

JACOB WILEN

ART DIRECTOR

EXPERIENCE:

- 2012 **Venables Bell & Partners, San Francisco** *Freelance*
Art direction and design work.
- 2011 **Organic, San Francisco** *Senior Visual Designer (Contract)*
Interactive design and art direction. Client: Hilton Worldwide.
- 2011 **Swirl, San Francisco** *Freelance Art Director (Six Months)*
Client-facing art direction, conceptual pitch work, interactive, print, motion graphics and social media design. Clients: eBay, Cost Plus World Market and Sungevity.
- 2011 **Venables Bell & Partners, San Francisco** *Freelance*
Supported the creative team during a high intensity (and winning!) pitch. Contributions included social media concepts and print design.
- 2010 - 11 **MRM Worldwide/McCann Erickson, San Francisco** *Junior Art Director*
Client-facing art direction, interactive design, concepting, web production, identity design and retouching. Clients: Intel, General Motors, iShares, Clorox, Hewlett-Packard and Hidden Valley Ranch.
- 2009 **PixInk, San Francisco** *Designer*
Concepting, art direction, After Effects and Flash animation, pre-press and web production, identity design and retouching.
- 2009 **Sephora, Worldwide** *Design & Photography Intern*
Worked with beauty editors, writers and executives at Benefit Cosmetics for a special Mother's Day blog on Sephora.com.
- 2008 **Wikimedia Foundation, San Francisco** *Art Director & New Media Designer*
Logo design and creation of an online template gallery for Wikimedia chapters all around the world.
- 2008 **ODC Dance, San Francisco** *Photographer*
Promotional photo shoot for Chasing Space: The Pilot Projects.
- 2007 **The National Park Service, Mill Valley, California** *Designer*
Poster design and rebranding for the Muir Woods Centennial.
- 2000 - 05 **Azure Nightclub, New York City** *In-House Graphic Designer*
Designed fliers, menus, drink tickets and invitations for weekly events.

AWARDS, HONORS & EXHIBITIONS:

- 2010 Valedictorian Nominee, Academy of Art University
2010 International Photography Awards, Honorable Mention
2009 Award Winner for Print & Typography, AAU Spring Show
2009 Exhibition for Design in Parks Program at Alcatraz
2006 - 10 AAU President's Honor Roll List
2007 - 10 AAU Spring Show; Featured Artist

EDUCATION:

- 2006 - 10 Academy of Art University, BFA New Media, Magna Cum Laude
1997 - 99 North Carolina School of the Arts, HS Dance Diploma
1998 Alvin Ailey Dance Center, New York, Fellowship Program
1995 - 97 Walnut Hill School, Massachusetts, Ballet Major
1994 - 96 The Joffrey School of Ballet, New York, Full Scholarship

SOFTWARE SKILLS:

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|---------------|---------------|------------|----------------|
| Photoshop | Flash | Logic | Dreamweaver |
| Illustrator | Final Cut Pro | Reason | HTML |
| InDesign | Maya | Soundtrack | CSS |
| After Effects | QuarkXpress | Fontlab | ActionScript 2 |
| Cinema 4D | Acrobat Pro | Color | ActionScript 3 |

Jacob Wilen

Interactive Art Director

jacobwilen@gmail.com



16 people have recommended Jacob

"Jacob greets every project with unwavering enthusiasm. He is like a parent who sincerely loves all his offspring equally, even on their most stubborn, bratty and ungrateful days. He has great patience for greeting snags in process with calm and resolve, steadying the waters so that projects emerge stronger. His dedication to process rivals most account execs', and his appetite for myriad skills, techniques and art forms makes him a formidable creative. I have been lucky to produce some true beauty with Jacob on projects for eBay, World Market and Sungevity Solar—and I look forward to more to come."

— **Natalie Purbrick**, *Freelance Copywriter, Swirl*, worked directly with Jacob at Swirl

"I recently had the pleasure of working with Jacob on a complex website redesign and it was like a breath of fresh air. His expertise with web, user experience, and passionate creativity was refreshing. Collaborating with him helped to quickly solve key design issues. He respects the web design process and knows how things should be done. I hope to work with him on many more projects to come."

— **Joanne Tateishi**, *Freelance Art Director/Graphic Designer, Swirl*, worked directly with Jacob at Swirl

"Jacob is the complete package. He brings talent, personality and energy to every project. While working with Jacob, he inspired and challenged everyone around him. He was an asset on many Swirl projects, including Cost Plus World Market and Western Athletic Clubs. His artistic process is thought out and well researched. He has a keen eye for design, a natural sense of style, and a love of life that is contagious. I highly recommend Jacob, he's a fantastic addition to any team."

— **Kristine Arth**, *Senior Art Director, Swirl*, managed Jacob at Swirl

"Though Jacob only joined us for a brief moment in time, I can say that he was an absolute joy to have on our team during a time of tight deadlines and high expectations for a recent new business pitch. His calm and collected demeanor lent themselves to an easygoing experience working with him and his creative talents were clearly displayed through the amazing work that was produced over the course of the project. Going beyond the call of duty in his role, Jacob exceeded our expectations and assisted the team in a successful pitch with his enthusiastic attitude and

willingness to help on even the smallest of projects. I only wish our time lasted longer as he was such a joy to be around!"

