

# The idea of design.

Fredrik Averin,  
Design Director &  
Graphic Designer<sup>1</sup>

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## Profile

I've been fortunate to collaborate with some amazing creatives, agencies, and clients since graduating with my MFA in graphic design from Konstfack in Stockholm, Sweden. I've had the privilege of traveling the U.S. (and sometimes the world) to solve creative problems for Apple, GE, JBL, harman/kardon, Microsoft, and Seagate to name a few. I believe that active listening, good communication, and camaraderie are the main tools that foster a culture of positivity where both individuals and ideas can blossom.

I was born in Stockholm, Sweden, raised in Finland, Saudi Arabia, Argentina, Tunisia, and San Diego between the ages of 6–18, then went to college back in Sweden, and have now lived on the U.S. West Coast since 1998, and in Portland, Oregon since 2000.

I'm currently available to collaborate on high-quality design projects locally, nationally, internationally, or remotely. If you think we could make something great together, or simply want to talk about design,<sup>2</sup> please get in touch.

## Philosophy

Everything is designed, whether intentionally or not, and everyone responds to design in some way. But perhaps more importantly, the idea of design has context. It comes from a history and exists within a social, cultural, or business context. In a corporate identity, it can be the expression of an experience that sits within many experiences, some of which are competitive, some of which are supportive. In digital, it can be how an identity comes to life through user experience and interaction. In a book, it can be the expression of an idea with the author's or designer's intent in mind. The idea of design is a wonderfully complicated and nuanced notion.<sup>3</sup>

## Work experience

- All foundational principles and elements of identity design—logotypes, marks, color theory, typography, patterns, art direction, identity systems, and guidelines
- All communication extensions of design—websites, digital and traditional campaigns, interactive experiences, information graphics, collateral, packaging
- Leading rebranding efforts at all scales—from start-up and mid-size, to Fortune 500 companies
- Leading creative teams both on the agency and client side
- Leading projects directly with clients
- Joining agencies in a part-time capacity and adding value
- Brand strategy
- Naming
- All forms of creative problem solving

## Curriculum Vitae

December 2016–Present  
Design Director & Graphic Design Consultant  
Portland, OR, San Francisco, CA, Seattle, WA

May 2011–December 2016  
Lead Creative Director  
Razorfish / SapientRazorfish  
Portland, OR

August 2006–April 2011  
Design Director & Graphic Design Consultant  
Portland, OR

May 2004–July 2006  
Creative Director  
Avenue A / Razorfish  
Portland, OR

June 2001–April 2004  
Senior Art Director & Graphic Design Consultant  
Portland, OR

May 1999–October 2001  
Senior Art Director  
marchFIRST  
San Francisco, CA, Portland, OR

July 1998–May 1999  
Designer  
Landor Associates  
San Francisco, CA

June 1996–June 1998  
Assistant Art Director  
HLR / Drömfabriken BBDO  
Stockholm, Sweden

June 1995–May 1996  
Assistant Art Director  
Villmer Reklambyrå  
Stockholm, Sweden

## Education

August 1994–June 1998  
Master of Fine Arts (MFA) with a Focus on Graphic Design  
Konstfack—University College of Arts, Crafts, and Design  
Stockholm, Sweden

## Fluencies

English, Swedish, Spanish (just a bit rusty), MacBook Pro, Adobe CC design applications, Sketch, Figma, Microsoft Office, keyboard short-commands, fonts, proper typesetting and kerning, graphic design history, design books, and coffee.

1. Not sure who I'd be if I wasn't a designer.

2. I can talk about design all day long.

3. Thank you to all my mentors, colleagues, and clients who taught me so much over the years.