



# Curriculum Vitae of Arran Mackintosh

Address: 4 Holbrook Road, Fareham, Hants, PO16 0TL

Phone: 01329 220853

Mobile: 07896 032452

Email: [arranmackintosh@gmail.com](mailto:arranmackintosh@gmail.com)

Website: [www.mushroominthebox.com](http://www.mushroominthebox.com)

## Education:

2006-2007, 2008-2010 University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, BA Hons in Illustration (First class honours)

2004-2006 Fareham College, Fareham, National Diploma in art and design (Triple Distinction)

1999-2004 Neville Lovett Community school, Fareham, 11 GCSE passes (10 A-C)

## Freelance Illustration work:

Freelance Commission, Illustrations for Chichester Harbour Conservancy News and Guide. The brief was for a hand illustrated map and two illustrations to accompany an article about Apuldram Airfield. The client requested that the artwork compliment the wartime theme which resulted in the use of a simple black and sepia palette.

Freelance Commission, Poster design for University of Portsmouth's Enterprise Challenge Competition. The brief asked for a bold and colourful A3 advert for their annual small business competition that would grab the attention of students from across the university. I created a coat of arms style logo bearing the name of the competition in Adobe Illustrator, that was then adapted for further branding for the Portsmouth Centre for Enterprise who run the competition. The project required me to conform to the university's corporate identity guidelines which dictated specific pantone colours to be used in the design as well as aspects of the poster layout.

Freelance Commission: (recurring) Greetings card designs for Card Asia, a Southampton based British Asian greetings card manufacturer. Each brief was to produce a 150x150mm front panel design for a set occasion such as a new baby or mothers day, incorporating appropriate chosen imagery that reflected Asian culture, as well as staying in keeping with Card Asia's brand identity. This meant all artwork was produced as vector graphics in Adobe Illustrator and set up for printing with Acrobat professional and creating standing card mock ups in Photoshop.

Freelance Commission, Album cover artwork for rock band In Darklight under their label, Angry Badger. The project involved producing an abstract Cover design that related to and communicated the main themes of the band's music whilst creating a unique branding for the music as a product. It also involved creating the layout of the CD case as a four panel digipack, which required the use of Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop to prepare. From this project I have gained vital experience of preparing artwork for mass production and meeting the detailed size specifications. I have also gained experience in tailoring my work to the taste of the client, reflected in the high number of draft designs produced, also demonstrating my commitment to producing a high standard outcome that meets the expectations of the client.

Freelance Commission, illustrating a children's book "Bottom Burp". The client for this project was the author of the book who commissioned 3 double page spread illustrations as a preview for publishers. The Book was a poem with one four sentence verse for each double page. I was faced with the challenge of incorporating the text into the illustrations so that both complimented each other and the narrative flowed successfully through the book. I produced all artwork by hand with pen and ink before scanning and editing the finished images in Illustrator.

Competition entry, The Macmillan Prize for children's books. I created a 32 page concertina book illustrating a brief history of invasion and settlement of Britain and the later British Empire which I entered into the Macmillan prize, a national competition for Illustration and graphics students. I was Highly commended by the judges and my work was displayed at the awards ceremony and public exhibition at Foyle's Gallery in London. The exposure from this event led to further interest in my work and a feature published in arts magazine ImagineFX. This was a self motivated project which has given me experience of the large workload involved in creating a complete product alone, meeting deadlines and presenting my work in a professional setting.

Freelance Commission, designing a Spoke Card to be printed and given away free at the 2010 "Love Your Bike" Festival in Southsea. A number of local artists and illustrators were commissioned to design a card with packs containing one of each card given away at the event. The card designs had to be 72 x 105mm allowing for a 5mm bleed. I also designed and screen printed mandala style A2 Posters to be sold at the event. This event provided me with good experience of dealing with a short project with a quick turn around and also a chance for self promotion.

#### Skills:

My main strengths lie in hand drawn illustration work with pen and ink, however I have experience with graphic software Adobe Photoshop and a very strong grasp of Adobe Illustrator. I have also gained skills in hand printing and reproduction processes such as silkscreen printing and mono printing. For previous projects I have also learnt a basic level of animation and film editing with Adobe Flash and iMovie.

During my time at University I volunteered as a mentor for the Illustration Student Mentor scheme, which involved providing advice, support and encouragement on a one to one basis with a lower level student. This helped me to relate and share my own experiences in a practical way to benefit the student. I have since been invited back to the university where I gave a short informal talk about the final year of my course and my efforts and successes in practicing as a professional illustrator as a requirement of the course. This, alongside review of work days when at university, has given me experience of presenting my work and talking to an audience.

#### Exhibitions:

Illustrious Nation, Aspex Gallery, Portsmouth, 2011. Solo show as winner of the 2010 Aspex Graduate Award.

New Designers 2010, Business Design Centre, Islington, London. Exhibition as part of a group of graduating students representing the University of Portsmouth.

The Macmillan Prize for Children's Books Winners' Ceremony 2010, Foyles Gallery, Foyles Bookshop, London. My Highly Commended book 'The Scroll of Britain' was displayed as part of the private award's ceremony where I gave a short talk about my work, and remained on show for the week long public display.

For Sale, University of Portsmouth, 2010, 2009. An annual selling event open to all creative students run by the Centre for Enterprise. I have displayed and sold a variety of silkscreen prints, framed drawings and zine booklets at the events.

#### References:

Richard Sant, Portsmouth Centre for Enterprise, University of Portsmouth.  
Phone: 02392 843534  
Email: richard.sant@port.ac.uk

Maureen O'Neill, Illustration course leader, University of Portsmouth.  
Phone: 02392 843772  
Email: maureen.oneill@port.ac.uk