M

NOZOMI AKUTSU

Art Director / Designer Creator of MU Design Store Lecturer at JOSHIBI Art University in Tokyo

Hi I am Nozomi, Amsterdam/ Tokyo based Art director, designer, specialises in visual identity design centred on branding who loves design music and cats.

A bit of about me

NOZOMI AKUTSU Art Director / Designer Creator of MU Design Store Lecturer at JOSHIBI Art University in Tokyo

I was born and raised in Tokyo. After working in Japan for over 10 years as a designer in Tokyo, I moved to Melbourne in 2016 to expand my design skills.

I worked for a construction company in Melbourne as an inhouse graphic designer. In 2018, I returned to Japan to start her own business as a designer.

On the side,I was also involved in launching the Tokyo version of an Israel-based travel startup company called Cool Cousin.

My specialty is conveying information in a concise and minimalistic manner utilising pop and iconic graphics. In 2020, I started a new design brand called 'MU' in order to enrich people's surroundings through graphic design.

Now I live in Amsterdam working as a freeInace Art director, Graphic designer looking for opportunities to work with.



Age 5-8 Playing LEGO and drawing and painting were my favorite things to do when I was a child (with cat).



STRUGGLE IN MY LIFE Age 19-23

Enrolled at Art college in Tokyo. Even though I knew I desire to work in the creative industry in future, I was lost at the time. Aside from me, there were so many talented people. I was desperately seeking who I am and what I can do. 1985

Born in Tokyo, Japan The environment in which I grew up with my two brothers definitely had a significant impact on my personality development.



WHEN YOU REALISED WHAT YOUR STRENGTH IS... Age 9

I was awarded the drawing competition at elementary school...This is the time when I realised "Perhaps, I am better at drawing than others.."



Poster I designed for first time...

My very first art piece ...

Age 23-29 Worked as a graphic designer for multiple design studios in Tokyo (Over 12-14 hours working on a daily basis..)



LIFE CHANGING MOMENT 1

Age 30 Moved to Australia for work. There, I was working as an in-house designer for a local construction company. Learnt Aussie English and about a different culture.



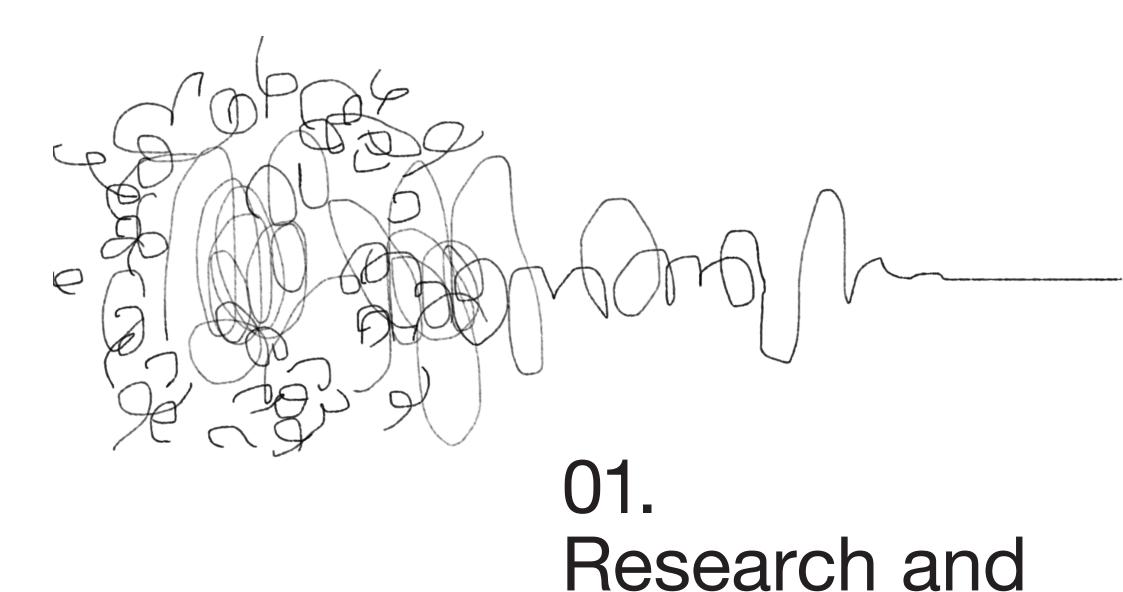


LIFE CHANGING MOMENT 2 2022-

Afer coming back to Japan, I relocated again, this time to Sweden, to start a new journey at HYPER ISLAND. It's only been a few months but already a life changing moment for me.

Implementing Design Thinking focusing on the outcome.

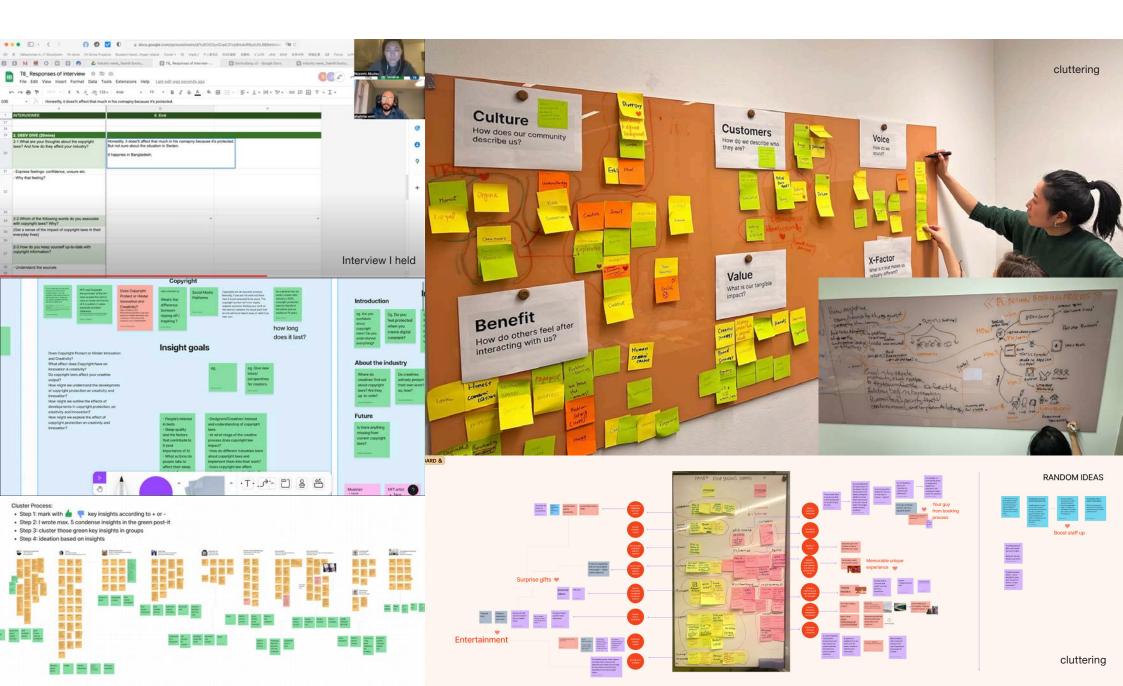
Let me show the process.

