

Simon Griffiee

Designer  Photographer

Location: New York City

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Portfolio: hypertexthero.com/work


Photographs: simongriffiee.com/stories

Summary

I enjoy learning and absorbing information from different fields to help solve problems, keep my brain whirring and, with any luck, pass on knowledge to [future generations](#).

With over a decade of professional [graphic and web design experience](#) while travelling extensively around the [world](#) and living in Brazil, Tunisia, Italy, England and the United States I have learned to speak and write in: **English** and **Portuguese** fluently, **Italian** well, **French** and **Spanish** in a somewhat amusing way. Using these together with **visual** and **programming languages** I have managed to:

- Increase funding for and cooperation between international organizations.
- Save people time and make them happier when using computers.
- Help groups and individuals with hands-on design, coding, editing, brainstorming and critique.

I'm based in and usually  New York City.

Experience

Information Systems Officer (Designer & Developer)

Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations, Rome, Italy, June 2009–Present:

Helped increase funding and the number of contracting parties to the International Plant Protection Convention and raise public awareness of its [work](#) while making people using computers there [happier](#) using [own initiative](#) in both [assigned](#) and [self-started projects](#). Hands-on design and coding work from wireframes to production of websites and print media. Organized photo groups, food and wine tasting on Fridays.

Freelance Web & Graphic Designer · *Hypertexthero, Worldwide, 2005–Present:*

Completed a variety of web and print projects for clients around the world, from large companies in London and internet startups in the Bay Area to non-profits and United Nations agencies in Rome.

Web & Graphic Designer · *Acotel Group S.p.A, Rome, Italy, 2003–2004:*

Created the first web standards based website design project in Italy.

Completed identity design projects, marketing and advertising multimedia campaigns.

Freelance Web & Graphic Designer

European Artisans, Various, Rome, Italy, 1999–2003:

Freelance designer for an internet startup and various clients.

Education

I [learned](#) to work with computers with [computer games](#). I learned graphic design from books, interfaces, posters and films by designers like [Milton Glaser](#), [Susan Kare](#), [Robert Bringhurst](#) and [Saul Bass](#). I learned HTML and CSS by viewing the source of websites, searching with [Google](#) and reading Zeldman's *Designing With Web Standards*. I learned user experience, usability and accessibility principles from [The Cluetrain Manifesto](#), [Don't Make Me Think](#) and [Jacob Nielsen's Alertbox column](#). I learned photography by [taking](#) and [looking](#) at photographs. I learned to [cook](#) and to [eat](#) in Italy. I've been learning some Python and enjoyed meeting [Alex Martelli in Florence in 2013](#).

Magnum Photos Workshops · *Cortona 2011, Wolverhampton 2012, Paris 2013*

Per Volquartz Workshop · *Joshua Tree, California 2007*

Stanford University, 2006 · *Concept Design Workshop at Stanford University's [d.school](#)*

Bournemouth University, 1996–1999 · *B.A. with Honours in Creative Advertising*

Arts University Bournemouth, 1997–1998 · *City & Guilds Diploma with Distinction in Photography*

Skills & Tools

Web development: Wireframing in HTML & CSS client-side code that usually ends up in production. Some JavaScript and Python.

User experience design, usability, accessibility: Fast, simple interfaces and [good writing](#) over excessive style.

Photography: [Candid photography](#), usually on the street using Leica rangefinder cameras and Fuji and Ricoh compacts. I want a [better, more affordable camera for photography students](#) and [better editing software](#).

Software: Web browsers (Firefox and Chrome) and their developer tools, Textmate and a Terminal prompt, Sketch, Lightroom, Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign. I have experience with [Python](#) and Django that I also use to edit [hypertexthero.com](#) on a local development server that is then published with rsync and version controlled with Git and [GitHub](#). I also know a bit of Ruby and Jekyll, some Apache and Nginx configuration, a tiny bit of MySQL, PostgreSQL and SQLite, and a little Unix system administration.

Interests

[Communication](#), information & [free culture](#), [photography](#), travel, [independent web](#), open source & open internet, [philosophy](#), art history, [typography](#), nature, [astronomy](#), music, (blues guitar, jazz, classical), [computer simulations](#), vintage aeroplanes, [basketball](#) 🏀