childhood pastimes of tinkering in her grandfather's wood shop, building abstract toys, and using old blue prints as drawing paper provided the foundation for a profession in design. As the principal designer for Formagraphics in Vancouver, Kövesdi directed graphic design and provided branding services to clients in the Canada and USA. Pursuing her love for architecture and 3D form, she enrolled in the Environmental Design program at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA.

Kövesdi's porcelain and walnut Cradle tea set was exhibited at the Milan Salone del Mobile in 2011. As a participant in the Pacific Rim 5 program in Tokyo, her designs for the Grow table, Nap pillows and Shine night lights were included in the "Niwa" exhibition at the Spiral Gallery in Tokyo. A short term design consultancy, Design Storm with Herman Miller, provided an opportunity to explore ways to improve the overall experience in the workplace.

JENNIFER KUCA

Jennifer Kuca's passion for modern furniture began when she was a child sliding around on the Wassily chair in her father's architecture office. Later in life she had the opportunity to more thoroughly explore design while employed at the corporate headquarters of a small startup called Design Within Reach. While there she worked closely with DWR founder Rob Forbes and his team sending out the influential weekly email newsletter, Design Notes. It was here that she began her design education in earnest. Several years later she took this journey to another level with the decision to enroll in the Product Design Program at Art Center College of Design, where she explored subjects ranging from advanced materials research to the design of forks.

Exploration is a recurrent theme in Kuca's life. Born in Chicago and raised in a Polish-Japanese family in Texas and California, she has traveled extensively throughout the United States, Europe, South America and Southeast Asia, climbing mountains and collecting textiles as she goes. She received a degree in Comparative Modern Literature from UC Santa Cruz and spent a year studying at Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, Hungary. She has also lived in Berlin, San Francisco, Kathmandu, and Houston, and is currently in Los Angeles.

Kuca began her professional life as a journalist and copywriter in San Francisco while gigging with her indie rock band at night. As a student at Art Center, Kuca's work was exhibited and she served as President of the student IDSA chapter. Other projects include designs for Avery Dennison, Herman Miller and LG Electronics as well as innovative women's footwear, mobile devices for the elderly, and technology research in conjunction with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA.

ALBERT LEE

Albert Lee is a Korean-American designer who grew up in an environment exposed to various kinds of art. Realizing Lee's talent, his artist grandfather was influential in motivating him to pursue art and design. At the age of sixteen, Lee began art studies at Kaywon Art High School in Korea, and after graduation, moved to the United States to attend Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA.

Although Lee was an industrial design major at Art Center, he expanded his design vernacular to include furniture design as well as environmental design. His work includes a Pacific Rim project – a collaboration of students from Art Center College of Design and Tama University in Japan – to rebrand the Avery identity and reinvigorate their market presence. An internship in Tokyo, Japan, with Nendo, provided Lee with experience as a conceptual furniture and environmental designer.

Having a particular interest in eyewear, Lee designed sunglasses for the high-end fashion company Barton Perreira and created concepts for 3D eyewear for the film Avatar and the movie industry.

SHAWN LITRELL

Shawn Littrell was born in Seattle, Washington, and spent his formative years in the southwest living in Santa Fe, New Mexico. After accepting a job with Buffalo Composite Design, Littrell assisted with the design and production of a new collection of road bikes. Combining his experience in bicycle design with his interest in furniture, Littrell began concentrating on the production of carbon fiber furniture and introduced his own collection of carbon fiber chairs at the International Contemporary Furniture Fair in New York.

Littrell was accepted into the environmental design program at Art Center College of Design and as a first year student was awarded Best Individual Design for his multi-functional loft furniture in Art Share L.A.'s Articulating Spaces Furniture Competition. He also entered Art Center's Everyone Deserves a Roof competition, a project based on supplying shelter for the homeless. Littrell's mobile living unit was one of four designs chosen for future prototype development.

At the Santa Monica Design District's Competition in 2004, Littrell received honorable mention for his rocking lounge chair. Later that year, his chair was selected to represent Art Center at the Salone Internazionale del Mobile in Milan, Italy.