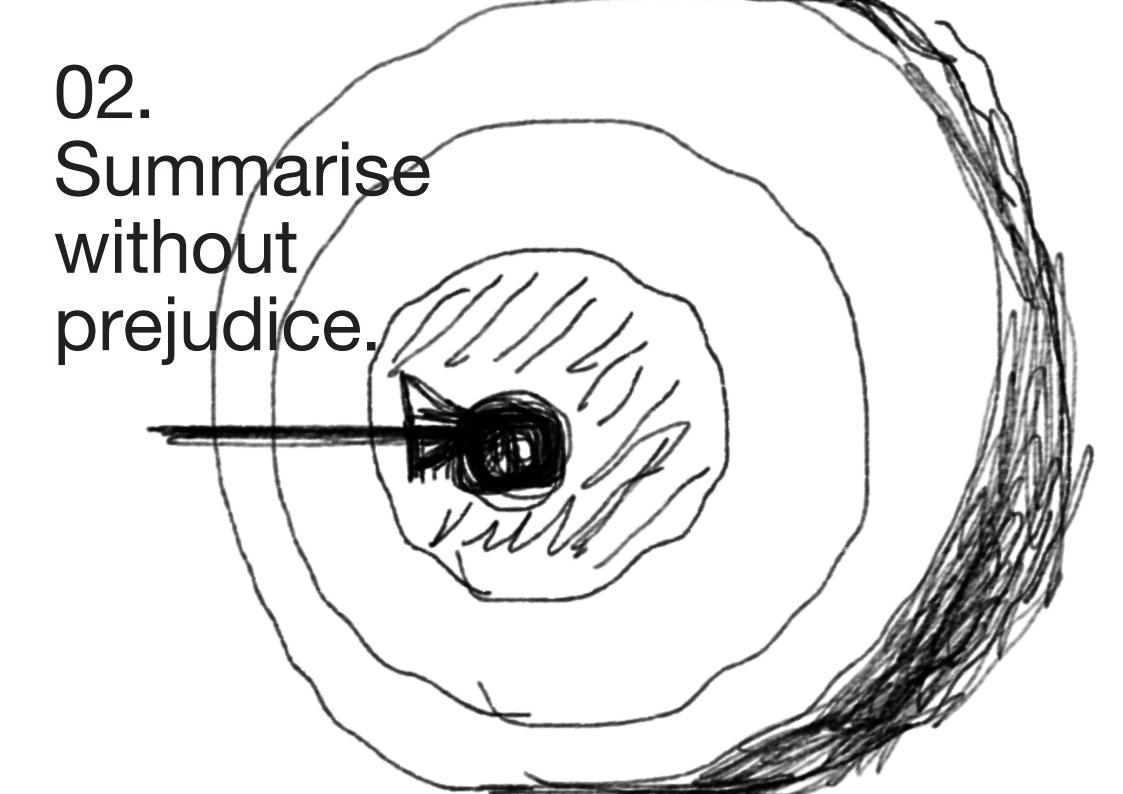


cluttering

1. Research and cluttering

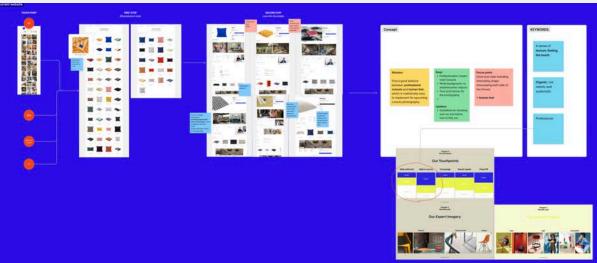
Doing research and finding the essence is the most important first step in any industry. When I do research, I try to look at things from a unconventional, child-like perspective. I also believe in talking to stakeholders and doing fieldwork, rather than just doing a Google search.





02. Summarise without prejudice.

A creative structure map for a new product that I actually created when I was a design intern at an interior design company called Hem in Sweden. I proposed it to the creative director and actually had some launched.

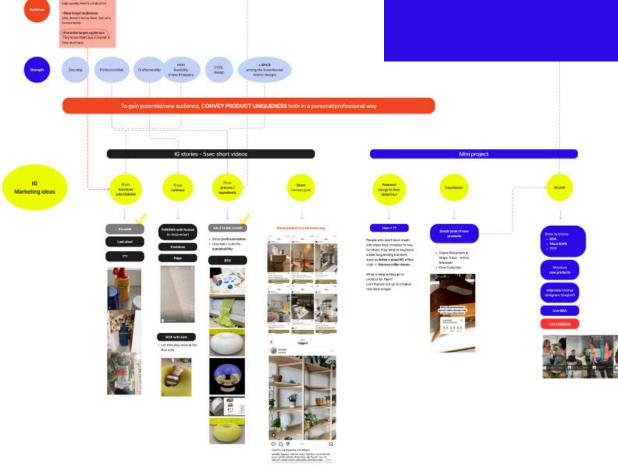


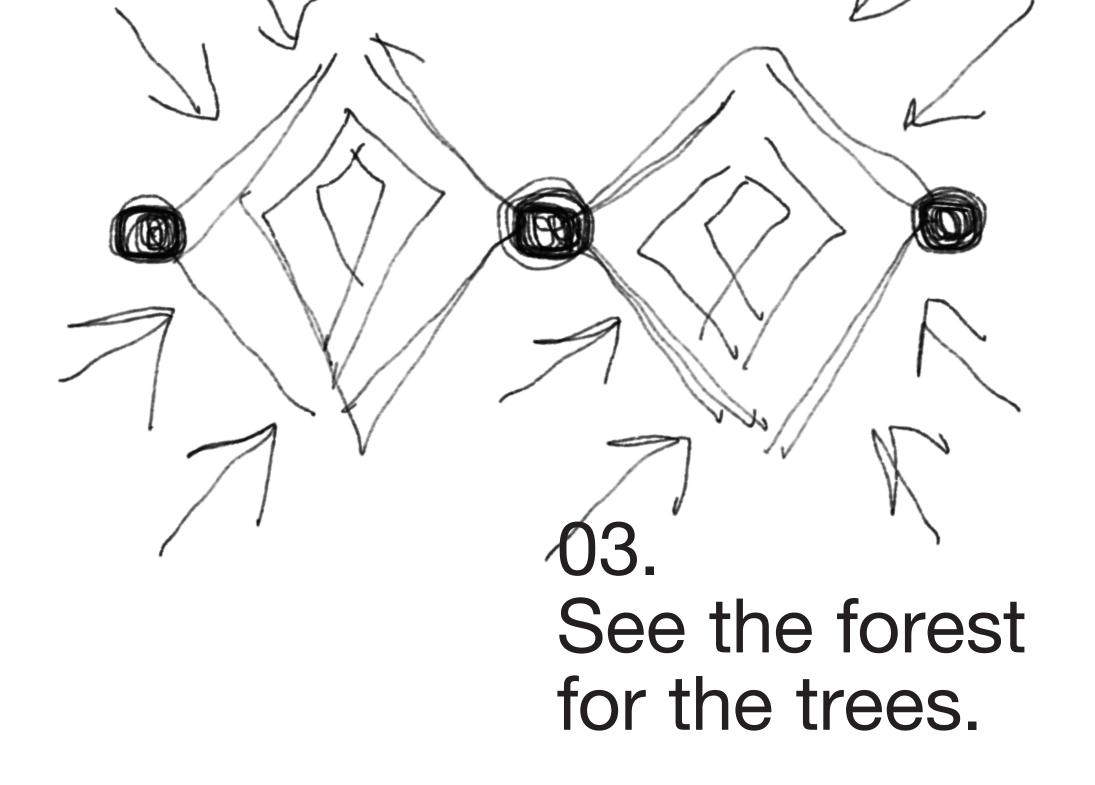
Finding solutions that are unconventional ideas but can be realistically implemented.

It is very important not just to come up with bizarre ideas, but ideas that are realistically feasible and cost-effective.

It is also important, especially in the sales industry, to communicate closely with stock managers and come up with a strategy that is backed up.

I value this process of understanding things fundamentally before producing a design output.



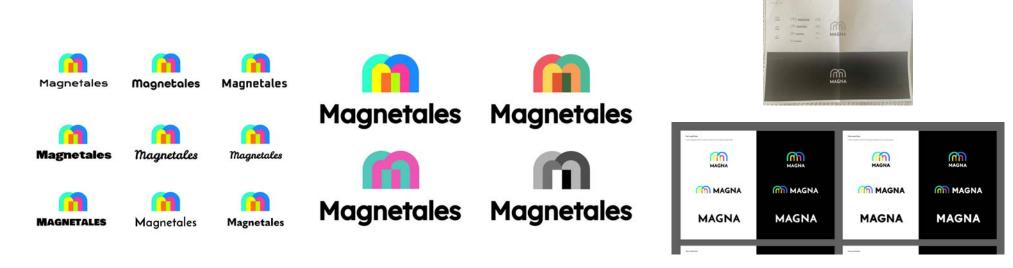




1. Rough drawing for the logo

2. Explour logo symbol shapes

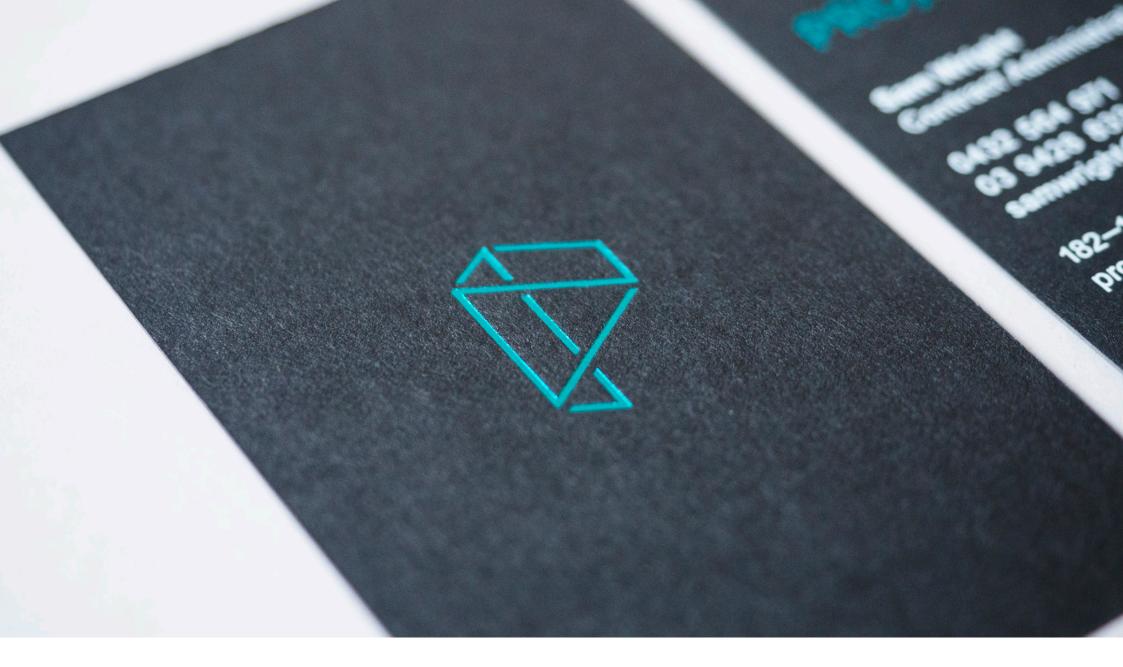
3. Explour orientation, alternative logo symbol ideas

