Leea Contractor

Graphic Designer & Interaction Designer

I am a graphic designer with a graduate degree in Interaction Design. I find the collaboration that comes from working within a team highly motivating. I am a natural leader who thrives in an environment where I can use my design skills to the fullest, and am always expanding my horizons to find ways to incorporate this exciting wave of technology into my work.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

January – March 2023

Emily Carr University, Masters in Fine Art's Department

Research Assistant

• Poster design + Social media post for the Masters in Fine Art Thesis Exhibition 2023.

September – December 2022 & January – April 2022

Emily Carr University

Teaching Assistant for GSMD 500 F031: Grad Design Studio I and COMD 210 SO31: Core Studio Communication Design. Responsibilities included:

- Lead seminar & workshop,
- Assisted and shadowed the instructor in the delivery of curriculum,
- Provided one-on-one feedback sessions & responded directly to student work
- Participated and/or lead critiques & coordinated between faculty and students.

January – March 2022

Leaning Out of Windows (LOoW) - Invisible Forces Exhibition

Research Assistant/Communication Desinger for LOoW.

• Designed their Logo, Evite, Title Poster, Information Poster, Labels and the Handout.

January – April 2022

Shumka Centre

Research Assistant; Paired with local business (Jarr)through the Shumka Center

• Designed and illustrated an interactive web page that represents their impact.

November 2019 - June 2021

Associate Creative Manager | Xpert Services at the Dawn Media Group

Responsible for addressing the design needs of more than 6 different departments within the Dawn Media Group, including, but not limited to:

- Layouts, infographics and illustrations for Dawn Media Group's daily newspaper 'Dawn', supplements sponsored by several Consulates, the Business & Finance section and the Herald Magazine (print circulation of over 50,000-discontinued since 2019)
- Cover Illustrations & editorial design for EOS and ICON (Dawn Newspaper's in-paper weekly magazines, with a circulation of over 380,000) and Aurora Magazine (A bimonthly publication, Pakistan's leading advertising, marketing and media magazine.
- Illustrations and GIFs for Dawn.com (Dawn's online website)
- Supervise graphic designers in our team, as well as sub-contracted illustrators.
- Coordinate production for printand electronic materials with the appropriate departments.

February 2018 – October 2019

Junior Graphic Designer | Xpert Services at the Dawn Media Group

- Develop graphic elements with instruction from the Creative Head, that meets the editors objectives and the over arching brand for Dawn Newspapers. (I designed the layout for the 2019 German Supplement)
- Prepare illustrations, layouts and graphic elements using hand sketching and/or adobe softwares where appropriate.
- Work in a multidisciplinary environment with editorial staff, photography department and other stakeholders.

EDUCATION

Master of Design (Interaction) Emily Carr University of Art + Design

September 2021 – May 2023

Bachelor of Design (Communication Design) Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture January 2014 – December 2017

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

2023

WA Architects Ltd Master of Design Graduation Award – Honourable Mention | **ECUAD**

2022 - 2023

Graduate Representative, Student Union | ECUAD

Undergraduate thesis work displayed at

- 'Art Book Depot' Jaipur, India (2020).
- 'Focal Point 2019' UAE (2019)

Undergraduate thesis work displayed at & published in

- Hamazor | Publication by the World Zoroastrian Organization (2019)
- Design Thinking for Schools: Ethical Dilemmas (2019)

2017

Founders Award | IVS

Awarded in recognition to the graduate who most closely reflects the philosophy of the School as envisaged by the founders.

2017

Distinction at Graduation | IVS

2017

Agha Hassan Abedi Award | IVS

Awarded for demonstrating a high level of compassion, humility & generosity towards their fellow human beings, & the environment they live & work in through their design in the department of communication design.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

September – November 2018

Fellow of the Cross Culture Program | Institut FÜr Auslandsbeziehungen

Worked at Mosaik de Abrafaxe in Berlin–Germany's oldest and most widely circulated comic book company

- Layout and Design work for "Mosaik" and "Zack" (The company's Monthly Comic Book and Monthly Magazine respectively)
- Designed and illustrated: posters, merchandise, posts and products for Mosaik's online store and activities for children attending the company's open house day

September 2017 – November 2017

Graphic Executive | AzCorp Entertainment

- Social media posts
- Children's game App Design

July – August 2017 Intern | Mullen Lowe and Rauf - Multinational Advertising agency

July – August 2016 Intern | 18% Grey - Photography Agency

June – July 2016 Intern | Ogilvy and Mather - Multinational Advertising agency

2014 – Present

Freelance

Some work includes:

- Design & Social Media for The $12^{\rm th}$ World Zoroastrian Congress
- Social Media for the World Zoroastrian Organization
- Editorial Design for The World of Parsi Cooking: Food Across Borders
- Illustration for the FEZANNA Journal

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & COURSES ATTENDED

RGD Design Educators Conference, Vancouver (2023) | RGD Design Thinkers Conference, Vancouver (2022) | Attendee

RGD Design Educators Conference, Vancouver (2022) | Volunteer

World Zoroastrian Congress, New York City (2022) | Co-Chair, Design Lead & Volunteer.

Digital Storytelling 'Far away so close' by Socialvisions and Educational + Cultural Center (2020) | Online

Adobe 99U Conference (2020) | Online

Communicating Culture with Integrity Workshop by Geoffrey Wexler (2019) | Karachi, Pakistan

User Experience Design Essentials by Daniel Walter Scott (2019) | Online course

Dynamic Font Day (2018) | Munich, Germany

Workshops with Jane Austin + Ice Animation, National Digital Design Conference (2017) | Islamabad, Pakistan

Comic Book Workshop held at the German Consulate (2014) | Karachi, Pakistan

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

(CONTINUED)

2017 Dean's List | IVS

2017-2015 Honours List | IVS

MEMBERSHIP

2022 – Present Association of Registered Graphic Designers

2022 – Presen Design Professionals of Canada

2017 – Present **Honorary Membership** Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture Society

VOLUNTEER WORK

2023 Emily Carr University Grad show

2022 Registered Graphic Designers

2022 Design lead & Social Media Manager 8th World Zoroastrian Congress

2022

Juror for 4th year Communication Design Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture

PRESENTER

2023 **MDes & MFA Orientation by alumni** Emily Carr University of Art + Design

2022 International Master of Design Research Forum (co-hosted by ECU) Emily Carr University of Art + Design

2021 **'Importance of Editorial Design'** Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture

SOFTWARES

Adobe InDesign • Adobe Illustrator • Adobe Photoshop • Adobe XD • Adobe After Effects • Adobe Lightroom • Adobe Premier • Microsoft Office • Zoom • Canva • Slack • WordPress • Premiere Pro • HTML • CSS • Javascript

LANGUAGES

English IELTS Academic - 7.5

Urdu Spoken & Written

Gujarati Spoken