CLINTON LUGERT

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Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA but open to relocation.



PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

As a Creative Director, I sell confidence. Confidence for brands, that this plan is going to work. Confidence for artist, that they're creating something special. And confidence for consumers, that they have chosen wisely.

This odd job has taken me on a global rollercoaster ride and taught me a myriad of strange things: Like how lasers cut better underwater, the proper way to photograph an Amish person, how to secretly enrich a famished population with vitamins, or just how to make that chicken breading extra crispy every. single. time. Go ahead, ask me anything.

Conceptual work is my forte. I dream up Worlds, think in themes, court brand archetypes and time-travel through cultural shifts. I love presenting concepts that weave together sociological insight, brand strategy and unforgettable artwork. When it all comes together, we've captured lightning in a bottle. I call it "Clintspiration" and trust me, it's a totally real thing.

As a human, I'm an easy-going, intuitive, resourceful, ambitious leader. I work well as both the head and hand of a team and know how to keep creative departments efficient and engaged. I've always been fabulous with clients, because I naturally translate complex ideas into bite-size metaphors. It helps that my presentation skills are clutch.

Creatives should live an interesting life and seek to absorb as many inputs, perspectives and cultures as possible. For me, that's travel, concerts, a wide range of odd hobbies, hosting pop-up drive-in movies, and throwing costume parties. Lately, I've been working remotely from different Countries for this very reason: To eat life whole.

After years in the ad game, I've learned it's not about the brand you're on or the city you're in - it's the people you're on the ride with. They're what make this job worth it. I'm ready to be one of those for your team.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Creative / Art Director | Freelance – U.S., Mexico, U.K.

2016 - Current

- Created and produced multiple award-winning, innovative advertising campaigns that successfully generated increased brand awareness and sales.
- Directed and styled highly technical 3D animations.
- Elevated thinking and output of small, challenger brands to compete effectively.
- Embraced emerging tech like A.I. (ChatGPT, Midjourney, Dall-e etc.) to stay competitive.
- Conceived, landed and executed the highest ROI campaign of my career.
- Acted in my first TV commercial since I was a child.

Owner & Creative Director | TROPE film + tv branding

2010 - Current

- Landed distribution deals for a miraculous 100% of my clients.
- Devised and executed unique, attractive artwork for a wide range of film genres.
- Art directed, set designed, and costume designed for multiple indie-films.
- Brought big agency thinking and planning to a small, free-for-all market.

Group Creative Director | LEE Branding - Minneapolis

- Lead the Creative Department to a 430% increase in revenue.
- Turned formerly pro-bono clients into paying clients.
- Won multiple pitches vs much larger agencies.
- Conducted target market research to discover customer needs and analyze competitor trends.
- Added challenger brands to diversify agency portfolio and boost morale.
- Developed strategic communication and marketing plans.
- Authored creative briefs and timelines to manage creative process from concept to completion.
- Directed and supervised team of designers to create award-winning visual media campaigns.
- Developed style guides to promote consistent branding across long-term projects.

Associate Creative Director | Campbell Mithun - Minneapolis

- United disparate, multi-disciplinary, creative teams from myriad agencies.
- Ushered formerly traditional clients into the digital & social age.
- Educated teams on how to give killer presentations.
- Single-handedly ran the Popeye's brand for a time.
- Initiated ground-breaking brand collaborations.
- Pioneered influencer marketing for the agency.
- Negotiated the dismissal of racist brand mascots.
- Wrote creative briefs and coached copywriters to develop compelling content.

Senior Designer | VSA Partners - Chicago

- Conceived and matured elaborate, international brand standards for major brands. (Cargill)
- Devised new logos for iconic companies. (Mack truck)
- Incorporated design changes based on feedback from diverse, international teams.
- Maintained consistent use of graphic imagery in materials and other marketing outreach.

Art Director | OLSON - Minneapolis

- Participated in a freakishly successful era of pitches on the new business team.
- Increased artistic credibility of the agency by showing mastery of artisanal techniques.
- Guided teams of illustrators and animators within absurd time and budget constraints.
- Improved the trajectory of the Studio Art department through mentorship.
- Achieved wins in multiple award shows.
- Concepted and Directed multiple TV commercials.
- Embraced my role as a leader of agency culture.
- Served as liaison between the creative departments of newly acquired businesses.
- Raised the standards of video Post-Production knowledge for the Creative Department.

Interactive Designer & Animator | Pixel Farm - Minneapolis

- Bridged the gap between interactive and broadcast depts. through deep technological knowledge.
- Forged the first Art Director role in the agency.
- Contributed to my first Super Bowl commercial.
- Closed deals with new clients, despite my Jr. position.
- Co-Founded a new department that specializes in advertising for entertainment (Film, Television.)
- Oversaw multiple edits, color correction and special-effect heavy productions.

CLIENTS

• 3M

Anytime Fitness

Arlo

Artcrank

Artspace

Baxter

Bayer

Best Buy

• Bisquick

Boston Scientific

Bremer Bank

Capital One

Cargill

Cheerios

Citibank

CNN

Country Inns &

Suites

DeWalt Tools

· Dino's Gyros

Ecolab

· Enki Brewery

ExxonMobil

• Fifth Third Bank

FOX Networks

• G.M.A.C.

General Mills

Great Clips

IBM

Indian Motorcycle

Izze Soda

• Key Bank

Kid Robot

KraftMaid

Land O' Lakes

Lifetime

LinkUp

Mack Truck

Macy's

Medtronic

Mercedes-Benz

Meural

Minnesota Film

Board

Minnesota Lottery

 Minnesota Lynx basketball

Mosaic

Naked Fruit Juce

NASCAR

National Geographic

Netgear

PBS

Phillips 66

Polaris

Popeyes

Porsche

Purina

Seresto

Siemens

Slumberland

Starwood Hotels

Surly

T-Mobile

Target

Tennant

Thomson Reuters

Twin Cities Film Fest

 University of Minnesota

USBank

Walmart

Westlaw Next

WiHa Tools

Wüsthof

Zoetis

AWARDS

AdFed The Show, Effies, AIGA Design Awards, etc.

EDUCATION

Minneapolis College of Art & Design (M.C.A.D.) Double BFA: Filmmaking & Graphic Design