ALEX PIACENTINI

alexpiacentini.com — piacentini.alex@gmail.com — 0039 349 5594 632

I use the web and other digital media as multidimensional materials to build custom artifacts where code, data and interactivity fuse at the intersection of generative design, dataviz, visual art and sound synthesis.

FREELANCE PRACTICE

Since 2016 I work as independent designer and developer. I build digital products with a focus on projects with strong innovative, research or experimental connotation for the publishing, cultural and educational fields.

The following list includes some of the clients, people and organizations I collaborated with.

Art institutions and exhibitions
Transmedia Research Institute, IT
IMPAKT. Art gallery in Utrecht, NL
Venice Biennale. Collaboration with Alessandro Zannier on a project for the Cameroon Pvilion, IT
Zach Blas, visual artist, CA
Abandon Normal Devices. New media art and cinema festival, UK
Umanesimo Artificiale. Audiovisual art, IT
Futures Photography, Amsterdam, NL
Transart, festival of contemporary culture, IT
Neutopica. Art residency, IT
Urban Layers Artist Residency, MUFOCO, Museum of contemporary photography, Triennale di Milano, IT

Non for profit organizations
UNFCCC Momentum for Change, Bonn, DE
Overseas Development Institute, UK
Centre for Investigative Journalism, UK
Scottish Food Coalition, UK
Gabriele Basilico Archive, IT
Backbone Berlin, grassroots ONG, DE
LAGO, non for profit organization, UK

Institutions
Columbia University, Earth Institute, US
Camera Art Luzern, CH
Design Lab at Harvard University, US
Siegen University, dept. of Media Studies, DE
UVA Amsterdam University, NL

Other
IBM Italia, IT
Napapijri, idLab, Salone del Mobile, IT
Serates, textile manifacturing, Como, IT
EIT Climate-KIC. European climate innovation initiative, BE
BASE Milano, IT
Design Decode Journal, IT
MO* Magazine, BE

DESIGN STUDIOS

Lead UX/UI designer @ Accurat
Milan & NYC, 2013—16.
Design and project management (art dirction and supervision of small teams) mainly for interactive and data-driven projects.
Companies and people I worked for include:

WHO – World Health Organisation, Report on Urban Health.
Samanta Cristoforetti – Collaboration with the first Italian female astronaut.
The Intercept – Interactive dataviz for investigative jurnalism site.
Flight Club – startup in sneakers stock market based in LA and NYC.
Enigma – Website of the NYC based startup offering big-data products.

Researcher and designer @ LUST.nl
The Hague, 2013.
Designer and researcher for a European R&D project called UrbanSensing, counting six SMEs from Spain, Itlay, Netherlands. I worked on data-visualisation models and user interface for geotagged information.

Internships
LUST.nl, The Hague 2012
C-album, Paris 2011
La Treizième Heure, Paris 2011

AWARDS

Innovation by Design 2021 – Fast Company. Winning project in section *Data Design* for Key Workers, realized with Federica Fragapane for ODI

Awwwards 2021 Honorable mention for Key workers: Migrants' contribution to the COVID-19 response

Hackathon *Hack the Universe* at Museum of Natural History, NYC with *Starface* (category: education - with Dave Rife)

Honorable mention at Kantar Information is Beautiful Awards 2017 with *Stories Behind a Line* (category: Politics & Global - with Federica Fragapane)

EDUCATION

Institute for Postnatural Studies
Postnature and Contemporary Creation.
2022

Politecnico di Milano
M.Sc. studies in Communication Design.
Theses in the context of a European project about geographic data visualization
2011—13 (suspended)

ENSCI Les Ateliers Paris
Product design, service design, interaction design, photography and video.
2010—11

KISD Cologne
One year attending the Master in Intergated Design at KISD. Projects involving graphic design, service design, audiovisual media and web design.
2009—10

Politecnico di Milano
Bachelor degree in Communication Design, in the context of the MEDes program (Master of Europens Design).
2007—10

ITIS Guglielmo Marconi
High school diploma in informatics.
1999—04

SKILLS

Languages
Italian, English
(Spanish, French, German)

Processing, Java, (Python)
Javascript — react, d3, p5
HTML & CSS, PHP, Kirby CMS, MySQL

Software
Sketch, Figma, Adobe CC, geospatial data
(QGIS, Mapbox and others)
(Max MSP, TouchDesigner)