

TIMOTHY J. MCNEIL – CV

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RESEARCH FOCUS

Exhibitions, Museums, Placemaking, Wayfinding

Exploring the exhibition medium as a creative space for the communication and interpretation of objects, ideas, and information.

Research and creative work that defines exhibition design in relation to the curatorial process, and explores the exhibition medium as a creative space for the effective communication of objects and narratives. Concurrent avenues of inquiry and practice: (1) the role design plays in the communication of objects, ideas, and information in a museum or exhibition environment, (2) the strategies for audience engagement with an emphasis on the interpretative exhibition experience, (3) the functionality and aesthetics of exhibition design and their impact on environmental sustainability.

EDUCATION

1989 University of the Arts, London (Central St. Martins College of Art and Design), UK

MA Graphic and Exhibition Design.

1988 Middlesex University, London, UK

BA (Hons) Graphic Design.

1985 York College of Arts and Technology, UK

Art and Design Foundation.

ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION

Studio and lecture courses taught at UC Davis

DES185 Exhibition Design: cultural and commercial exhibition environments (10 week course)

DES186 Environmental Graphic Design: universal wayfinding and graphic navigational systems (10 week course)

DES187 Narrative Environments: storytelling and multi-sensory exhibition experiences (10 week course)

DES191 Museum Practicum: professional museum standards and exhibition design techniques (10 week internship)

DES SS187 Design in Britain: historical and contemporary survey of British design and multi-sensory environments (4 week full time course)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer reviewed journals, articles and reports

2008 Greendesignwiki (www.ecoexhibits.org). UC Davis Design Museum.

2009 Green Museum Initiative (www.greenmuseums.info). California Association of Museums.

2009 Green Museums Accord (www.calmuseums.info/gmi/Accord.html). California Association and American Alliance of Museums.

2009 "Adaptation, Mitigation, Innovation: Greening the Exhibition Experience". The Exhibitionist Journal, vol. 28, no. 1, pages 29–35. American Association of Museums, Spring 2009.

2010 PIC-Green Strategic Plan. American Alliance of Museums.

2010 "Due Diligence". Society for Environmental Graphic Design Journal, no. 28, pages 68–71, Fall 2010.

2012 "IGNITE: Museums as Catalysts for Environmental Sustainability". California Association of Museums white paper.

2012 "The Green Museums Accord". Lord Cultural Resources, Cultural Capital, Spring 2012.

2013 "The Sculpted City: In Praise of the Dimensional Map". Environmental Graphics (eg) Journal, no. 6, pages 52–56, Spring 2013.

CREATIVE DESIGN PROJECTS

Selected from over 180 major design projects (see creative activities for full list during review period)