STEVE OH

Korean and American by nationality, Steve Oh was born in Chicago, but grew up in places as diverse as Austria, Croatia, and South Korea. Oh attended Blair Academy, a private boarding school in New Jersey, and various colleges in Rhode Island and Pennsylvania before deciding to pursue Industrial Design at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California.

While at Art Center, Oh studied Product Design. His studies were abruptly interrupted for fulfillment of his required two years service with the Korean Army at the Demilitarized Zone. After service, he began a design internship at Woongjin Coway in Korea developing kitchen appliances and coordinating with international design studios to contract for Coway. Resuming his studies at Art Center, Oh uncovered his true passion for furniture design and his work exhibited at the 2011 Milan Furniture Fair. He participated in Herman Miller Design Storm proposing concepts for future workspace and worked in a transdisciplinary studio with Chrysler on showroom enhancements and overall brand direction developments.

RICH OVERCASH

A native of New England, Rich Overcash began his design education at Rhode Island School of Design and graduated with a Bachelor of Industrial Design degree from Syracuse University. Subsequent work experiences with diverse companies provided Overcash with knowledge and skills in manufacturing processes and working with different mediums. At Merrifield-Roberts, his projects included producing windmill blades for Kenentech, sculptures for Roy Lichtenstein and composite aircraft parts for Northrop Grumman. Using his machinist and welding skills, Overcash managed the production of components for Pablo, Mike Furniture, and microchip testing equipment for Intel. He also worked as a cabinetmaker for the Asian Art Wing of the Honolulu Academy of the Arts. While working full-time, Overcash freelanced as a product and graphic designer, preparing exhibits for the International Contemporary Furniture Fair in New York and the Milan Furniture Fair. This led him to a design position with the company Red Envelope, as well as four Williams-Sonoma group companies.

After receiving the Collectors Fund Scholarship at Art Center College of Design, Overcash will graduate with a Bachelors of Science in Transportation Design. While attending Art Center, he has worked with Moal Coachbuilders and the engineering firm JEREZ on the design of an alternative fuel carbon fiber super-car developed in conjunction with NASA and JPL.

JESSICA PELL

Inspired at a young age by the early modernists of her native Southern California, Jessica Pell's multi-disciplinary approach to design is grounded in meaning and context, deep-rooted in metaphoric and poetic connections. As a student in the Environmental Design Program at the renowned Art Center College of Design, she pursued a variety of disciplines from product and exhibition design to residential and commercial architecture.

Pell was awarded the prestigious Angelo Donghia Foundation award for her exhibition design entitled KIMONO: culture and construction in conjunction with the Japanese American Museum, which examined the artistic contributions, stitch by stitch, that make-up the kimono along with the cultural events that shaped its many variations. Pell furthered her studies in Tokyo at Tama Art University, where she worked on the Pacific Rim project designing sustainable products and environments. Her professional experience began with an internship at Eight Inc. in San Francisco where she was involved on projects for clients such as CitiBank, Tourneau, and the non-profit Malama Learning Center in Hawaii. Her chair design entitled Truss was selected for exhibition at the Salone Satellite at the Milan International Furniture Fair for 2011.

JOHN PHILLIPS

John Phillips knew at an early age that he would pursue a career in design. Initially interested in sculpture and graphic design, Phillips studied Applied Arts at Cuesta College in San Luis Obispo, CA, refining a foundation of craftsmanship and design practicality in woodworking, metalworking, plastics and ceramics.

Eager to broaden a perspective and inspiration base, Phillips travelled internationally and spent a year teaching English in design-centric Berlin, Germany, before returning to the United States to begin the industrial design program at Art Center College of Design. As a product design major, Phillips worked on a variety of projects ranging from consumer and lifestyle goods to hospitality industry solutions. He received an IDEA award for his sustainable skimboard concept and was featured in the Taschen publication Product Design in the Sustainable Era. As a participant of the business exchange program at INSEAD in France, Phillips' studies in strategic product and service development led to his subsequent work focusing on design strategy and its convergence with design research, trend analysis, and branding.

Phillips nurtures a parallel interest in furniture and lighting design. His first work, Reveal Table, explores the blurred line of lighting and furniture while his lounge concept, Aperture Chair, considers the full range of physical properties offered by wood as a seating material.

