SEBASTIAN BIRD

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WOMENSWEAR DESIGNER LONDON F20 1DL

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EMPLOYMENT

WHISTLES SOFT WOVENS DESIGNER NOV 2023 - PRESENT

Softs Designer with focus on owning and developing categories of casual dresses/jumpsuits/tops/skirts

- -Researching, designing, & speccing large monthly collections, bi-weekly fittings; working closely with Buying team with range building
- -Managing & guiding team assistant
- -Visiting suppliers in Turkey & China

-Sourcing fabrics & trims

NOV 2022 - SEPT 2023

SOFT WOVENS DESIGNER

- Temporary Contract; in Soft Wovens womenswear design team for SS23, AW23, SS24
 -Designing/draping for monthly drops following seasonal directions, presenting to Creative Director/Head of Buying/Head of Design
- -Working with in-house atelier & fabric development teams, closely working with Buying team
- -Fabric & vintage sourcing, sample photoshoots
- -Presenting to other departments seasonal trend & detail projections

ARCH4 MARCH 2022 - NOV 2022 FREELANCE DESIGNER

Luxury Cashmere knitwear brand in London

- -Working on menswear & womenswear; researching & designing for seasonal collections
- -Managing team assistant and interns
- -CAD artworks / trim developments / fittings / wholesale appointments / logo design / web design -Model casting / styling / photoshoot

MARCH 2021 - APRIL 2022 FREELANCE DESIGNER

- -Leading the design and brand aesthetic for a small start-up brand whose lead focus is sustainability.
 -Managing the design and development of the collections; Designing/fitting/researching seasonal collections.
- -Sourcing fabric and trims relevant to the brand's sustainable angle to meet MOQs.
- -Designing brand graphics, labels, packaging, website.
- -Sourcing factories, photographers, locations for ecom & lifestyle shoots.

JAN 2019 - AUG 2020 SENIOR WOMENSWEAR DESIGNER AMANDA WAKELEY

- -Designing 4 seasons per year, multi-product across tailoring, softs, jersey, and eveningwear.
- -Guiding Press through collections at London Fashion Week presentations. Attending brand events.
- -Planning and attending PV & London Textile Fair / Managing, developing, sourcing fabrics & hardware.
- -Researching, Designing & developing fabric and print artworks.
- -Managing interns & design studio assistants.
 -Working with in-house pattern cutters, machinists, technical team, weekly fittings.
- -Creating CADs and specs for pattern cutters & factories. Linesheet management.
- -Lookbook photoshoot model castings, pre-shoot styling sessions, post-shoot image edit directions.
- -Leading ecom photoshoots casting, styling, retouch notes, image selection, on-set direction.
- -Liaising with wholesale and merchandisers on collection development.
- -Store Managers Meetings to present new collections / train staff on collections & guide styling.

WOMENSWEAR CAD DESIGNER JUNE 2018 - JAN 2019

Maternity Cover; Working on Women's RTW CAD design, from Summer 2019-Winter 2019

- -Illustrating and technical drawings for Women's RTW.
 -Colouring up Riccardo Tisci's runway illustrations.
 -Trim design & development / Developing fabric & print artworks.

JAEGER JAN 2014 - JUNE 2018 WOMENSWEAR DESIGNER

- Reporting to Creative Director, working on seasons SS15-SS19.

 -Researching and designing mainline RTW and Press collections.

 -Working with Design and Buying teams across multi product, with focus on leading the tailoring.

 -Researching seasonal concepts, trends, brand's 130 year archive.

 -International research trips, vintage designer warehouses in Italy & NYC.

 -CAD drawings, spec sheets & handovers, visual linesheets,

- -Fabric & trim sourcing at Premiere Vision / MilanoUnica / London Textile Fair, & Italian mill visits.
- -Working with and managing in-house pattern cutters & sample room machinists. Bi-weekly fittings. -Visiting & fittings at European and UK manufacturers.
- -Attending concept and ecomm photoshoots and ad campaigns.

LAAIN AUG 2013 - APRIL 2018 FREELANCE DESIGNER

Reporting to Creative Director (High-end athleisure & sportwear label). -Pesigning, CADs, cost/spec sheets, other design work.
-Fabric & trim sourcing & development.

- -Designing company branding, logo, & labelling.

JUNE 2011 - JAN 2014 WOMENSWEAR DESIGN ASSISTANT

Reporting to Head of Design, working on seasons SS12 - SS14, starting position from an internship. -Assisting design for catwalk and commercial collections.

- -Backstage catwalk assistance & sourcing services for London Fashion Week.
- -Live-sketching fittings & looks during catwalk prep.
- -Fabric & trim sourcing at Premiere Vision / MilanoUnica / London Textile Fair.
- -Designing and developing trims with Italian manufacturers, concept & trend research.

EXPERIENCE

JUNE 2024 - PRESENT YODOMO MENTORING GRADUATE PROGRAMME SEPT 2012 - NOV 2012 FREELANCE EMBROIDERER ROKSANDA ROKSANDA MARCH 2012 - JULY 2012 INTERNSHIP LOU DALTON JAN 2012 - MARCH 2012 INTERNSHIP INTERNSHIP **GARETH PUGH** MAY 2011 - NOV 2011

EDUCATION

LONDON ACADEMY OF BESPOKE TAILORING 2018 SAVILE ROW TAILORING TUTORSHIP CENTRAL SAINT MARTINS 2014 FABRICS SHORT COURSE BIRMINGHAM CITY UNIVERSITY 2008-2011 WOMENSWEAR DESIGN 2:1 BA (HONS) WILTSHIRE COLLEGE 2007-2008 ART FOUNDATION

SKILLS

- -Highly dedicated to producing high-quality, considered pieces.
- -Particular strengths in tailoring & outerwear, but with much experience in softs, draping, leathers, stretch fabrics.
- -Skilled in Designing, Illustrating, Researching, Fitting, Concepts, Sourcing.
- -Proficient in Photoshop & Illustrator.
- -Meticulous & patient, whilst able to work to deadlines.