1997 Wayfinding and Signage System, Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA.

1997 Map and Guide System. Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA.

- 1997 Permanent Collection Art Galleries, Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA. 60,000 sq. ft.
- 1998 Style Guide to Adult Interpretive Materials, Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA.
- 1999 "Dosso Dossi, Court Painter in Renaissance Ferrara", Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA. 53 objects. 7,500 sq. ft. (Traveling)
- 2001 "Devices of Wonder: From the World in a Box to Images on a Screen", Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA. 400 objects. 7,500 sq. ft.
- 2003 "Bill Viola: The Passions", Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA. 13 large-scale works. 7,500 sq. (Traveling)
- 2003 "The Making of Furniture", Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA. 60 objects. 1,000 sq. ft.
- 2003 Robert Redford Environmental Action Center, Natural Resources Defense Council, Santa Monica, CA. 5 main exhibits. 1,200 sq. ft.
- 2004 "Coming of Age in Ancient Greece: Images of Childhood from the Classical Past", Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA. 150 objects. 7,500 sq. ft. (Traveling)
- 2005 "An Enduring Vision: Japanese Painting from the Gitter-Yellen Collection", Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA. 90 objects. 6,000 sq. ft. (Traveling)
- 2005 Wayfinding and Signage System, Erburu Gallery at the Huntington Library and Gardens, San Marino, CA.
- 2005 "First Seen: Portraits of the Worlds People 1840–1880", Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA. 240 objects. 6,000 sq. ft. (Traveling)
- 2005 "The Villa Reimagined", Getty Villa, Malibu, CA. 250 objects. 1,000 sq. ft.
- 2005 TimeScape Room, Getty Villa, Malibu, CA. 5 main exhibits. 1,000 sq. ft.
- 2006 "Between Past and Future: New Photography and Video from China," Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA. 130 objects. 8,000 sq. ft.
- 2007 "Everyday Luxury: Chinese Silks of the Qing Dynasty (1644–1911)", Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA. 120 objects. 3,000 sq. ft.
- 2008 "GreenStop: Visionary Designs for a Self-Sustaining Rest Stop", UC Davis Design Museum, CA. 28 objects. 700 sq. ft.
- 2008 Asian Art Permanent Collection Galleries, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA. 320 objects. 4,200 sq. ft.
- 2009 EcoCenter: San Francisco Department of Environment, San Francisco CA. 8 main exhibits. 1,400 sq. ft.
- 2009 "Through Six Generations: The Weng Collection of Chinese Painting and Calligraphy", Boone Gallery at the Huntington Library and Gardens, San Marino, CA. 41 objects. 3,500 sq. ft. (Traveling)
- 2009 "Treasures through Six Generations: Chinese Painting and Calligraphy from the Weng Collection", Huntington Library Press, San Marino, CA. 155 page publication to accompany the exhibition.
- 2009 "Stepping Out: Footwear from Around the World". UC Davis Design Museum, CA. 70 objects. 700 sq. ft.
- 2010 "Homelands: How Women Made the West", Autry National Center, Los Angeles, CA. 160 objects, 6,000 sq. ft. (Traveling)
- 2011 "Natures Beloved Son: Rediscovering John Muir's Botanical Legacy", Bedford Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA. 74 objects, 4,000 sq. ft. (Traveling)
- 2012 "Celebrating 100 Years", The Los Angeles Jewish Home, Los Angeles, CA. Entry exhibit, 100 objects. 1,000 sq. ft.
- 2012 "Need and Desire: Work from blankblank". UC Davis Design Museum, CA. 37 objects. 800 sq. ft.
- 2012 "Visions of Empire" Augmented Learning Gallery, Boone Gallery at the Huntington Library and Gardens, San Marino, CA. 316 objects, 10 interactive exhibits. 1,000 sq. ft.
- 2012 "IGNITE: The Art of Sustainability". UC Davis Design Museum, CA. 30 objects. 800 sq. ft. (Traveling)
- 2012 "Serigrafia". UC Davis Design Museum, CA. 37 objects. 800 sq. ft. (Traveling)
- 2013 "Think Green, Act Green, Be Green", American Alliance of Museums Conference, Baltimore, MD. Exhibition Stand, 150 sq. ft.
- 2013 "Art Gallery Education Initiative", Huntington Mansion at the Huntington Library and Gardens, San Marino, CA. 400 objects, 7 rooms with interpretive and wayfinding signage and interactive exhibits. 12,000 sq. ft. (in progress)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Selected (see creative activities for full list during review period)

- 1998 Society for Environmental Graphic Design. Merit award for design excellence. Wayfinding and signage system for the Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2001 University & College Designers Association. Design award for "Sculptural Prototypes" exhibition invitation for Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2002 American Association of Museums. MUSE honorable mention for interpretation and education in an exhibition on art. "Devices of Wonder: from a World in a Box to Images on a screen" at the Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2002 International Webby Awards. Excellence in web design, creativity, usability and function. Web site for the exhibition "Devices of Wonder: from a World in a Box to Images on a screen" at the Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2003 American Association of Museums. Excellence in museum publications. Invitation for exhibition "Bill Viola: The Passions" at the Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2006 University & College Designers Association. Silver Award for Excellence in Visual Communications. "Look Here" Arts Catalog 2006/07, University of California, Davis.

- 2008 American Association of Museums. First prize for excellence in museum publications. Wall calendar for the exhibition "Noah's Ark" at the Skirball Cultural Center, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2008 The National Environmental Hall of Fame. Inducted for promoting environmental awareness "Green Museums".
- 2009 Bookbuilder West Award. Exhibition catalogue "Treasures Through Six Generations", category: Trade Design, Image Driven.
- 2010 Publishers Association of the West Book Design Awards. Exhibition catalogue "Treasures Through Six Generations".
- 2012 International Museum Design and Communication Awards. "IGNITE: Museums as Catalysts for Sustainability". Best Sustainable Campaign.