While attending Art Center, Phillips served as the Industrial Designers Society of America student chapter chair.

ZORINE POOLADIAN

Born in Iran and from Armenian descent, Zorine Pooladian expressed a passion for art at an early age. Faced with limited opportunities for fulfilling this passion, she spent summers reading library books and teaching herself to draw. Surrounded by the native Middle Eastern culture, Pooladian's artistic endeavors were influenced by her dad, a designer of patterns for Persian handmade rugs, and her mother, a fabric artist who designed and made clothing, tablecloths and rugs.

Venturing to the United States at the age of 17, Pooladian continued searching for opportunities to study art. Aware of new possibilities, Pooladian studied and learned a new language, completed the educational prerequisites, and prepared a portfolio required for admission to Art Center College of Design.

As an Ahmanson Foundation Scholar at Art Center, Pooladian pursued her interest in furniture and designed Beat and Aria, rocking stools that were finalists in the design creativity category at the International Woodworking Fair in Atlanta, Georgia. Subsequently, Beat received an honorable mention award and was published in the November/December 2010 issue of the Woodworker West Magazine. Beat and Aria were also showcased in Milan at Salone De Mobile and ICFF in NY.

Pooladian also was a participant in the urban beach experience of the Brand Lab Berlin, working on Piz Buin, a new Johnson and Johnson brand of tan lotion and sun care products for European markets.

JUSTIN PORCANO

Focusing on consumer products and furniture design, Justin Porcano is an industrial design student at Art Center College of Design. Porcano, a native of New York, grew up on Long Island before relocating with his family to Pennsylvania. Inspired by his parents who are both designers, he pursued an architectural degree from the Philadelphia College of Design and Textiles where he received his B.Arch. While working in the architectural profession, Porcano had the privilege of assisting on the Meshworks design installation for Zaha Hadid in Rome, Italy.

Desiring to expand his knowledge within other design mediums and scales, Porcano left Philadelphia to study industrial design at Art Center College of Design in California. At Art Center, his first seating project entitled Protean was published in The International Design Yearbook of 2004 by Tom Dixon, as

well as Fresh Wood New Designers Vol 1. As a student, he has worked on large-scale interiors and signage with RTKL LA as well as conceptual development for audio equipment with Ashcraft in Santa Monica. Currently, Porcano is spearheading the development of MINUS, a consortium of talented freelance designers and architects from across the United States.

In the fall of 2004, Porcano made his television debut when he was chosen to compete in a loft designing competition on the remodeling show named Monster House on the Discovery Channel.

SHELLY SHELLY

As a young girl growing up in Indonesia, Shelly Shelly concentrated on the disciplined study of physics and math, unexposed to formal training in art and design. However, a passion towards design prevailed, and Shelly moved to United States in pursuit of fulfilling the artistic dream with a fine art education from the Maryland Institute College of Art. Subsequent enrollment in the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA, provided Shelly with the opportunity to intern in Tokyo, Japan, working with industry giants Panasonic, Hitachi, and AXIS. Studio Gaia in New York provided opportunities for Shelly to design various hospitality spaces around the globe. In 2008, Shelly joined GRAFT architecture, a prestigious firm working on challenging projects well known world-wide.

Shelly's work has received world-wide exposure including a design for the futuristic hospitality "C Hotel" which was featured at ICFF 2006 in New York and later exhibited at the A + D Museum in Los Angeles. Other projects include a "Warehouse Collective", a hybrid style of living and working in downtown Los Angeles exhibited at the 2 x 8 at the Pacific Design Center; "Cube Nespresso", a traveling European exhibit of module spaces for Nestle's new products; and "Pacific Rim", a Tokyo exhibition of a disaster relief collaboration project between Japan and USA.

STEPHANIE ROSE STALKER

Raised in a small town in northern Wyoming, Stephanie Stalker grew up the daughter of a professional architect in a family with vast appreciation for design, music and the arts. Stalker has added her love of color, pattern and texture to her inherited eye for spatial design and architectural detail. After establishing a foundation in design while attending the University of Nevada Las Vegas, Stalker transitioned to study environmental design at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA.