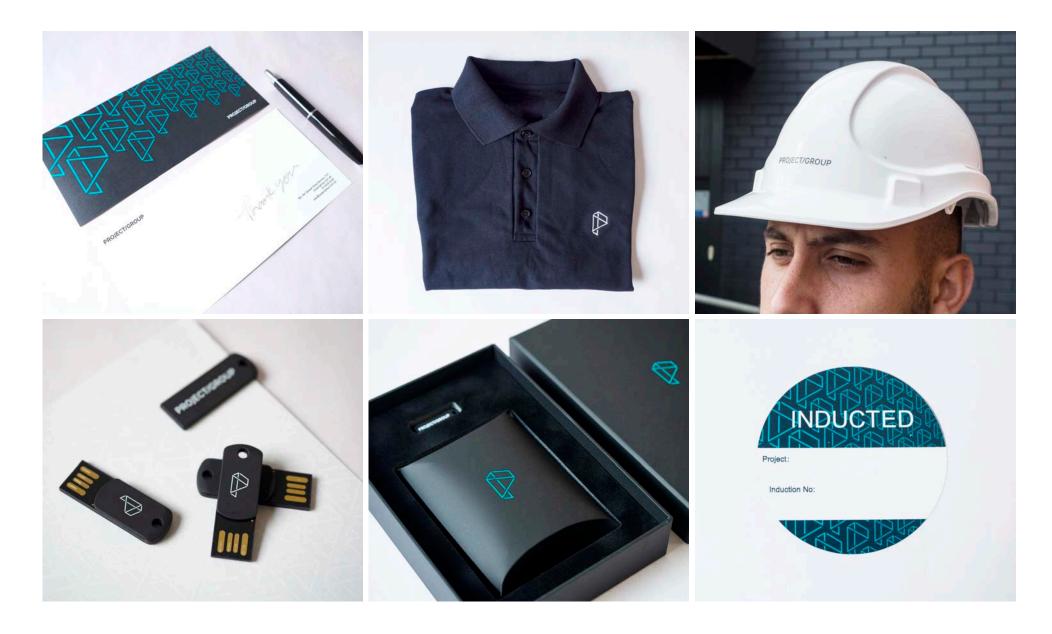


(C) NOZOMI AKUTSU

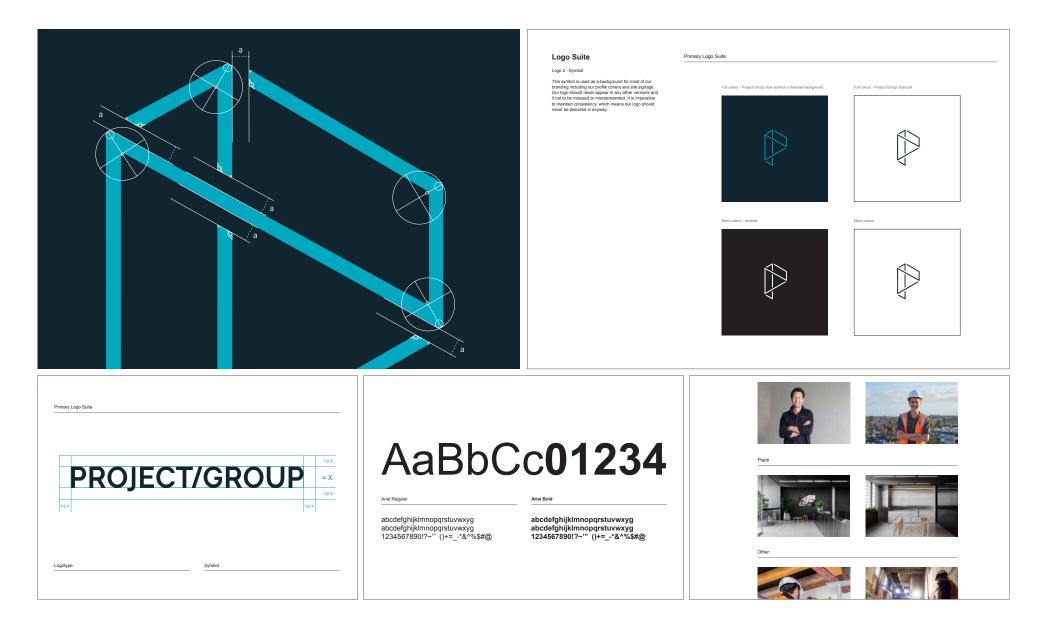
04. Here are some design outcomes over the past 15 years of my experience

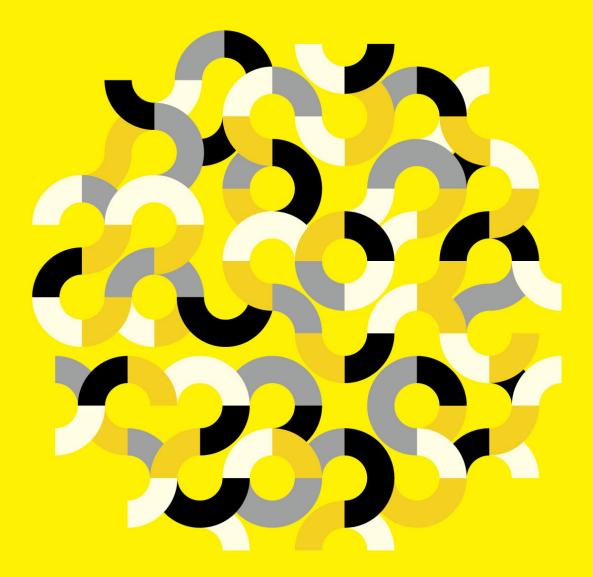
Visual identity Digital, Marketing (Hem) Printing, Editorial Products (MU) Hyper Island





Brand guidelines



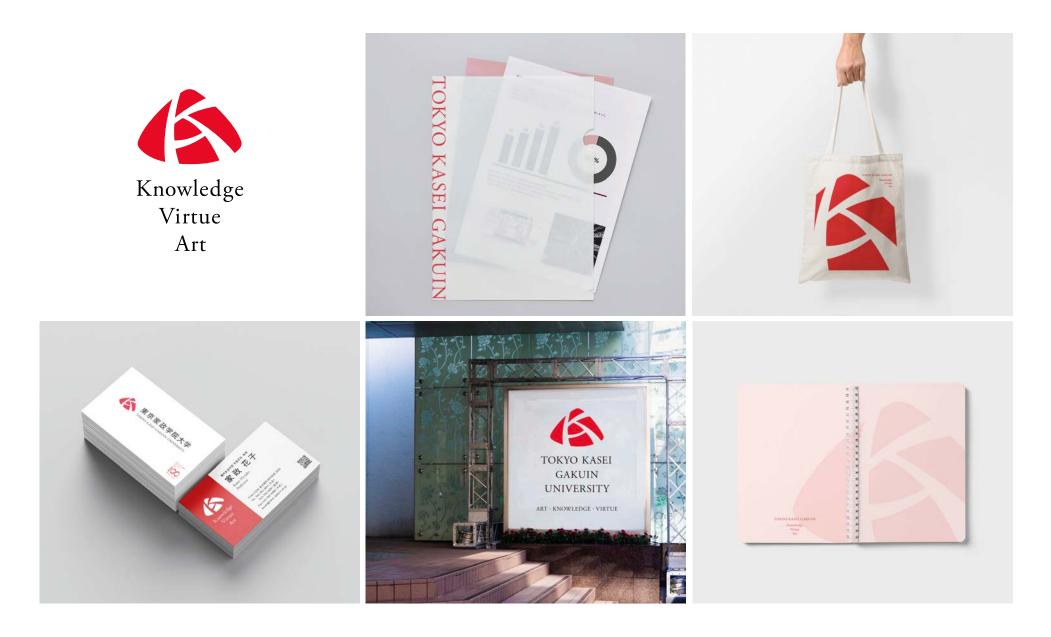


JOSHIBI collaborative design department Visual identity, logo, goods, packaging, pamphlet and stationery design





Kasei gakuin university Visual identity, logo, goods, packaging, pamphlet and stationery design



TOKYO KASEI GAKUIN UNIVERSITY ation mark visual identity guidel 学校法人专家家政学院 コミュニケーションマーク ビジュアルアイデンティティマニュアル



家政学の新たな一面と出会う MIRAI KEYWORD

あなたは「家政学」と聞いて、どのようなイメー ジが浮かびますか、加減や技術を学ぶ「家庭科」 とは違い、「家族学」は実に幅広く美深い学問様 これまし、単語サーは同に増加く資料とすり構 域です。環境問題や建築、医療とつながる栄養 学、教育なども研究対象です。家政学がなぜやの 時代に重要なのか、あなたの知らない家政学の可 能性を感じてみませんか?

