

KRISTEN PALANA

EMAIL: kpalana (at) hotmail.com

EDUCATION:

Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY. (Graduation with Distinction) MFA- Computer Graphics and Interactive Media 2002.

Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA. (Graduation with Distinction) BFA- Painting 1998.

EXPERIENCE:

2006-Present- **The American University of Rome**, Rome, Italy. Associate Professor of Communication. Currently teaching Web and Interactive Design, Video, Animation, Graphic Design, and Communication Studies. Students are BA candidates.

2002-2006- **William Paterson University**, Wayne, New Jersey. Assistant Professor of Digital Media. Taught Computer Graphics, Print, Interactive, and Multimedia courses. Students were BA, BFA, and MFA candidates.

Fall 2000 – 2001- **Pratt Institute**, Brooklyn and Manhattan campuses, NYC. NY. Visiting Instructor. Interactive Media Workshop 1. Taught two versions of this class to Pratt CGIM BFA candidates. Also taught PC Imaging with Photoshop and Illustrator to adult Professional Studies students.

1999- 2001- **Department of Digital Arts** (Formerly Computer Graphics and Interactive Media), Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY. Graduate Assistant/Lab Technician/Webmaster. Assisted the department Chairperson of DDA as well as the Senior Lab Manager. Also maintained, updated, and designed The CGIM website during Summer 2000.

Summer 2000- **Cross Cultural Solutions**. Rajgarh, India. Visiting Instructor. Taught over 60 non-English speaking students, ages 5-adulthood, mural painting and drawing at the Meyog Government and Dasson Public Schools in rural Himalayan villages.

FREELANCE:

Present- **Aura's House**. This website was founded in June 2004 and has raised over \$75,000 to date for impoverished families in developing countries. The site raises money for housing, health, and education projects for needy families in Central and South America, Asia, and Africa. Donations are 100% US. Tax Deductible. URL: <http://aurashouse.com>

2006- Present- **Rome Review** Participating in authoring pages, consulting work, and promotional work for the site as well as co-producing Podcasts with the site's founder, Timothy Allen. URL: <http://www.romereview.com>

2008- **United Nations LESA ROME**. Corporate Freelance Graphic Designer. Created the logo/corporate identity and slogan for the UN's Local Expatriate Spouse Association of Rome, Italy.

2008- **United Nations World Food Programme WingsII Website**. Created digital graphics for use on the WFP's internal WingsII website.

2003-2006- **The B-52's Official Website**. Redesigned pages, created Flash intros, created digital

graphics, updated content, and added streaming video. URL: <http://www.theb52s.com>

Summer- 2005- **Maua Hills Vocational Training Centre Website**, Tanzania. Taught at the Maua Hills Vocational Training Centre in the Kilimanjaro Region of Tanzania. Helped set up an art, music, and computer program to enable locals to learn marketable skills. Also aided the teachers in learning web design.

2001-2003 -**Lost City Arts**, NYC. NY. Redesigned, updated, and maintained the company's website in 2001. Remained through 2003 as web consultant.

2001- **Andrea Rose Fashions**, NYC. NY. Freelance. Created digital graphics for website.

2000- **Pixel Riot**. NYC. Freelance. Created under the Art Director, interactive presentations using Macromedia Director for Zurich Financial of Switzerland.

COMPUTER SKILLS:

Proficient in: Flash, Director, Fireworks, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, Quark, Microsoft Office Programs (Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, Excel), Adobe After Effects, Adobe Image Ready, Maya (3D modeling, rendering, and lighting), Fetch, SoundEdit, XHTML, CSS, Adobe GoLive, Dreamweaver, Digipaint Animation, Corel Painter, Final Cut Pro, Compressor, Cleaner, Peak, SoundForge, DVD Studio Pro, ProTools, Adobe Premier, Garage Band, Podcast Maker, and Quicktime VR Studio.

LANGUAGE SKILLS:

- Mother tongue English
- Semi fluency in Italian
- Working knowledge of German
- Basic working knowledge of Spanish
- Basic communication skills in: Hindi, Swahili, Portuguese, and French

SPECIAL INTERESTS:

Interests include creating art and media that have a positive social impact, travel, volunteer work, cultures, and learning languages.