

RUSS M KUCHMAN

Motion Artist + Animator + 3D Generalist

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Award-winning motion graphics designer and 3D generalist with extensive experience in animation and multimedia design. Known for innovative problem-solving, creative vision, and technical expertise, I bring a dynamic approach to storytelling and design across various platforms. From concept to final production, I consistently deliver high-impact visuals that captivate audiences and elevate brands.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MULTIMEDIA DESIGNER

New York-Presbyterian Hospital | March 2016 – current

- Led the creative development and execution of award-winning motion graphics projects.
- Designed and produced original media content, including 3D animations and cutting-edge motion graphics for educational purposes.
- Directed all facets of video production, from pre-production (storyboarding, shot planning) to post-production (editing, color correction).
- Spearheaded the introduction of new tools and workflows, enhancing creative output and production efficiency.
- Supported the development and delivery of eLearning materials, ensuring content quality and innovation.

FREELANCE 3D GENERALIST & CHARACTER ANIMATOR

Coach | November 2020 - March 2022

- Contributed to the Disney Mickey Mouse x Keith Haring Exploratorium, a digital AR pop-up experience that highlighted the creative partnership between Coach, Disney, and the late artist Keith Haring.
- Created short, animated clips of the iconic Mickey Mouse doll, handling the retopology, UV mapping, rigging (using Advanced Skeleton for Maya), and animation to ensure seamless integration into the AR environment.
- Contributed to the 3D modeling and UV mapping of Coach product designs, working closely with the creative team to ensure precision and alignment with brand standards.
- Demonstrated versatility by handling tasks across modeling, cleanup, and animation, delivering high-quality results.

VISUAL UI DESIGNER

Shmoop University | November 2013 – December 2015

- Elevated the Shmoop brand through innovative UI design, improving user experience and driving engagement.
- Led the creation of responsive, user-centric interfaces, including iconography and mobile designs for the iOS app “Shmoop Flashcards.”
- Collaborated with product managers to deliver optimal design solutions, while contributing to the production of engaging motion-design content.

VISUAL UI/UX DESIGNER FOR IPHONE & ANDROID APPLICATIONS

SNAP Interactive | June 2011 – July 2013

- Designed intuitive and stylish UI/UX solutions for AYI, a leading social networking app.
- Conceptualized and delivered high-quality, functional interfaces, applying the latest trends and user research.
- Produced successful ad campaigns and Flash sales, driving user engagement and increasing revenue.

3D STUDIO MAX INSTRUCTOR

Pratt Center for Continuing & Professional Studies | September 2008 – May 2011

- Taught advanced 3D modeling, texturing, and animation techniques, providing students with hands-on, industry-standard training.
- Developed customized lesson plans that fostered creativity and technical proficiency.

CONTRACTOR MULTIMEDIA DESIGNER & ANIMATOR

KMGI Studios | December 1999 – May 2011

- Provided a variety of multimedia services to KMGI clients, including Boeing, Volkswagen, General Electric, Best Western, Volvo, Pfizer, Mercer, Sashlite, American Airlines, Verizon, Canadian Diamonds, Siemens, Experian, WikiExperts.
- Produced top-tier animations and multimedia content that positioned KMGI Studios as an industry leader in visual communication.

EDUCATION

DIPLOMA IN ADVANCED STUDIES IN CHARACTER ANIMATION

Animation Mentor | 2012 – 2013

CERTIFICATE IN COMPUTER ANIMATION AND VIDEO

Pratt Institute, New York, NY | 2006 – 2007

CERTIFICATE IN COMPUTER ILLUSTRATION

Parsons the New School for Design, NYC | 1998 – 2001

BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

Lviv Polytechnic National University, Ukraine | 1990 – 1995

AWARDS

GDUSA 2018 AMERICAN INHOUSE DESIGN AWARD IN MOTION GRAPHICS CATEGORY

Talent Development Learning Solutions Promotion

Role: original concept and creative direction, design, animation and motion graphics.

GDUSA 2018 HEALTH + WELLNESS DESIGN AWARD

Substance Use Disorder Awareness Course

Role: co-animation, visual effects, editing.

2007 BEST INDUSTRY WEB SITE

Sashlite LLC. Flash Website

Role: project management, creative direction and design, development, animation.