88786-286 📀







ご提案

管電量が言われら使えなったち、学生たちの目は世友でいる。 整理を描す描すまし、よりレンボル化することで、 単規目金の現代に思ちたないデザインに、 さた場合のたち方用の方がた響えることで、 デジラル利代とら聞えられる登いのゴマークに、

満原点
二角の振を共有職対象に(A)
米区(A)の場を支充には素なるべく(後に形に(a)
職を指わの必要をなくたな(C)
えちまちだった角の洗理を接一(a)





SDG sまで

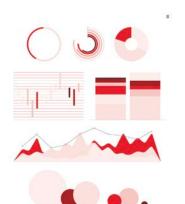




配色バランスイメージ 長文のカラーを使用する際の配色パランスは、右回を参照してくださ

ITC HEDL 単色1以為くオブアクセントとして使用 することを推奨いたします。また薄い単色をサブカラーとして多用す ることで、正統所で強いの内部だけではなく着らかさを発した日本 -----











東京家政学院大学





niho

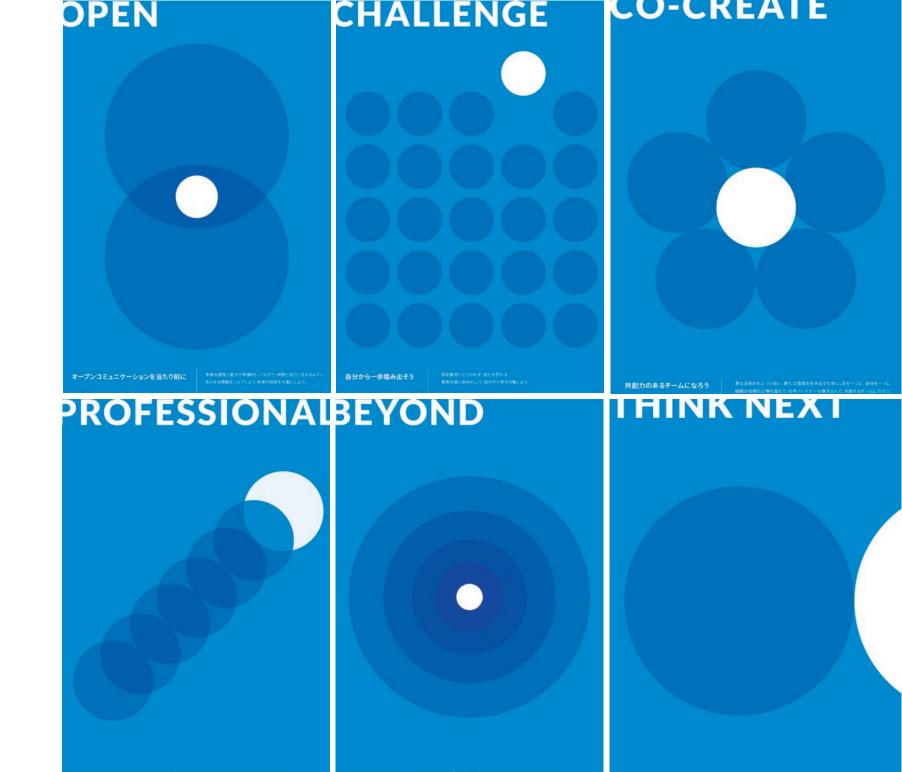
NEXT STARTUP PROGRAM FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS











Visuals of company's mission

成長し続けるプロフェッショナル

一人のプロフェッショナルとして、とどまることなく成長し続け、

常に期待を超えるソリューションを

お客様に寄り添い、考え住き、最適解を提供する。 着在的なニーズまで握り起こし解決できるように力を尽くそう

「はかる」の可能性に挑み続ける

これまで増ってきた営金・安心、信頼を基礎として、 創造の読点となり、社会の役に立ったはかる、多次など創起していた。

DAHBO



林檎班





€谷川医院











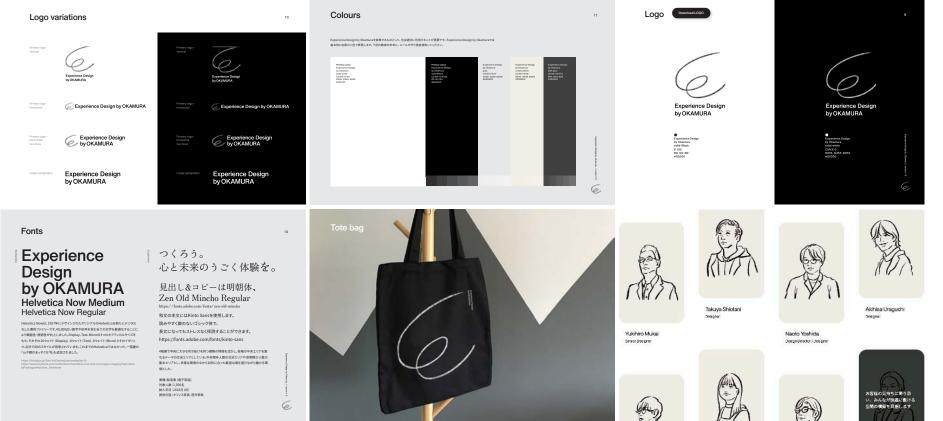


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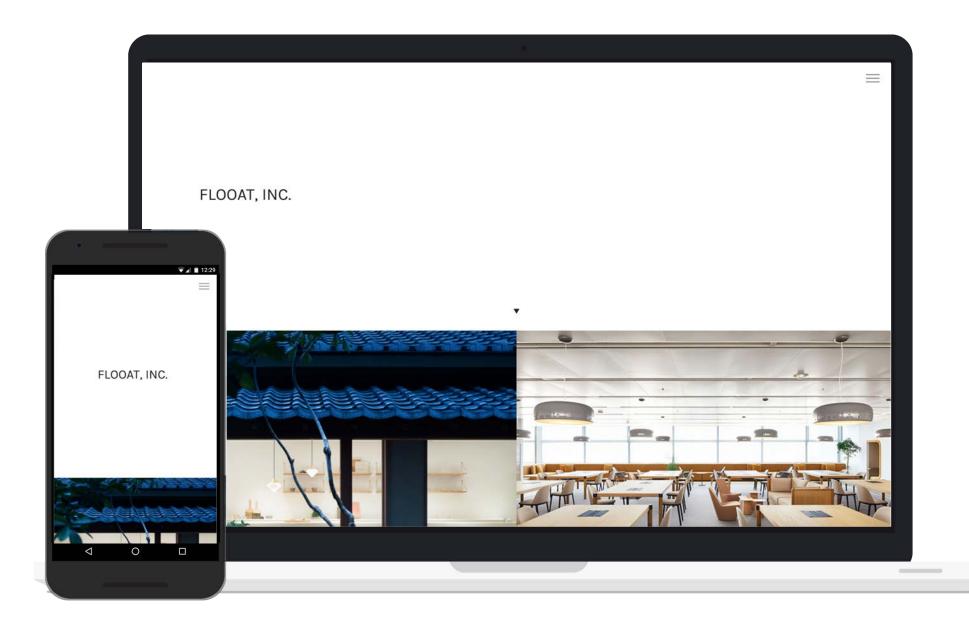
VIEW THE WEBSITE https://okamura.design/experience/