— **Bryn McMullan**, *Assistant Account Manager, Venables Bell and Partners*, worked directly with Jacob at Venables Bell and Partners

"Jacob's mixture of creativity, passion and technical expertise is beyond mind blowing. His ability to wear different hats throughout our project left my head spinning (and it still is!). In creating my company's website, Jacob fulfilled the roles of media strategist, project manager, UX director, information architect, retoucher, photo editor, copywriter, web designer and finally HTML and Javascript developer. A lot of people use the term "multi-talented" but this guy redefines it. Sure, he's got all the insane software skills you could imagine, but what made Jacob's work truly amazing was his research and insight into my brand's soul and how to bring that to life digitally. Two words: Hire Him noshowlikehome.com"

— **Rafi Mercado**, was Jacob's client

"Jacob is personable, highly reliable and provides excellent work at a reasonable cost. He goes out of his way to do a good job and is a real self-starter. His portfolio demonstrates the great expanse of his creativity while his work process shows training and methodology in his craft. I couldn't recommend him more highly. He's a real asset."

— **Jack Chen**, was Jacob's client

"Working with Jacob is a pleasure. He is remarkably quick and clever in his approach to projects. He elegantly encourages the client to step out of their comfort zone to reveal a project's true potential. There is a grace to this process which he has mastered. Jacob has refreshing new ideas reflected especially in his web and flash projects. And to top it off, he is eloquent and articulate — he can walk a client through his or his team's design thinking in a clear, inspiring, passionate way. I can't wait to work with him again!"

— **Heather Wihl**, *Senior Graphic Designer, Bonfire Communications*, worked directly with Jacob at Freelance

"Jacob's enthusiasm and charm compliment his aesthetic sensibilities and visual design acuity. Jacob is bright and thoughtful, fun and energetic, and always well put together. I was paired with Jacob on a creative concepting, team-building exercise where we were to present a concept for how one of our clients might evolve their online video presence. We worked together on the concept, and Jacob carried the deck and presentation over the finish line when I was called away for a client meeting just before we were to present. His ability to woo a crowd and tell a good story, backed up by understanding of the client's background and needs made the presentation a smashing success. I was impressed at his ability to take on whatever level of work was needed to make sure our ideas were represented well. I expect Jacob will evolve into a strong creative

director, and the artists who influence him and help him refine his style over the next few years will enjoy the benefits of his youthful exuberance as well as his design talent."

— **Charlene Zvolanek**, *Director, User Experience, MRM Worldwide*, managed Jacob indirectly at MRM Worldwide

"Jacob is a breath of fresh air and a wonderful art director. He brought a great sense of excitement and passion to the team. Jacob was self motivated and often took the time to learn something new and teach the team. His vision for each project was original and unique and added value to everything he touched. He would be a great addition to any team."

— **Ryan Noonan**, *Senior Art Director, MRM Worldwide*, managed Jacob indirectly at MRM Worldwide

"Jacob possesses such a unique amount of both talent and energy. I miss having someone on hand with such a diverse set of skills and the ability to shed light and interesting insights on challenging assignments. He's by far paid his dues in this industry and I hope I get to work with him again once he gets the job he deserves. I can only hope the company he lands at deserves him."

— **Mark Likosky**, *Photographer, McCann Worldgroup | SF*, managed Jacob indirectly at MRM Worldwide

"It was a great pleasure working Jacob. Not only is his passion and enthusiasm infectious, he brings a fresh, creative perspective to all of his projects. Jacob is an extremely gifted art director who no doubt has a bright future ahead of him."

— **Joey Lu**, *Digital Art Director, MRM Worldwide*, managed Jacob indirectly at MRM Worldwide

"Jacob came through the arduous challenge of the internship with flying colours to become a junior art director. What impressed me from the off was his refreshing can do attitude and willingness to embrace all that was thrown at him. Whilst his time at MRM was short lived (through no fault of Jacob's) he made a lasting impression and I personally feel short changed that we only had his energy, creativity and passion for ideas for such a brief spell. Good luck and gawd bless, Steve"

— **Steve Mawhinney**, *Art Director, MRM Worldwide*, managed Jacob indirectly at MRM Worldwide

"It is quite telling of one's professional prowess when they quickly move from an intern to an Art Director position within a matter of a few months. This held true with Jacob, as his passion for creating new experiences and polished designs really solidified his position here at MRM San Francisco. In managing Jacob, I quickly recognized his keen sense for digital and traditional creative, as well as his drive to push boundaries and take risks in areas where some of us may be all too comfortable. These are Jacob's finest qualities – to manifest an idea to greater heights with not only a high-level finished product, but the ability to sell it all with purpose and character."

— **Robert Konves**, *Associate Creative Director, MRM Worldwide*, managed Jacob at MRM

Worldwide

"Jacob is a very talented and skilled designer/art director. When he first started MRM I remember him coming in with such positive energy and enthusiasm, willing to do whatever it took to get the job done. During one of the more crucial pitches at McCann, Jacob volunteered to help out. Even though he was still an intern, Jacob delivered high quality work and need little to no guidance on what was needed. He was a tremendous help to me and to the team. As you can see, I'm a huge fan and can't recommend him enough."

— **Katie Meza**, *Art Director, McCann Erickson*, worked directly with Jacob at MRM Worldwide

"Jacob is a pleasure to work with bringing so much creativity and energy to the table. His positive attitude and professionalism shines through every day and is sure to bring light to any given situation. Jacob is very approachable and was a tremendous help with all the design questions I have had. I would definitely recommend Jacob for any position in the future. He is sure to bring much more than just quality design."

— **Dana Campbell**, *Mac Support Analyst, McCann Erickson*, worked with Jacob at MRM Worldwide

"Jacob is a joy to work with. He is never shy of ideas and always comes to the table with a smile. He gets excited about even the smallest opportunity, which says a lot about him. Jacob isn't in it for the glory; he thrives on pure creative energy."

— **Josslyn Mikow**, *Sr. Copywriter, MRM Worldwide*, managed Jacob indirectly at MRM Worldwide

[Contact Jacob on LinkedIn](#)