

# Lauren Kessinger

3201 KNOBVIEW DRIVE, NASHVILLE TN 37214  
(615) 968-7173 • BABYANIMALS@GMAIL.COM • NOTHINGNEW.US

## EXPERIENCE

*2/15-present* **Art Director Parthenon Publishing** *Nashville, TN*

Art direct, design and produce multiple industry-facing custom content magazines for Parthenon's corporate clientele.

*3/13-present* **Owner, Creative Director, Set Designer, Food Stylist Craft Cocktail app** *Chicago, IL/Nashville, TN*

Concepted, designed, developed and launched this cocktail recipe app with two partners in Chicago available for iPad and iPhone. Conceptualized and styled both cocktails and sets for photo shoots.

*8/13-5/15* **Wardrobe & Flat Apparel Stylist Saks Fifth Avenue; Amazon.com; Zappos.com** *Nashville, TN/ Louisville, KY*

Styling fashion on model and flat apparel for Saks Fifth Avenue and related e-commerce sites Saks Off Fifth and Fashion Fix; Styling flat apparel and accessories for Amazon.com and Zappos.com.

*5/13-present* **Freelance Art Director Chicago Magazine** *Chicago, IL*

Worked on monthly issues of Chicago Magazine producing and designing the fashion, dining, and culture sections as well as contributing to feature story designs. Commissioned photography, retouching, and illustration. Currently contributing remotely to a full redesign.

*8/12-4/13* **Freelance Art Director, Prop Stylist, Food Stylist Time Out Chicago magazine** *Chicago, IL*

Produced 9 small-format guides as specialty themed advertising inserts into the regular magazine in conjunction with the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and Diageo liquor brands. Concepted covers, produced and styled tabletop and fashion photography, designed and delivered complete publications. Produced an iPad edition of each guide using mag+ software. Also produced and designed the 200 page *2013 Chicago Eating and Drinking guide*.

*9/12-10/12* **Freelance Art Director Havas Worldwide** *Chicago IL*

Developed multiple campaign pitches for retail jewelry client including print, outdoor, social, web and video components.

*11/11 to 2/12* **Contract Art Director iostudio** *Nashville, TN*

Created 3 deployment magazines for the National Guard and their families (*Mission Ready, Homefront, and Wheels Up*); contributed ADDY-winning feature designs for *GX* magazine.

*9/10 to 11/11* **Fashion Image Specialist; Freelance Fashion and Product Stylist Dillard's.com** *Nashville, TN*

Styled fashion and product in addition to producing and approving photography for this fast-paced e-commerce photo studio, completing up to 250 fashion and product images per day. Worked on-set with both models and product, stylists, retouchers and photographers daily. Was retained as a freelancer after the photo studio was relocated to Little Rock.

*7/08 to 10/10* **Adjunct Professor Art Institute of Tennessee-Nashville** *Nashville, TN*

Taught entry through advanced courses in Art Direction, Package Design, Publication Design, Production, Typography, Logo design and more. 34 Student ADDYs were won in 2010 from work produced in one of my classes. Very high student evaluation scores of 4.8 on a 5.0 scale.

*11/07 to 4/08* **Associate Art Director Latina Magazine** *New York, NY*

Completed a redesign and relaunch of *Latina* with a team of renowned designers to create a targeted new type of international consumer publication centering on authentic photography and cultural trends in fashion, beauty, and travel from around the Latin world. Created a template and typographic style guide inspired by midcentury design in Spain and South America, utilizing geometry as both a decorative and organizational tool. Shared responsibility for all aspects of production with the Design Director.

*8/07 to 11/07* **Art Director Radar, Time Out New York & Time Out New York Kids magazines** *New York, NY*

Fulfilled contracts to design cover story, features and front-of-book material. Concepted cover artwork. Edited photography.

*5/07 to 8/07* **Art Director Surface magazine** *New York, NY*

Completed a 3-month contract with this international fashion, art and architecture magazine. Position involved design from beginning to end of the production cycle for front of book, features, and back of book sections. Encompassed collaboration with editors, ad sales and photo producer, tracking of all images & retouching, inputting editorial corrections, and pre-press tasks right down to the 2am dash to Fed Ex.

*2004 to 2007* **Associate Art Director, Interim Art Director Time Out Chicago magazine** *Chicago, IL*

Was hired on to the launch team of this entertainment weekly into a new market. Regular assignments included layout of front of book, style, service and listings pages as well as weekly feature packages and biweekly covers; conceptual input into all photo shoots, features, style, and service sections. Collaborated closely with Photo Editor to create a unique image aesthetic for Chicago. Maintained a highly efficient production schedule. Acquired the position of Interim Art Director three times, managing all facets of the art department during changes in management.

*2002 to 2005* **Art Director Venus Zine** *Chicago, IL*

Worked with dedicated collaborators to produce this internationally-circulated ground-breaking magazine devoted to women in art and music. Responsibilities included recruiting and managing contributors, producing and styling photo shoots, and final collection of files. Creating a professional and authentic product on a shoestring budget fostered the resourcefulness that has enriched my entire career.

## EDUCATION

*2010* **MFA in Graphic Design candidate OTIS College of Art and Design** *Los Angeles, CA*

*2001* **BFA with an emphasis in Visual Communication The School of the Art Institute of Chicago** *Chicago, IL*

## REFERENCES

Lauren Kilgore, *Studio Manager, Dillard's.com* • 501.319.3323, lauren.sanderson@dillards.com

Stephanie Gladney, *Art Director, Time Out Chicago magazine* • 312-924-9379, stephaniegladney@yahoo.com

Matt Guemple, *Creative Director, Surface Magazine/Double Truck Design* • 718-488-0650, matblack@mac.com