

Ben Hodson CV

OVERVIEW

My business cards say things such as Creative Director, Social Entrepreneur and Artist. But when you get down to it, I'm much more. I am not your average creative: I have set up and run businesses since the age of 16, including Ltd companies, charities and social enterprises. I have garnered awards such as Future 100 from Ernst & Young and a regional award for Community Business Person of the Year.

I have lived and worked in three countries and led: community projects, advertising campaigns, large teams in diverse settings, film sets, an arts festival, book projects, alpine expeditions, a multi-national company and a social enterprise coffee shop. I enjoy helping people realise their potential whilst implementing strategic plans and delivering ambitious goals. I love to collaborate, ideate, innovate and lead.

I have over five years experience in Higher Education and regularly deliver workshops, lectures and seminars on a range of creative, social and business subjects at Universities, conferences, colleges and business events. Teaching has taught me the most - truly understand my own identity, develop areas of expertise, to communicate clearly and facilitate a hunger for innovation and life-long learning in an engaging way.

In a nutshell, my passion for creativity is coupled with a love for forming, building and supporting great communities. If you ever want to talk about a job, project, or collaborating please contact me.

EDUCATION

University of Bedfordshire:
Post Graduate Certificate in Academic Practice (PgCAP)
Associate fellow of the HEA
MA Art & Design
(Distinction)
(Ba) Hons Photography & Video Art
(First Class Degree)
Cricklade College, (A Levels):
Art (A), Photography (A), Media (B)

SELECTED AWARDS

Rising Star Awards - Enterprising Award/
Best New Company/Best Company under
50 - FSB awards finalist 2012
Community Businessman of the Year
Luton Best of Awards 2011
Future 100 award. Ernst & Young 2011
The British Youth Council "Snap Shot 60"
Highly Commended - London
Photographic Association.
Best Student in Art & Design 09
Excellence in Education Award
Cricklade College

PERSONAL

Married with 3 children.
Nationality: British
D.O.B: 15/02/1986
Driving Licence: Full, UK.
Interests: Snowboarding, Skateboarding,
Skiing, Climbing and the outdoors.

CONTACT

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WORK

Creative Director - A Thin Place 2010 +

Creative lead of award winning creative agency, co-working space and social enterprise. The agency specialises in design, film, marketing and campaigns. In the co-working space we regularly curate visual art exhibitions, host creative residencies and workshops. We use creativity to bring about social change.

Visiting Lecturer - Various 2012 +

I regularly deliver workshops, lectures and seminars on a range of creative, social and business subjects at Universities, conferences, colleges and business events.

Technician Demonstrator/Lecturer University of Bedfordshire. 2009 - 2012

This included running lectures/workshops on a range of creative subjects such as digital imaging, photography, creative business, fund raising, social media and visual art practice.

Photographic officer - Luton Culture 2008 - 2009

Digital Archivist and Photographic officer for Museums Luton. Responsible for images of artefacts, exhibitions & displays.

Freelance creative benhodson.co.uk 2002 +

Artist, photographer, designer, project manager, director and producer as both a sole trader and on part time contracts. This includes commissions for NGO's, local & national governments, museums and cultural organisations, small, medium and large companies. Clients include; Arup, London Luton Airport, Randstad, Commissions East, BBC, Tesco Direct, BSK Lakufol GmbH, SARL Holiday Enterprises, Arriva, Volker Highways.

References available on request.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Iraq the Forgotten Story

Managed 15 artists, across 3 languages, 2 personal trips to Iraq, 22 exhibitions and project managing the touring project and educational engagement program across 5 countries. The ambitious and self initiated cross cultural project involved a large fund raising initiative, including crowd sourcing and recruiting partners.

Love Luton

Since 2010 I have been the creative lead and core working group member of the town wide initiative that aims to create confidence, pride and a positive image for Luton. I have introduced and led on the Community Awards Fund, marketing and visual art and video competitions.

High Town Art for All

A creative lead and core working group member of a community arts initiative. Pop up spaces in which showcased visual art exhibitions, music events, creative workshops, childrens events and artist talks. It included internationally renowned and community artists. It won Lutons Best award 2010 in the culture category.

Luton Arts Festival.

Between 2008 - 2010 I was the exhibitions co-ordinator and core working group member for Luton Arts Festival, previously known as B:Fest. This involved overseeing the arts programming, budgeting and pop up events for the month long festival.

Selected Films:

A producer for a full feature musical film "Persephone" by Katherine Freeman for Century Films, entirely shot in Luton. Art Director on "One" by Brain Hutton. I was an associate producer on BBC presenter Michael Smith's "Mystery River" for Departure Lounge, Up projects and The Floating Cinema.

I have been a main contributing member of community and regeneration projects: Luton Voices, The Creative Quarter, Made in Luton, Luton in Harmony, Creative People and Places, High Town Town Team.