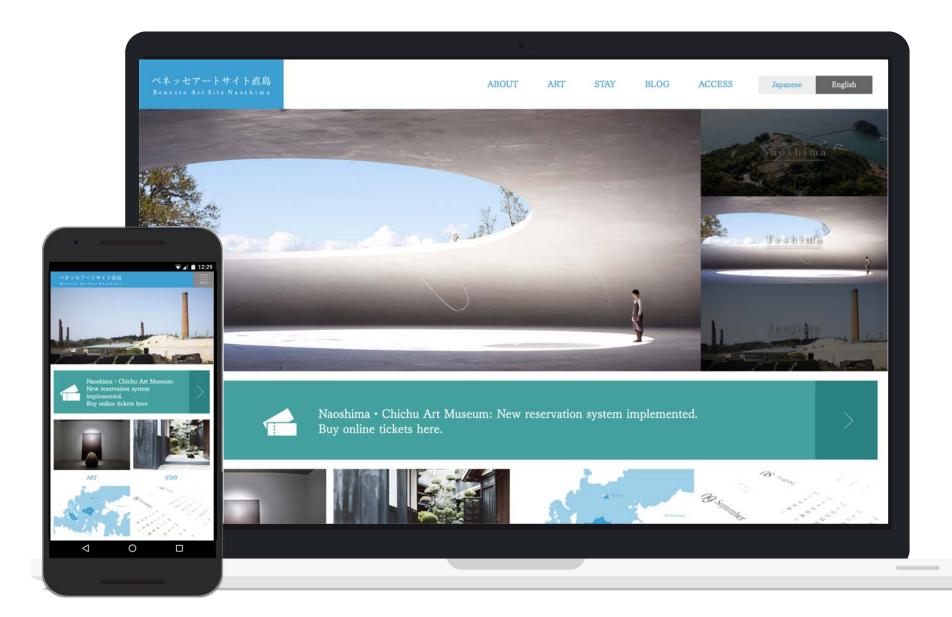




VIEW THE WEBSITE http://www.flooat.jp







Art Direction, web design

VIEW MORE https://www.nozomiakutsu.com/jmw





Trade professional? Sign up to Hem Pro!

Hem

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Q Shop furniture, lighting, rugs, and accessories

📞 +46 (0)8 408 067 40 🛛 🖓 🗿 Chat with an expert

2 C

inspiration oy uninterrupted focus or rest your resilience in a thoughtful space designed for both. Shop the collection Ch - Single out coffe Tiple 家 EP Could be. toole EP ATTO VISNOMY tandardard how Lamps EP mp -TRONY Proly @ Clarcin@ Throws 10 Lerenter Rags 6 10-10.00 6 vorative Inside -C = tough praint , BOR HUNKER 30

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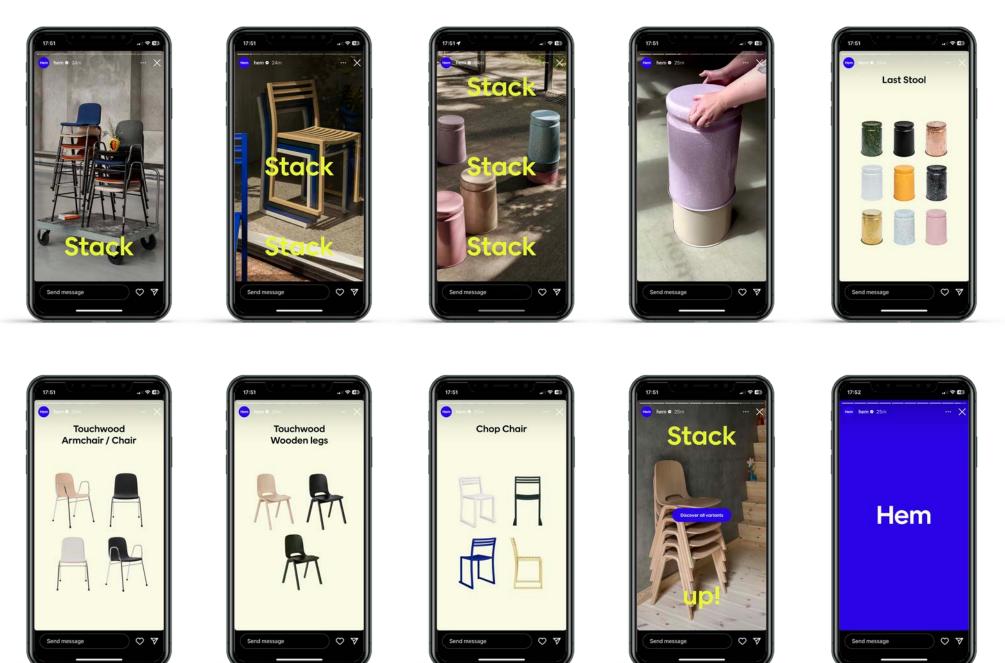
Hem is a Swedish furniture distributor with headquarters in Stockholm. I worked there as a design intern for three months between March to June in 2023.

I worked in the creative department, where I was involved in a wide range of design work, from marketing to branding.

- As a part of the creative team, I was involved in all graphic design, from marketing to product-related assets.
- I proposed to migrate the template to **Figma** as the in-house digital design had previously been done in-design, and created a huge template for the in-house digital design.
- I was involved in the **new product treatments** (art direction of the shoot) from planning to shooting.
- I made a design template for a sales planning document in PowerPoint.

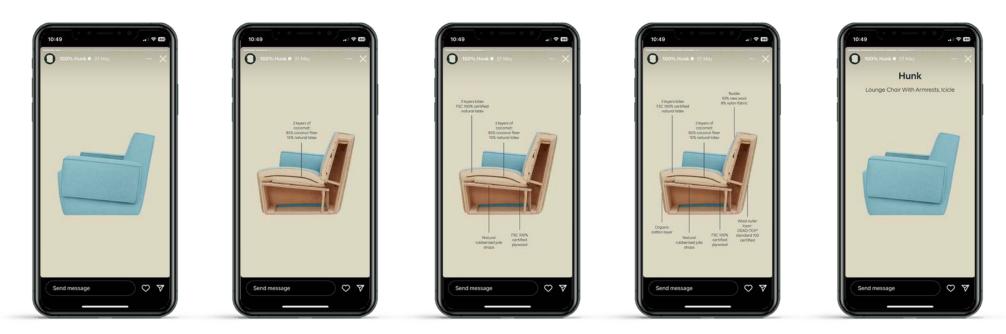
INSTAGRAM STORIES for Hem

I proposed campaign adverts for Instagram, many ideas were selected and I designed the content myself.



INSTAGRAM STORIES for Hem

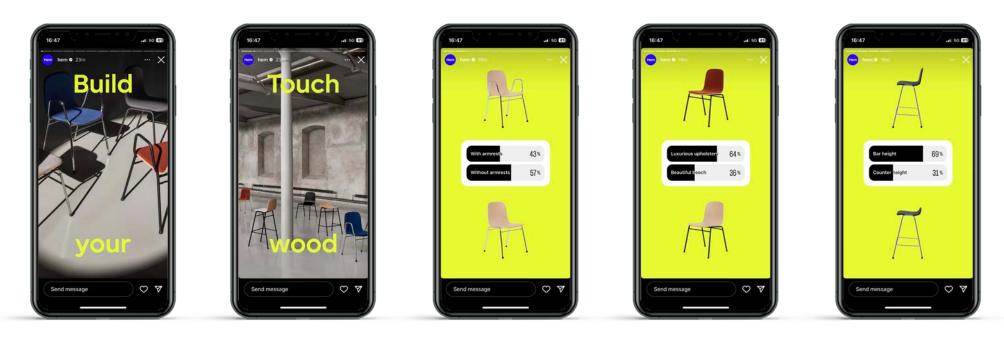
I proposed campaign adverts for Instagram, many ideas were selected and I designed the content myself.





INSTAGRAM STORIES for Hem

I proposed campaign adverts for Instagram, many ideas were selected and I designed the content myself.











NEWSLETTERS for Hem



Pure functional elegance

There's room for everyone at the table with Last Stool, the perfect 'pull up a seat' piece. Designed by Mox Land and soun from a single sheet of metrix, our Last Stools are practical and creative pieces that add extra seating to any room and fit in any decat.





Imaginative designs of obsessive quality.

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Made of 100% natural materials







Hunk Hunk



More on the design

Autoritie

Imaginative designs of obsessive quality. f 🕀 🛛 in



Discover Palo Modular Sofa!

Transform your living room with the sofa of your dreams! Our Pala Modular Safa is whatever you want it to be a chaise, an othorison, a sofa, or even a guest bed. It's familiare that grows and evolves with you, in any space.



Too many options? Order samples today!

Out somelies



Imaginative designs of obsessive quality. f 💿 🛛 in





Each Glyph Table, designed by Kwangho Lee is an elegant balance of soft curves and criss lives. Instantly distinct, charismatic, and com-pelling. Glyph is furniture as art. Flip and turs Glyph to reveal different profiles with multipl urfaces that support or slore lam



Glyph Side Table

Imaginative designs of obsessive quality.