GRANTS

Selected (see creative activities for full list during review period)

- 2008 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Society for Environmental Graphic Design, "Signs that Work" student project, \$1,000.00.
- 2011 Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Academic partner with UC Davis Arboretum, "California Native Plants Discovery Garden", \$90,000.00.
- 2011 Annenberg Sunnyslans Center and Gardens, "IGNITE! Museums as Catalysts for Sustainability" conference, \$54,800.00
- 2012 Olson Visual, support for California Association of Museums Green Museums Initiative Programs, \$10,000.00
- 2013 UC Davis Outreach and International Programs Seed Grant, "International Conference on Exhibition Design", \$12,500.00.

PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

Selected peer reviewed conference, museum and invited guest speaker presentations (see creative activities for full list during review period)

- 1989 The Association of Art Historians Conference, London, UK. "Observational Sketches of A. H. Mackmurdo" and the "Visual Presentation of Abstract Ideas in Museums".
- 1999 Western Museums Association Conference, Sacramento, CA. "Where's the Bathroom: Wayfinding and signage program at the Getty Center".
- 2004 Museums Australia, Canberra, Australia. "Peaks and Plateaus: Designing for a New Museum and its Ongoing Needs".
- 2004 National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia. "Design at the Getty Center and Getty Villa".
- 2005 Western Museums Association Conference, Pasadena, CA. "Sustainable Design Practices and Green Materials in the Exhibition Design Process".
- 2006 Society for Environmental Graphic Design Conference, Hollywood, CA. Developing Exhibition Design Educational Pedagogy".
- 2006 York Museums Trust, York, United Kingdom. "Interpreting History in the Exhibition Environment".
- 2007 California Association of Museums Conference, Long Beach, CA. "Going Green: Creating More Sustainable Museums for the Future".
- 2008 Autry National Center, Los Angeles, CA. "Communicating Effectively in the Exhibition Environment".
- 2008 Department of the Environment for the City and County of San Francisco, CA. "Incorporating Sustainability and Interpretive Methodologies in Exhibition and Event Environments".
- 2008 California Association of Museums Conference, Fresno, CA. February 26, 2008. "Going Green: Implementing Museum Green Practices".
- 2008 Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA. March 19, 2008. "Greening Museums and Exhibition Environments".
- 2008 Society for Environmental Graphic Design and National Association of Museum Exhibitions, Cranbrook Academy of Art, MI. "New Directions in Exhibition and Environment Design".
- 2009 California Association of Museums Conference, San Francisco, CA. "The Green Museums Accord: Museums as Environmental Leaders".
- 2009 Cultural Connections program at the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA. "Going Green: Museums as Leaders in Sustainability".
- 2009 American Association of Museums Conference, Philadelphia, PA. "Green Museums: Strategic Planning Initiative and Results".
- 2009 Society for Environmental Graphic Design Conference, San Diego, CA. "Exhibition Design Academic Workshop".
- 2010 Western Museums Association Conference, San Diego, CA. "Sustainable Communities".
- 2010 California Association of Museums Conference, San Jose, CA. "Green Museum Interventions".
- 2010 Communication University of China, Beijing. "Designing Wonder, Spectacle and Awe".
- 2010 East China University of Science and Technology, Shanghai. "Designing Wonder, Spectacle and Awe".
- 2012 California Association of Museums Conference, Berkeley, CA. "IGNITE: Museums as Catalysts for Environmental Sustainability".
- 2012 Western Museums Association Conference, Palm Springs, CA. "Exploring Sustainability in Exhibition Design".
- 2013 The Performance Art Institute, San Francisco, CA. "Design is the Future".
- 2013 The Architecture and Design Museum, Los Angeles, CA. "Modularity in Exhibition Design".

