

# Thomas J. Dawson

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## CREATIVE DIRECTION and GRAPHIC DESIGN

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A multi-tasking, self-motivated, award-winning designer with proven management skills and extensive experience in graphic design, publication design, web design, exhibition design, advertising, corporate branding, production management, coordinating, scheduling, estimating, and budget preparation. I have developed design solutions locally, nationally, and internationally, taught at the university level, as well as managed the design department at one of the nation's largest cultural institutions.  
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## Key Skills Summary

**Publication and Book Design, Museum Publications, Logo and Brochure Development, Annual Reports, Web Design, Exhibit Design and Installations, Presentations, Project Management, Production Management, Corporate Branding, Estimations, Budget Control, Departmental Management, and Contract Negotiations**

## Selected Accomplishments

- Supervised a design department of six designers and production assistants at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, while keeping up morale and setting an example with hard work and dedication.
- Served as Design Manager/Museum Designer for the Kimbell Art Museum for more than 30 years.
- Designed and produced exhibition catalogues, architectural graphics, and other printed materials for institutions including: Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, Amon Carter Museum, Meadows Museum, Southern Methodist University Press, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Van Cliburn Foundation, Dallas Historical Society, Six Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, Trammell and Margaret Crow Museum of Asian Art, Dallas Museum of Art, Ocean Star Offshore Drilling Rig Museum and Education Center, American National Insurance Company, as well as numerous others.
- Functioned as Museum Liaison between Kimbell Art Museum and Italian Architect, Mario Bellini, during the redesign of the Museum's Buffet Restaurant.
- Designed new permanent collection object cases and pedestals for the Kimbell Art Museum, and served as design contact between the Museum and the fabricator, Glasbau-Hahn of Frankfurt, Germany.
- Worked as Creative Manager to maintain corporate branding standards for one of the country's largest life insurance companies and its subsidiaries, designed annual reports, as well as product, conference, and seminar materials.

- Produced award-winning publications for museums, publishers, and university presses, including both soft and hard cover designs, ranging from 60–600 pages, and supervised the production from page layout through printing, binding, and delivery.
- Worked through UNESCO to identify ways of improving productivity and aesthetic approach for The State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. Studied object labels and didactic materials hand-written in Russian and presented suggestions to the design department, director, and senior staff. Trained the design department in computer design and production of multi-lingual labels.
- Participated in design and installation of exhibitions at the Kimbell Art Museum for over seventeen years, working closely with directors, curators, outside designers, and fabricators to deliver a world-class atmosphere for viewing of art. Designed and produced all advertising and marketing materials, print and exhibition graphics, way-finding graphics, as well as outdoor advertising for the exhibitions.
- Coordinated and supervised the development of Web sites for numerous cultural institutions, and designed templates provided to developers utilized in coding and launching the sites.
- Developed and managed budgets exceeding \$400,000 to produce award-winning graphic designs, publication designs, display cases, and architectural graphics for many non-profit institution.
- Created a corporate identity for The Trammel and Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art, as well as developed and architectural graphics package and printed collateral pieces for the Museum's opening in the late 90s.

## Professional Experience

### **American National Insurance Company**

Galveston, Texas

2013 to Present

*Creative Manager*

### **Kimbell Art Museum**

Fort Worth, Texas

2010 to 2013

*Museum Designer*

### **Tom Dawson Graphic Design**

Galveston, Texas

2013 to present

*Freelance Designer*

### **American National Insurance Company**

Galveston, Texas

December 2007 to 2010

*Graphic Designer*

### **Kimbell Art Museum**

Fort Worth, Texas

2002 to 2007

*Design Manager/Museum Designer*

### **Los Angeles County Museum of Art**

Los Angeles, California

June to December 2002

*Director of Graphic Design*

### **Kimbell Art Museum**

Fort Worth, Texas

1997 to 2002

*Design Manager*

### **Tom Dawson Graphic Design**

Dallas, Texas

1993 to 1997

*Freelance Designer*

### **DUO Design Group**

Fort Worth, Texas

1989 to 1993

*Partner, President and Designer*

### **Kimbell Art Museum**

Fort Worth, Texas

1986 to 1989

*Museum Designer*

### **Tom Dawson Graphic Design**

Fort Worth, Texas

1983 to 1986

*Freelance Designer*

### **Witherspoon & Associates**

Fort Worth, Texas

1979 to 1983

*Senior Art Director*

## Education

### **Texas Christian University**

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Commercial Art

## Computer Experience

Mac and PC platforms, InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Muse, Unbounce, QuarkXpress, MS Office Suite, LiveCycle, and Orbis/Infor, as well as various browsers and the Distribution Platform.

## References

Available upon request