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man fair Lindson





C 2022 House Town Take 1 Mediantes



Make space on







Shop now



Bart. But. Dep rem













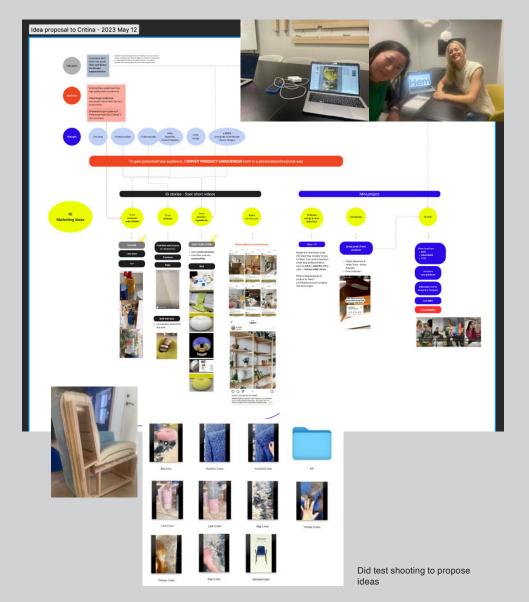
Major Scribble Major Scribble (Prop new)





PROCESS

1. Proposed campain ad ideas for instagram to Creative Director. I picked the products based on the list of overstocked items of Hem.

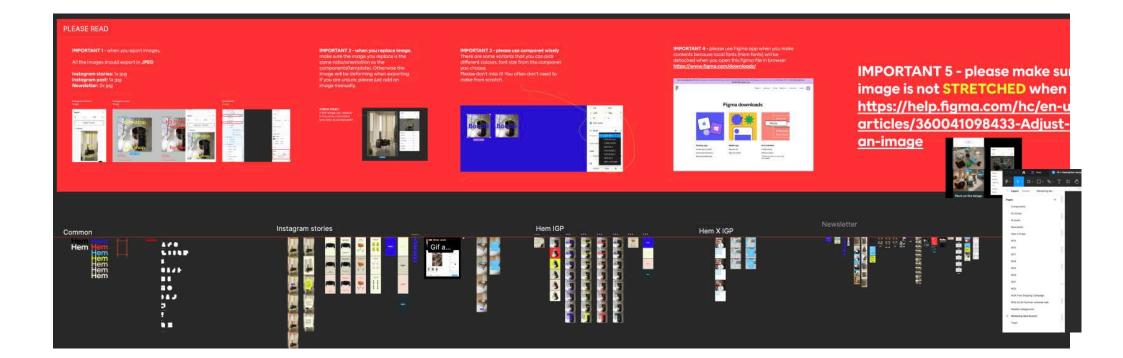


2. After the first proposal, tried out a few ideas using photos in Figma. I liaised with other departmental personnel responsible for product design to ensure there were no mistakes.



DIGITAL DESIGN TEMPLATES for Hem

I suggested that the digital design had been created in-design until then, and that we could re-create the templates in Figma. I created design templates for all digital design, including newsletters.



PRODUCTS TREATMENT for Hem's digital catalogue I was in charge of the new product treatments including art direction during the shooting.

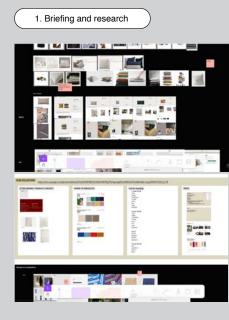


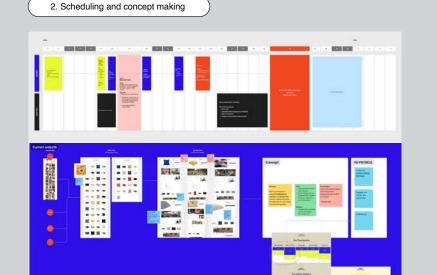
(C) NOZOMI AKUTSU

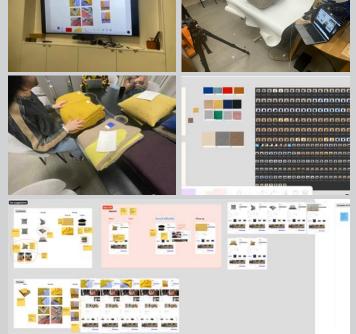
MAKING PROCESS

From concept, research and photography, I proposed and realised a new way of photographing a new product (cushion) that had not been done before.

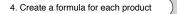
5. Direct a shooting







3. Test shooting and presentation









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LITTLE BARN COFFEE Logo, shop cards, web page, poster and cup design Logo, shop cards, web page, poster, shopping bag and cups





