

A COPYWRITER'S PERSPECTIVE ON THE 2017 WEEKEND AIGA EVENT

What the hell is Design Camp?

Turns out it's something anyone who wants to be inspired by creative work can attend...

Especially if you like embracing your inner kid.

WHY?

Because you get to Day.

And have a good time with...

- Trivia
- Bonfires
- Karaoke
- Workshops where you draw, make or explore
- Alcohol!
- And, new friends

Since camp is all about inspiration, motivation and play. Really anyone is welcome... including people like me...

Yes, even copywriters!



So what did a copywriter take from it?

Well, let me show you.



I learned how to...

I. Stay focused & take informative notes that are actually a joy to review

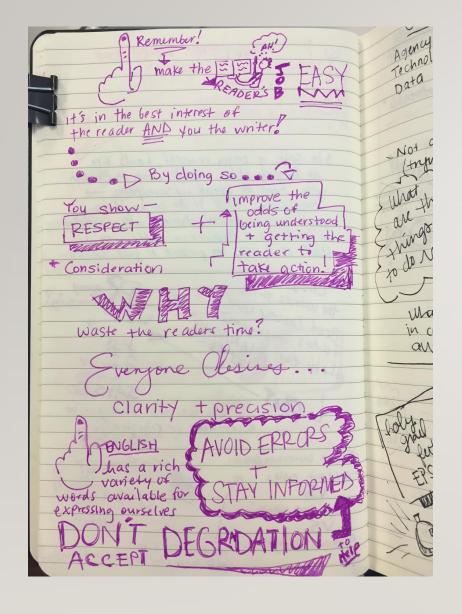
WORKSHOP I#SKETCHNOTING FOR EVERYDAY LIFE



BY: LISA TROUTMAN



Simplify your personal & professional lives by talking less & showing more



← Work in progressIcon discovery ↓





A much better example ↑

I also learned how to...

2. Challenge the presenter

WORKSHOP 2

COPYRIGHTS: REGISTRATION, OWNERSHIP & PROTECTION

PUBLIC DOMAIN, FAIR USE, INFRINGEMENT, ETC...



BY: COURTNEY THOMPSON



In-depth look at copyright laws & issues in the world of design and social media.

BUT I WAS REMINDED...

- You can be too rooted in your expertise to remove yourself and make sure your audience understands you or cares
- You can speak way too fast. It's better to speak slower and let the idea or suggestion really sink in and resonate with the audience.
- Examples speak WAY louder than words on a screen or reciting your law books.
- Make sure YOU are having fun with the presentation, so your audience stays engaged and you enjoy it more.

I also learned how to...

3. Just jump in & do!

WORKSHOP 3 10 LETTERPRESS ESSENTIALS

GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY



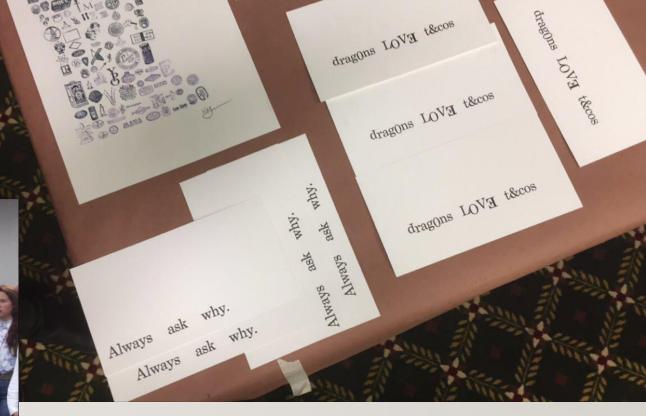
BY: JASON YOH & AUSTIN NASH



Make letterpress posters and coasters with a hands-on workshop.

Handcrafted prints \rightarrow Letterpress direction \downarrow





Imprinted with my very own muscles ↑



Also, I was inspired by speakers...