REVIEWS, CITATIONS & PUBLISHED CREATIVE WORK

Selected from over 235 book, magazine, journal, web, radio and television citations (see creative activities for full list during review period)

- 1998 "You Are Here: Graphics that Direct, Explain and Entertain", page 178, 1998. ST Publications. Wayfinding and signage system for the Getty Center.
- 2000 "This Way: Signage Design for Public Spaces", pages 126–27. Rockport Publishing, 2000. Wayfinding signage program at the Getty Center.
- 2001 Curator: The Museum Journal, April 2001. Vol. 44, No 2. Pages 210–215. "Devices of Wonder: From the World in a Box to Images on a Screen". Exhibition review. J. Paul Getty Museum.
- 2001 The Los Angeles Times, November 18, 2001. "When Seeing Is Marveling". Devices of Wonder: From the World in a Box to Images on a Screen, J. Paul Getty Museum.
- 2001 The Art Newspaper, No. 120, December 2001. "Ways and means of seeing". Devices of Wonder: From the World in a Box to Images on a Screen, J. Paul Getty Museum.
- 2001 The New York Times, December 30, 2001. "Cabinets, Ancient and New, Full of Wonder for the Eyes". Devices of Wonder: From the World in a Box to Images on a Screen, J. Paul Getty Museum.
- 2001 CBS Television, December 30, 2001. "Sunday Morning News Show". Segment on "Devices of Wonder: From the World in a Box to Images on a Screen". J. Paul Getty Museum.
- 2001 The Christian Science Monitor, December 6, 2001. "Devices of Wonder". J. Paul Getty Museum.
- 2003 The LA Weekly, January 24–30, 2003. "Extremities, The Video Passions of Bill Viola". J. Paul Getty Museum.
- 2003 The New York Times, November 13, 2003. "So Green, It's Platinum". Natural Resources Defense Council.
- 2004 Interior Design Magazine, June 2004. Pages 103–106. "Robert Redford Environmental Action Center". Natural Resources Defense Council.
- 2004 The Los Angeles Times, September 21, 2004. "By the Book, Coming of Age in Ancient Greece". J. Paul Getty Museum.
- 2005 The Los Angeles Times, September 3, 2005. "First Impressions". First Seen: Portraits of the Worlds People 1840–1880. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.
- 2005 "Wayfinding: Designing and Implementing Graphic Navigational Systems". Page 111. Craig Berger. Rotovision Publishing, 2005. Wayfinding signage program at the Getty Center.
- 2006 The Los Angeles Times, January 29, 2006. "Villa Shines Through Getty's Clouds". J. Paul Getty Museum.
- 2006 American Craft Magazine, April/May 2006. "Slash, Burn and Cut: The Art of Jean Cacicedo and Janet Lipkin". UC Davis Design Museum.
- 2007 The New York Times, March 25, 2007. Art and Design. "Feet on Mexican Soil, Eyes on the Stars". Tamayo: A Modern Icon Reinterpreted, Santa Barbara Museum of Art.
- 2007 KCRA Channel 3, September 30, 2007. Morning news story about "Peace Begins Here exhibition". Interview with Tim McNeil, UC Davis Design Museum.
- 2007 The Davis Enterprise, October 16, 2007. Page A9. "Going for the Green: UC Davis Design Museum takes the lead in local eco-awareness". UC Davis Design Museum.
- 2007 The Los Angeles Times, November 10, 2007. "Everyday Luxury: Chinese Silks of the Qing Dynasty, 1644–1911", The Guide. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.
- 2008 blog.orselli.net, ExhibiTricks, March 22, 2008. "Green Exhibit Design: An Interview with Tim McNeil".
- 2008 CBS Channel 13, May 14, 2008. Morning news story about "Fashion Conscious" exhibition, "Is Green the New Black". UC Davis Design Museum.
- 2008 KXJZ Capitol Public Radio, May 13, 2008. "Insight" with Jeffery Callison, interview with Tim McNeil about the "Fashion Conscious" exhibition, UC Davis Design Museum.
- 2008 Green Museums: A Primer on Environmental Practice, Sarah Brophy, AltaMira Press, 2008. Cited in book (pages xi–xii and 161). Contributed to exhibitions chapter (pages 89–93).
- 2008 <http://envirofamenominees.blogspot.com/>, November 2008. Honoree in National Environmental Hall of Fame "Environmental Awareness Field: Green Museums".
- 2009 Voice America Talk Radio, April 18, 2009. The Green Talk Network's "Design Evolution" with Naomi Pearson. Live 20 minute interview with Tim McNeil about museum, exhibition and print: leadership and responsibility.
- 2009 The Los Angeles Times, April 21, 2009. "Chinese paintings from the Weng Collection at the Huntington", Huntington Library and Gardens.
- 2009 CBS Channel 13 News, May 19, 2009. "Shoes Of The World", UC Davis Design Museum.
- 2009 Design Week U.K., June 2009. "Museum Standards", Sustainable Design Supplement. Green museums research cited.
- 2009 The Los Angeles Times, December 18, 2009. "Top 10 most fascinating museum exhibitions of 2009".

