

Simon Griffiee

Designer  Photographer

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Portfolio: hypertexthero.com/work

Photographs: simongriffiee.com/stories

Summary

Over a decade of professional [visual and web design](#) experience while travelling extensively around the [world](#) and living in Brazil, Tunisia, Italy, England and the United States.

I speak and write in **English** and **Portuguese** fluently, in **Italian** well, and in **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 through branding and user experience design projects in digital and print media.
- Save people time and make them happier when using computers through useful web applications and thoughtful interface design.
- Help groups and individuals with hands-on design, coding, editing, brainstorming and critique.

I enjoy **learning and absorbing information** from different fields to **solve problems** and keep my brain whirring.

Experience

Information Systems Officer, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

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

Helped increase funding from donors, increase number of contracting parties to the convention and increase the general public's awareness of its [work](#) while making people using computers there [happier](#). Provided design support and technical advice on the creation and evolution of websites and other digital media as well as hands-on design and coding work at all stages. Organized photo groups and 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](#) and [Saul Bass](#). I learned HTML and CSS by viewing the source of websites, searching with [Google](#) and reading Jeffrey 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 & Interests

Web development: Wireframing, HTML, CSS, some JavaScript and backend, web standards and open source software. If a tool is the right one for the job I'll use it.

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