Tad Carpenter

Designer, Illustrator, author and educator



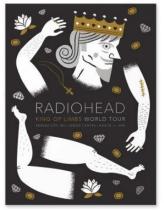








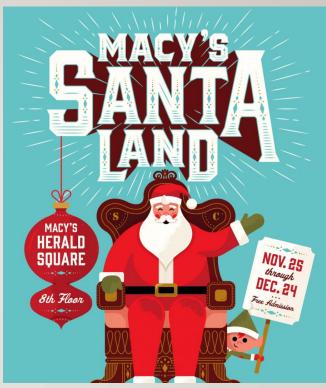














TAD CARPENTER GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Really long hashtags in the beginning of a presentation is not only humorous but an easy way to get people to tag you on social media
- Concept is king the design (or nitty gritty work) is secondary
- Make your presentations fun and attention grabbing by adding interactive moving photos/video/big & simple words on slides



TAD CARPENTER GOLDEN NUGGETS

- YOUR experiences shape who you are*
 own that. *We're all storytellers
- Always have a hero(s) to look up to
- Keep a Pinterest inspiration page
- To really thrive, you must continue to take risks
- Find enjoyment when you're happy you're going to do great work



TAD CARPENTER GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Check out Gordon Mackenszie's Orbiting the Giant Hairball
- Always take time to "play" / explore/ try new things (Sunday Suns)
- Find others who are just starting to fall in love with what already drives you to re-spark your own love for it



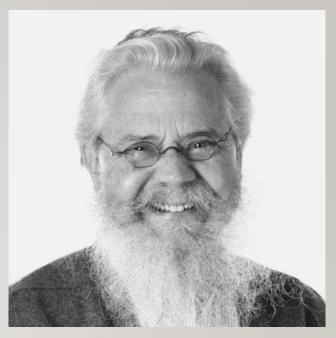
A **hairball** is an entangled pattern of behavior. It's bureaucracy, which doesn't allow much space for original thinking and creativity. It's the corporate tendency to rely on past policies, decisions, and processes as a formula for future success.

Gordon MacKenzie
Orbiting the Giant Hairball

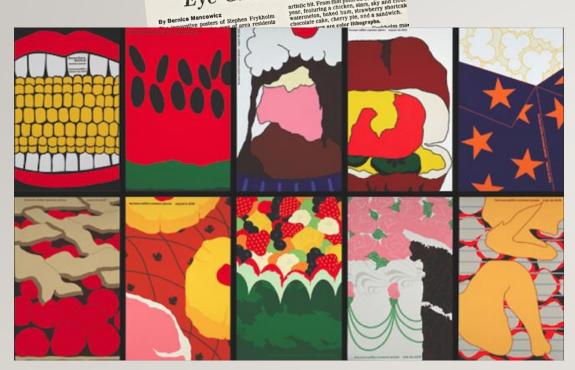
And, most inspired by...

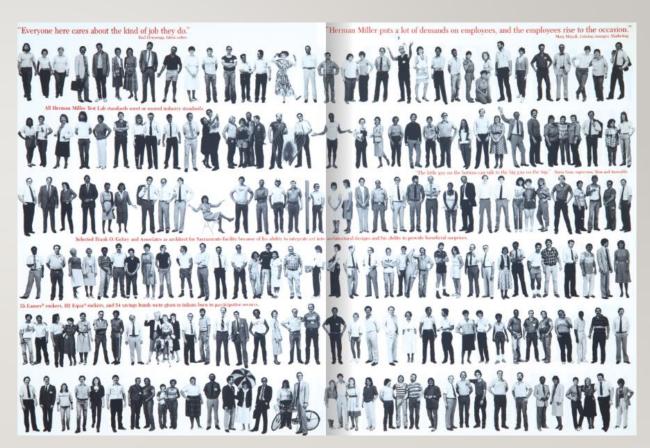
Steve Frykholm

Ist internal graphic designer at Herman Miller & AIGA Fellow & Medalist



Frykholm Excels in Making Eye-Catching Posters Eye-Catching Posters





- The odds are always in your favor with in anything you do.
- Never be afraid to ask for help
- Being less bad is not being good
- Guardian angels can save a good idea
- Put your work in a drawer 'cuz it always comes back



- Tell your client why you like your work
- Beware of the sea of sameness
- An expectation can be better than a design brief
- Vacations are great



- Be resilient to rejection
- Listen better
- Add distance to your work to better adjust to criticism (24 hour rule)
- Do things simply because you enjoy doing them
- Don't whine offer solutions



- Always ask why
- Measure your work document process
- Have a serious hobby
- Tell your story but give them a reason to listen, a life hack or something they can apply to their own life



AND LASTLY,

A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF...

- Effective communication via design & play.
- Those around me, including a few of my coworkers and a large community of designers.

