

# RITA C. MANNA

DESIGNER & LIFE ENTHUSIAST!

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## EXPERIENCE

OWNER, GARDENER, LANDSCAPE DESIGNER

### REET'S GARDEN & DESIGN, LLC - AVON, CO

Owner of a small gardening and landscaping outfit that creates and installs custom xeriscape and waterwise landscapes. I pride myself with the ability to create and maintain positive relationships with my clients and coworkers while guaranteeing my work with the highest of standards. I design all landscapes, all marketing materials, do payroll, taxes, schedules and all other organization related tasks to keep the business running smoothly. I am also in the field daily tending to my clients gardens, wants and needs. Its a busy life, but I love it!

FREELANCE ARTIST 01.2002- 04.2006 / 10.2007 - CURRENT

### DESIGN AND ART DIRECTION - BROOKLYN, NY / VAIL, CO / RIDGEFIELD, CT / SLC, UT

Rebranding and website design for Computer SI Corporation in Norwalk, CT; Freelance designer for Columbia University and various departments within the University of Connecticut; print advertising for the World AIDS Foundation; Art Director for the non-profit organization The Clyde Fund; print work for Beaver Creek Resort, the Steadman Hawkins clinic, and Johnny's Garden center in Vail, CO; Custom Pattern Designs for We R Memory Keepers, T-Shirt and product graphic illustrations for Black Diamond in Salt Lake City, UT; production for RES magazine with EAD-NYC; design assistant to fine artist adam Pendelton; art Director of the independent film The Great American Rat Race; public mural paintings, print design, and logos for the town of ridgefield, CT; and the list goes on from there...

GRAPHIC DESIGNER / MARKETING ASSISTANT 08.2006 - 09.2007

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE - GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, GERMANY

The Edelweiss Lodge and Resort, owned by the DOD, provides a safe location for active duty military personnel to get some much needed rest and relaxation from the wars in Iraq and Afganastan. For the resort, I introduced new typographic and visual standards; organized all internal advertising; created printed promotional materials; art direction for video commercial advertisements; managed website; dealt with corporate relations; internal and external vendors; attended trade show events; and conducted studio management.

ART DIRECTOR / SENIOR EDITOR 11.2008 - 04.2010

### SHRED BETTIES MAGAZINE- ASPEN, CO

Shred Betties is a small womens snowboarding magazine that is heavily involved in the promotion of young women in the snowboarding industry. As an advocate for womens rights and encourage women in sports, I not only recreated a visual identity package for the organization, but I over-saw a group of design interns, wrote weekly articles for the magazine, assist in event organization, organize photo-shoots, and over-saw various internal affairs.

ART DIRECTOR- 11.2010 - CURRENT

### VAIL VALLEY PRINTING & GRAPHICS - AVON, CO

Servicing the Vail Valley for 25 years, this well established print shop has a laundry list of clientele ranging from the Vail Valley Medical Center to your next-door neighbor. As the primary graphic designer, I conduct meeting with the clients to ensure that they receive all of the proper artwork before their order goes to press. I also conduct meetings, deliveries, and create custom artwork.

## EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS 2001- 2005

### UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Concentration in Communication Design, Minor in Art History, Extensive Study in Nutrition

## SKILLS

### OUTDOOR

Expert Snowboarder; Expert Swimmer; Knowledgeed Camper, Backpacker, Hiker, Biker and River Rafter; Extensive Experience in Horsemanship, Animal Care and Stable Management; Extensive Gardening Experience; Knowledgeed in Native Western and Alpine Plants.

### PERSON-TO-PERSON

Extensive Customer Service and Managerial Experience; Extensive Water Safety Experience and Safety Instruction; Childhood Safety and Care; Some Teaching Experience; Well Traveled and Easily Acclimated to Living in Alternative/ Foreign Cultural Environments.

### COMPUTER

Mac OSX 10, Windows Systems. Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, Dreamweaver, Fireworks. Microsoft Powerpoint, Word, Excel. Html/ CSS Coding Experience.

### ARTISTIC CRAFT

Illustration, Painting, Charcoal Drawing, Hand knits, Model Making, Creative Thinking.