- 2010 [KTLA 5 Los Angeles](#), April 16, 2010. "Home Lands: How Women Made the West". Autry National Center.
- 2010 [The Los Angeles Times](#), May 10, 2010. "At Home on the Range". Autry National Center.
- 2010 HBO Television, January 23, 2011. *Big Love*, season 5, episode: *A Seat at the Table*. Featuring the exhibition "Home Lands: How Women Made the West." Autry National Center
- 2011 [Imperial Valley News](#), October 8, 2011. *IGNITE: Museums as Catalysts for Sustainability*.
- 2011 [The San Francisco Examiner](#), October 21, 2011. "Bunny's big leap brings buzz to Sacramento airport".
- 2012 [dailynews.com](#), January 8, 2012. *A century of love and care celebrated at Los Angeles Jewish Home*, Los Angeles Jewish Homes.
- 2012 [Cultural Capital](#), Spring 2012. *Celebrating Sustainable Practice, the Green Museums Accord*, Lord Cultural Resources.
- 2012 [The Los Angeles Times](#), May 16, 2012. *'Visions of Empire' at the Huntington Library looks at U.S. railroad*, Autry National Center.
- 2012 [AAM Museum](#), July/August 2012. "A Greener Tomorrow: Museums Take Steps Toward Sustainability."
- 2012 [American Photo](#), September 14, 2012. *APOC: New Exhibitions For September 2012*. "IGNITE: The Art of Sustainability" featured, UC Davis Design Museum.
- 2012 [Lessons in sustainable business](#), October 23, 2012. *Sustainability in the Arts: The Opposite of Avant-Garde?* "... the California Association of Museums (CAM) published a great report on the role of museums in environmental sustainability."
- 2012 [GNU Group "Word from the Herd"](#), October 29, 2012. *Class Act*. "GNU has long admired the University of California Davis Environmental Graphics program. We've hired many of their talented alumni."
- 2012 [Sactown Magazine](#), October–November 2012. *Gallery Picks; UC Davis Design Museum exhibition Serigrafia*. UC Davis Design Museum.
- 2013 [Messages](#), May 1, 2013. *Eg04: Hello San Francisco! "Tim McNeil's homage to dimensional maps"*.
- 2013 [The Sacramento Bee](#), May 2, 2013. *UC Davis picks N.Y. firm to design \$30 million art museum*.

PROFESSIONAL BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Selected professional service (see service documentation for full list during review period)

- Judging committee for the Society for Environmental Graphic Design (SEGD) Global Design Awards, February 2013
- Judging committee for the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA) International (Re)Design Awards, October 2011
- Co-judge for "Arts in the Redwoods" at the Gualala Arts Festival, August 2011
- Editorial Advisory Board, "Communication and Place". A journal of the Society for Environmental Graphic Design, 2011–Present
- Editorial Advisory Board, "The Exhibitionist". A journal of the National Association for Museum Exhibitions, 2011–Present
- Board of Directors, California Association of Museums, 2009–Present
- Chair, California Association of Museums Green Museum's Initiative, 2008–Present
- Society for Environmental Graphic Design Academic Advisory Committee, 2005–Present
- Co-chair, American Association of Museums Committee on Green Museums, 2008–2012

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Western Museums Association, 2009–Present
- California Association of Museums, 2006–Present
- National Association of Museum Exhibitions, 1995–Present
- American Association of Museums, 1995–Present
- Society for Environmental Graphic Design, 1992–Present

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Founding Principal, M/M Design, Los Angeles, CA
January 2004–Present
- Senior Designer, J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA
December 1992–August 2005
- Designer, BBC Television, London, UK
March 1990–September 1991