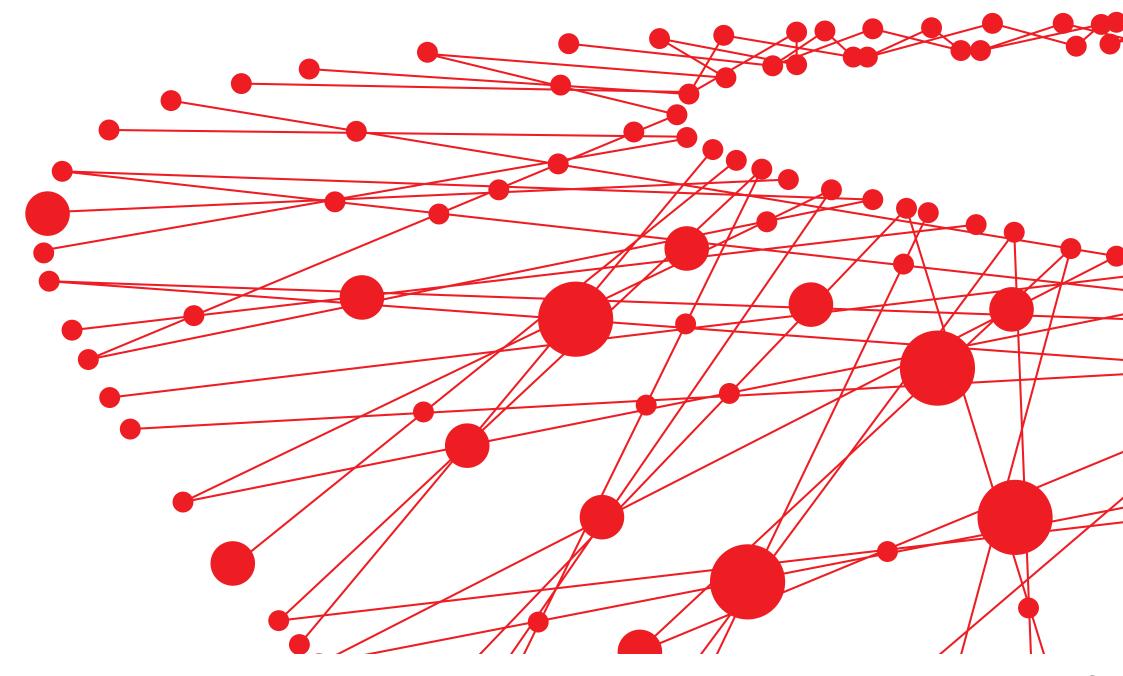




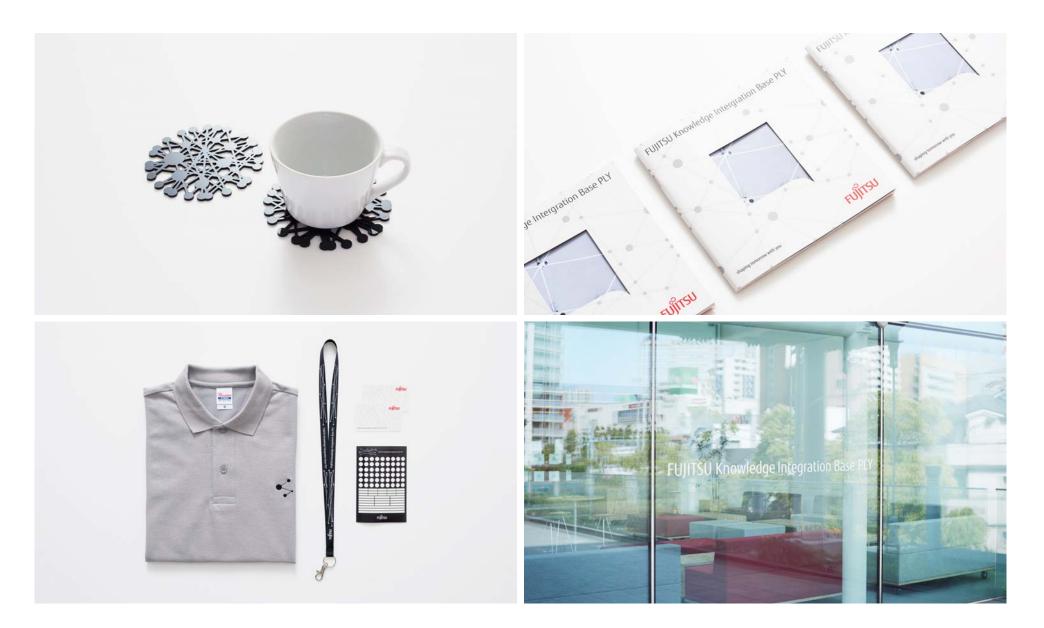




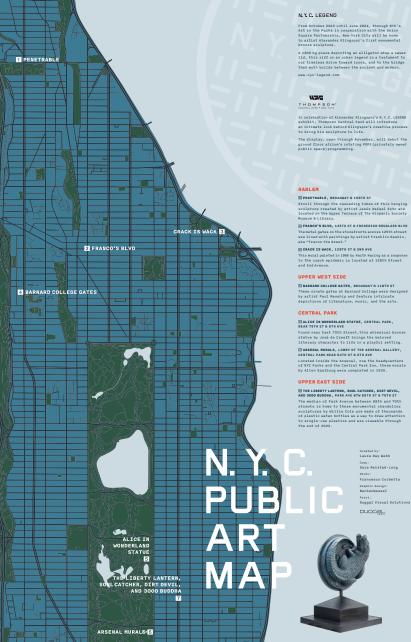




Visual design for FUJITSU Knowledge Integration Base PLY a co-creation space established as part of the Fujitsu Solution Square. Dots express PLY's concept of 'An accumulation of contacts and knowledge'. http://www.fujitsu.com/jp/services/knowledge-integration/ply/ http://www.loftwork.jp/en/case/detail/product/20160704_ply.aspx Coaster, brochure and original goods



Collaboration with Stockhokm based design studio called BankerWessel https://www.bankerwessel.com/ Graphic design, sign design for Fotografiska Shanghai, N.Y.C. Legend



7

From October 2023 until June 2024, through NVC's Art in the Parks in cooperation with the Union Square Partnership, New York City will be home to artist Alexander Klingspor's first monumental bronze sculpture.

A 1200 kg piece depicting an alligator atop a sewer lid, this riff on an urban legend is a testament to our timeless drive toward icons, and to the bridge that myth builds between the ancient and modern.

In celebration of Alexander Klingspor's N.Y.C. LEGEND exhibit, Thompson Central Park will introduce an intimate look behind Klingspor's creative process to bring his sculpture to life. The display, open through November, will debut the ground floor atrium's rotating POPS (privately owned public space) programming

Stroll through the cascading tubes of this hanging sculpture created by artist Jesús Rafael Soto and located on the Upper Terrace of The Hispanic Society Museum 8 Library. FRANCO'S BLVD, 125TH ST & FREDERICK DOUGLASS BLVD The metal gates on the storefronts across 125th street are lined with paintings by artist Franklin Gaskin, aka "Franco the Great."

CRACK IS WACK, 128TH ST & 2ND AVE This mural painted in 1986 by Keith Maring as a response to the crack epidemic is located at 128th Street and 2nd Avenue.

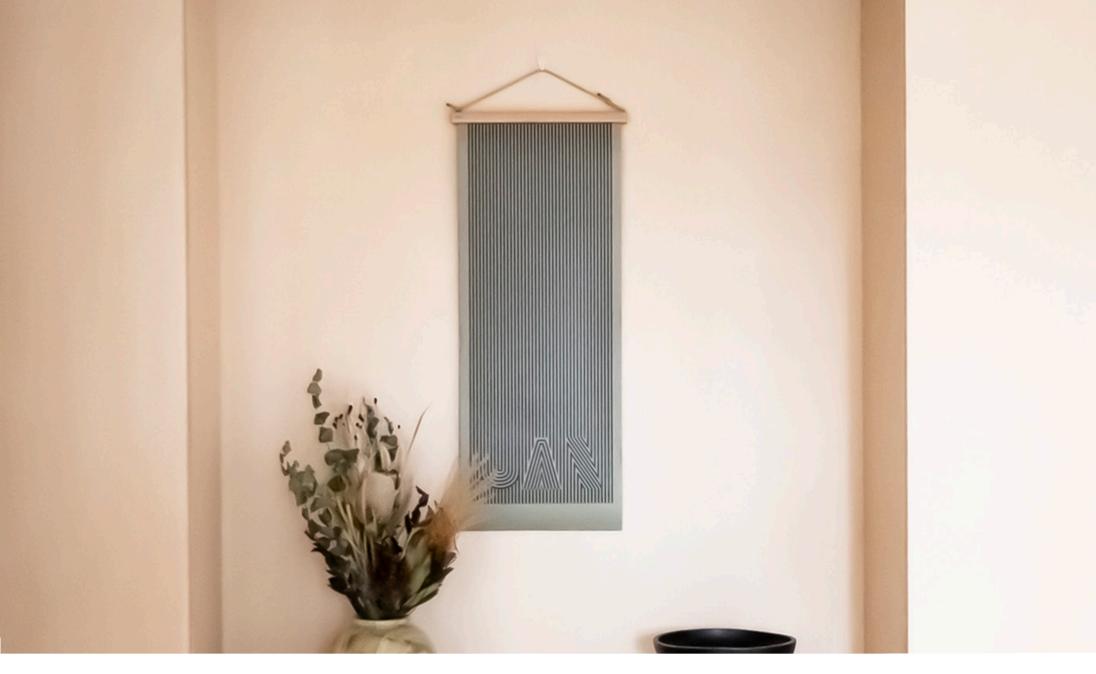
BARNARD COLLEGE GATES, BROADWAY B 118TH ST These ornste gates at Barnard College were designed by artist Paul Manship and feature intricate depictions of literature, music, and the arts.

CALTOR IN WONDERLAND STATUE, CENTRAL PARK, NEAR 75TH ST & STH AVE Found near East 75th Street, this whimsical bronze statue by José de Creef trings the belowed literary character to life in a playful setting. SARSENAL NURALS, LOBBY OF THE ARSENAL GALLERY, CENTRAL PARK NEAR 64TH ST & 5TH AVE Located inside the Arsenal, now the headquarters of NYC Parks and the Central Park Zoo, these murals by Allen Saalburg were completed in 1935.

THE LIBERTY LANTEN, SOUL CATCHER, DIRT DEVIL AND 3000 8000AM, PARK AVE STW GOTS THE TOTH ST The median of Stark Avenue Subsens Stark and Totar The stark of the stark and the stark of the stark sciptures by Willig Cole are made of thousands of plastic west bottes as a way to draw attention to single-use plastics and are viewable through the and af 2020.



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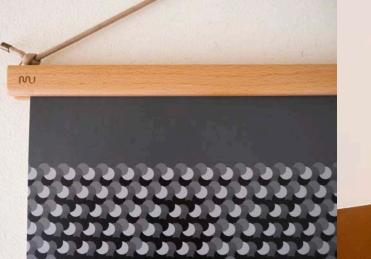






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Visual identity Digital, Marketing (Hem) Printing, Editorial Products (MU) Hyper Island which helped me a lot to develop my softskills.