While a student at Art Center, Stalker was awarded the Takifuji International Art Award in Tokyo, Japan and was selected for participation in the Torino World Design Capital in Torino, Italy. Subsequently, she was involved in the Pacific Rim Project, a collaborative with students from Tama University in Tokyo,

Japan. Stalker was also awarded an internship with Disney Consumer Products in Southern California. Selected to study strategic product and service development at INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France, Stalker worked in collaboration with designers and business school students from around the world. An internship with Triad Berlin, a leading communication and design agency in Germany, followed INSEAD.

A collaborative project with the Art Center DesignMatters and Un Techo Para Mi Pais in Santiago, Chile, provided Stalker the opportunity to study social and economic impacts of design in concert with Chilean natives. Working with the Chileans, the design team programmed and created solutions affecting their daily living tasks, efforts that earned the group a Spark award along with worldwide recognition with an exhibition of the project in Shanghai, China, and also at the Royal College of Art in London, England.

CHASE WILLS

Born in Lexington, Kentucky, Chase Wills spent his early childhood watching his father and uncle remodel classic sports cars. Later as an adolescent he helped his father build contemporary pieces for their family home. It was in these formative years that his appreciation of form and the passion for furniture were explored and developed.

After enrolling in the College of Architecture at the University of Nebraska and subsequent service as a combat medic in the U.S. Army, Wills entered the hospitality industry as a sommelier with Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts. Wills enrolled in Art Center College of Design after his passion for environmental and spatial design was reignited following a visit to the design gallery with his brother, a student within the transportation design department. Now as a graduate of Art Center, Wills uses his years of hospitality experience in designing restaurant and lounge concepts that are as functional and enjoyable for staff as they are for guests.

Focusing on products for the hospitality and leisure industry, Wills' hand-carved cocktail table Luscious earned him the second place award in a design competition sponsored by Motor City Casino in Detroit. Recent projects include a high-rise lounge concept for Motor City Casino and an aroma-based exploration/exhibition space for Riedel, makers of world-class crystal stemware. Currently, Wills is working on an urban playscape concept for a pocket-park in East Hollywood, a rooftop lounge concept for a luxury hotel, and a line of casegoods constructed using waste-reducing digital manufacturing processes.

JANG WON YOON

Jang Won Yoon enrolled in Yonsei University in Korea to study biotechnology. After rediscovering his childhood passion for drawing, Yoon realized that his talents lie not in science, but in design, and he began venturing into design classes. After completing his biotechnology degree, and with encouragement of his mentors, Yoon relocated to the United States to study Industrial Design at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA.

While at Art Center, Jang began studying product design and soon expanded to furniture and space. Raffina, Yoon's initial foray into furniture design, was awarded first place in the contract division in the Design Emphasis competition and was subsequently exhibited by the International Woodworking Fair in Atlanta, GA. At Continuum in Boston, MA, Yoon was exposed to a variety of disciplines and designers. Working in a transdisciplinary studio with Honda and Milliken, Yoon designed sustainable automobile interiors for a targeted female audience between the ages of 20 and 30 years. Through Cory Grosser Design and Strategy in Los Angeles, CA, Yoon's projects include environmental, spatial and branding design.

DANIEL YORBA

Daniel Yorba spent his childhood in places as varied as Orange County, California; Portland, Oregon; Juneau, Alaska; and Barcelona, Spain; exposing him to many different experiences and cultures. From his father, award-winning architect Tony Yorba, he learned the beauty in functional simplicity which inspired him to create art at a young age.

After graduating from high school, Yorba enlisted in the US Marines, serving as a helicopter crew chief and aerial gunner. After his discharge, Yorba searched for a way of fusing his love of storytelling and emotive art with the industrial /architectural processes of his father along with the disciplines of the Marines. He started spending time at Fuse ID, a Portland design firm where a family friend was a partner. Eventually, he was granted an internship, securing his goal to design useful products that inspire and ignite the imagination.

As an industrial design student at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA, Yorba cultivated a passion for furniture, sporting goods, and two-wheeled transportation. For his thesis project, he designed and fabricated an electric motorcycle along with a branding strategy that led to the formation of his own company: Cycleton, featuring mopeds and a line of bicycles.

Yorba currently designs protective sportswear gear for the equipment group of Vans/Pro-tec.