

Susan has worked with some of the world's most successful firms and recognized brands.

UNDERGROUND TALENT

THE REALITY OF AN INDEPENDENT WORKER

Many self-employed creatives do inspired work. Not trapped by overwhelming overhead costs and cubicle constraints, independent workers are often able to move about doing creative work for a wide range of clients. Large firms may get all the press and props, but some of the untethered talent are those schooled from working at the biggies. Independent talents have the ability to build their own client base, experience life outside the corporate environment, take time to give back, cultivate other interests, and be more involved with their communities.

Seattle's independent design talent, SUSAN ANDRADE, has done just that. By working for some of the country's Fortune 500 companies as well as Hollywood studios, Susan has built her reputation as a professional with a broad spectrum of creative accomplishments. Learning from the best has now given Susan the opportunity and skill to work with both large and small companies in many different industries.

Starbuck's and The Walt Disney Company are among her favorites. "As an outside resource, I am able to do a lot of illustration that is then incorporated into final designs," she says. "I recently completed over 100 pages of drawings for all Disney Consumer Product's signage and booth walls for Licensing Expo International in New York".

Susan is also entering her third year as a kindergarten reading tutor for SSIA and enjoys the rewards of giving back.



EXCITING START:

Creating the logo for the feature film “City Slickers”.

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PHILOSOPHY:

Enjoy what you're doing, design with a purpose, and don't get so sucked in that you're forgetting what life has to offer. Hey, pass it on.

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REALITY LIVED BY:

Design isn't rocket science and shouldn't be perceived as such. People will give you all the answers. Open your eyes and just ask.

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STREET CRED:

Xbox, Starbucks, Disney, Jerry Springer Show, Coke, Mabelline, Yoplait, Cranium, Studios USA/Universal, NBC, Microsoft, CampfireKids, Zales.

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CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Listening to a private lecture by a paleontologist when designing for Disney's “Dinosaur.”

Seeing packaging in The Disney Store with my name on it.

Seeing product in Starbuck's stores in Mexico, Vancouver and Florida that I had designed.

Receiving a personal request from the Senior Vice President at Harper Collins, New York, to revise 2 children's book submissions.

Having a kindergartner student I was tutoring go from crying over not understanding math, to kicking up her leg with excitement because she now “got it.”