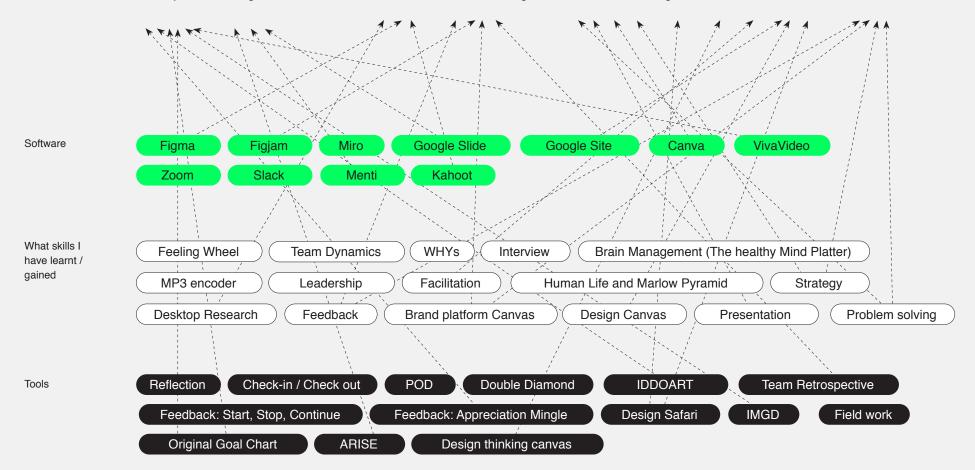


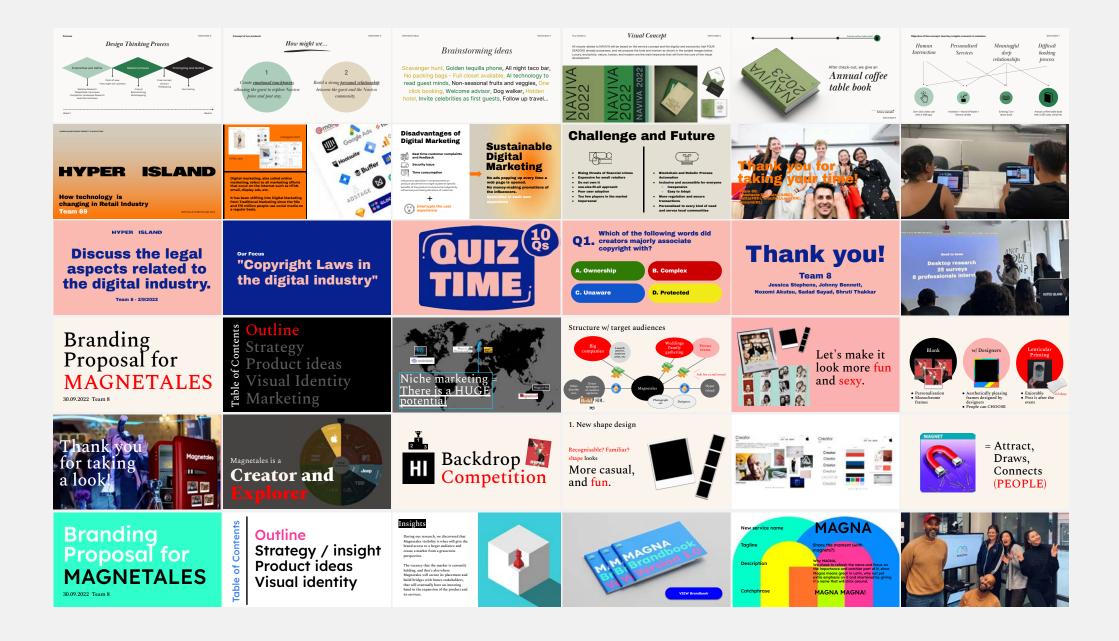
Modules

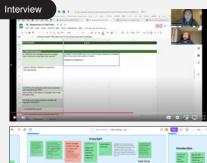
At Hyper Island, the Design Lead programme taught me a lot about strategy, management, leadership and team building in the creative industry through group work.

There are eight modules in total, and I learnt in particular how to achieve this effectively through practical group work, such as actually doing projects with clients, creating agencies and through practical group work.

Industry ----- Branding ----- Presentation and Communication ---- Leading ---- Product Service design ---- Industrial Placement ---- Business

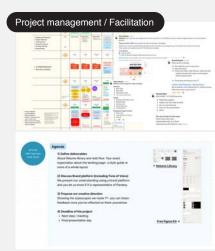














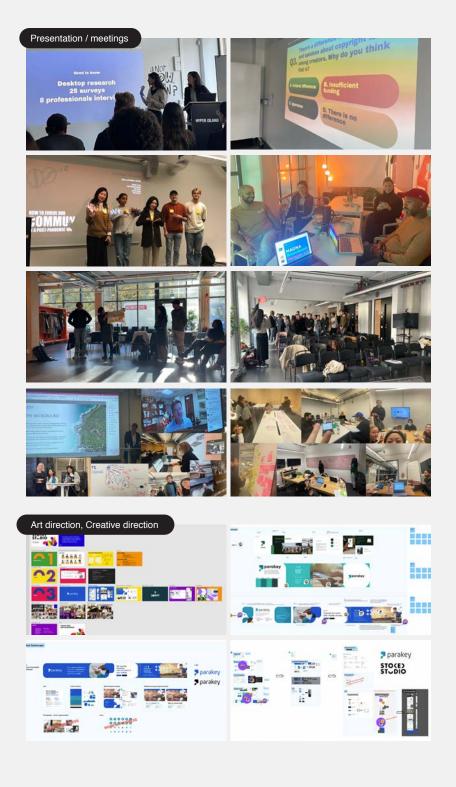






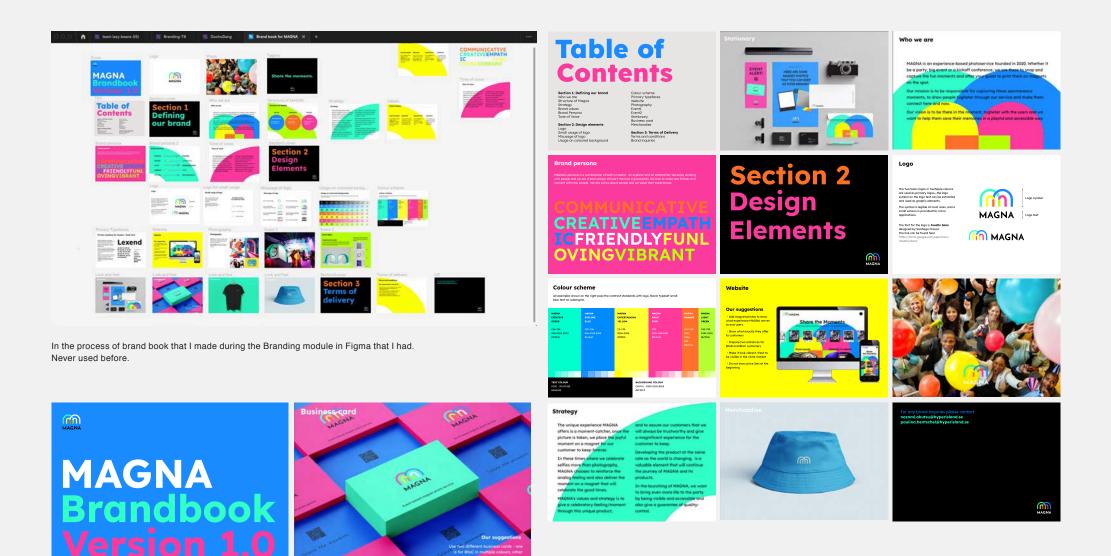






NEW VISUAL IDENTITY AND GUIDELINES WE DELIVERED.

At Hyper Island, there were many opportunities to actually work with clients. Many of these projects involved branding, and my team worked on Four Seasons (NAVIVA), Parakey and Magnetale.



NOZOMI AKUTSU

Nozomi was born and raised in Tokyo. She joined Ideasketch in 2011 after working for another design studio for 4 years. There, she was responsible for designing websites, logos, pamphlets, cross-media projects, visual identity, and posters. After working in Japan for over 10 years as a designer, she moved to Melbourne in 2016 to expand her design skills. She worked for a construction company in Melbourne as an in-house graphic designer. She was in charge of the company's re-branding and marketing collateral. In 2018, she returned to Japan to start her own business as a designer. On the side, she was also involved in launching the Tokyo version of an Israel-based travel startup company called Cool Cousin.Her specialty is conveying information in a concise and minimalistic manner utilising pop and iconic graphics. In 2020, she started a new design brand called 'MU' in order to enrich people's surroundings through graphic design. In the summer of 2022, she relocated to Sweden (Stockholm) with the aim of making a further leap forward. She went to a business school called HYPER ISLAND and working as a freelancer.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

2012 - ELVINE TOKYO CITY JACKET

Nozomi participated as a local creator in a Tokyo City Jacket project produced by a Swedish clothing brand ELVINE in Tokyo.

2018 - COOL COUSIN TOKYO

An Israel-based tourism web platform. Nozomi participated in the Tokyo version as an ambassador. She was also involved in launching the Tokyo version in 2018, headhunting for candidates, setting-up, scheduling, and location scouting for photo-shoots with her friend Yurie.

2021 - DAIKANYAMA T-SITE BOOKBOX NO.82

A pop-up exhibition of MU was held at Daikanyama Tsutaya Books for a limited period of one month in October 2021. A wide range of works, from old to new, was launched at the exhibition, and products were sold as well.

2022 - JUROR FOR A DESIGN AWARD AT OCHABI

Participated as a special judge of the judging committee of "OCHABI Creative Solution Awards -2022 2nd Presentation-" held on July 24, 2022.

2023 - GRAPHIC DESIGN LECTURER AT JOSHI ART UNIVERSITY

In April 2023, she will teach graphic design classes at the Department of Co-Creation Design, a new department established at Joshibi University of Art and Design. As an instructional leader, she taught 62 students.



Website



Linkedin



Instagaram



Contact details +31 6274775281 / +81 5058068728 info@nozomiakutsu.com Thank you for taking a look! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.