

CURRICULUM VITAE

BEN NEAL

DOB: 25/10/1979
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QUALIFICATIONS

Certificate in Education

Worcester University
September 2006 — August 2008

Masters Degree in Visual Communication

University of Central England in Birmingham
September 2001 — September 2002

BA Honours Degree in Fine Art (Second Class: Division 1)

University of Central England in Birmingham
September 1998 — June 2001

Advanced GNVQ in Art and Design (Distinction)

A Level Psychology (C)

Halesowen College
September 1996 — June 1998

12 GCSEs (Grades A-C)

Heathfield GM High School, Wrights Lane, Old Hill
September 1990 – June 1996

EMPLOYMENT

Lecturer

29.09.03 — 30.09.08

Mainly National Diploma courses in Media Studies, Art & Design and Graphics at Halesowen College, Whittingham Road, Halesowen, West Midlands. B63 3NA

Freelance Multimedia Designer / Developer

02.04.00 — ongoing

I have worked on projects for Landrover, Channel 4, The Sun newspaper and Glaxo Smith Kline.

For various clients including; Loughborough University, Ikon Gallery, Juneau Projects, Festival of Xtreme Building, The Outcrowd, and a wide range of smaller clients - many in the arts or music industry.

I've been involved with events in Europe including; Sónar (Spain 2006-7), The Big Chill (Herefordshire 2007), Bath Guitar Festival (2007), Artsfest (Birmingham 2004), Twilight Zone (Greece 2004), Contact Europe (Germany 2004), AVIT UK (Leeds 2002, Brighton 2003), Psava Faam (Greece 2001). Exhibitions of my work have been seen at National Media Museum (Bradford), National Film Theater (London), Odean Cinema (Dudley), Flatpack Film Festival (Birmingham), Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, and Tate Gallery (London).

TRAINING

Enterprise Fellowship Scheme

Year-long fellowship - University of Central England
March 2004-2005

Business Foundation Programme

Run by Carol Meekins Associates and Screen West Midlands
February 2005 – August 2005

Other Training

Final Cut Pro 5, Apple Certified Pro (Level 1), (2006, Screen West Midlands)
Creative Business Seminars (2005, Birmingham Chamber of Commerce)
'Be Effective' Business Training (2004-05, Metapod)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Since 1998 I have been actively involved with visual and performing arts. I specialise in combining digital media and have worked as a multimedia specialist and consultant on a huge range of projects from software development, web design and interactive 3D, to fine art, music events and video production.

In addition I have taught creative subjects, particularly involving digital technologies, for a range of industries including; moving image, audio production, publishing; and general art and design, mostly at BTEC National Diploma Level.

PERSONAL SKILLS & INTERESTS

I am a versatile and experienced digital artist, designer and musician creating innovative works across multiple media. During my Masters degree I developed multimedia software which has since been used and promoted at festivals in Europe. I promote a selection of regional artists, and write and produce digital music.

I am enthusiastic, reliable and innovative. As a team member I am friendly, considerate and encouraging. I have good organisational and interpersonal skills and am used to working with groups of people and the public.

In my free time I enjoy experimental music, innovative cinema and have a love of fine art. I attend regular events, exhibitions and festivals, and love to be involved with practitioners in the creative sector. I enjoy food, travel, meeting new people and socialising. Between October 2008 - May 2009 I went travelling in Japan, New Zealand and South America and now speak conversational Spanish.

I consider myself to have a balance between designer and developer, having qualifications in both, and being able to program complex applications while having an understanding of design aesthetics.

Advanced software skills : Director, Flash, Photoshop, Imageready, Word, Powerpoint, Excel, Access, Outlook, iMovie, Garageband, Soundtrack, digital photography, digital video

Intermediate software skills : Dreamweaver, FTP, HTML, XHTML, Javascript, CSS, PHP, Shockwave, Illustrator, InDesign, Fontographer, Music Technology and MIDI, Final Cut Pro, Adobe Encore

Basic software skills : Networking, Fireworks, Web 2.0 integration