

CURT FITZPATRICK

UI/UX • DESIGN • CONSULTANT

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LIFE & WORK

The bulk of my professional life has always been about being indispensable.

Growing up working construction, the differentiator between getting the call in the morning or staying at home always hinged on what you did the day before. When a day's work really matters, making an impact is just about the only thing you can do to build a case to get the call. I embraced an approach to working where the task at hand was all that mattered. Execute that task well and it would stand self-evident you could handle your next.

It's well over 20 years since those days, but the remnants of that daily urgency are still what drive me. Be professional, competent, and essential to those you work with.

SOFTWARE EXPERIENCE

Figma Proficient • 5 years

Sketch Advanced • 10 years

Axure RP Advanced • 10 years

Adobe Illustrator Expert • 20 years

Adobe Photoshop Expert • 20 years

ChatGPT Novice • 2 years

PROFICIENCIES

Visual Design Expert • 20 years

Prototyping Advanced • 15 years

Whiteboarding Advanced • 10 years

Agile Processes Proficient • 5 years

Journey Mapping Advanced • 10 years

System Mapping Advanced • 10 years

WORK HISTORY

Senior UI / UX Designer

OneMain Financial 2017-2024

Primary creative for the loan acquisitions funnel. Aided in conception and design of loan application processes and variations, as well as customer facing landing pages. Secondary duties included assisting the various transition efforts and rebranding needed post merger. Creating design systems in Sketch, as well as leading visual and UX updates to the legacy underwriting platform CLASS. The contributions I enjoyed the most were assisting fellow team members with their tasks using the skill sets at my disposal.

Accomplishments of note:

- Created a verbose component based design system in Sketch
- Assisted in converting that Sketch design system to Figma
- Converted the one page loan application to a multi-page dynamic wizard
- Various prototyping and user testing efforts as well as systems / user mapping

Head of UI / UX - Product Design

iLoan (by Sprinleaf Financial) 2014-2017

Principal design author of the customer facing website, and associated underwriting platform software known as Monocle. Created branding, design system, and assisted in information architecture work. Built and tested high fidelity interactive prototypes of the Monocle platform and customer facing screens for user testing purposes using Axure RP. I feel the systems and practices I developed during this project made it possible for us to build a lending company from scratch in a little over a year. Our loan portfolio was approximately 20 million dollars after only 6 months post licensing, when the merger of our parent company deprioritized our efforts in 2017.

Accomplishments of note:

- Extensive involvement in all aspects of the lending domain
- Start to finish creation of both the lending software and a customer portal
- Development and maintenance of design systems for both
- An appreciation for the legal and legislative frameworks in lending

Owner / Operator

ChuisArts 1997-2014

My contracting business that I built up for close to 20 years. Clients from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies. I offered my clients everything from simple graphics and design systems, to full scale plug and play marketing schemes. UI / UX, branding, copy, concepts, and occasionally logistical help such as working with developers or printers in their stead. The majority of the business I had was through word of mouth, recommendations from prior companies. I never had an unsatisfied client, and that is to me the best illustration of the value I provided.

Accomplishments of note:

- The sole creative presence at the start of over 100 companies
- Solving seemingly intractable problems for massive corporations
- Developing relationships with clients, many of which I still have today
- Knowing the way broadly, and helping my clients succeed

EDUCATION

Western Michigan University 2005-2008

Since my education never lead to a degree, I feel it has little relevance to my abilities. However I understand the need to declare it as a caveat to my potential employment. I began attending WMU once I had the finances to do so, with the goal of achieving a BFA in Graphic Design. Since I already had a career that I enjoyed, it was in many ways a gift to my vanity. I wanted to have validation, and an endorsement for the skills I possessed in my chosen field. Ultimately the financial burden of having both at the same time forced me to choose, and I have never had cause to regret the decision. I did volunteer for a student-led nationwide organization while I was there, and it had a great impact on my life moving forward.

Accomplishments of note

- Foundational arts curriculum
- Swiss school design education
- Exposure to academia and its benefits
- Volunteering for STAND

IN CLOSING

I feel like building things again.

I stayed too long in my last role and got comfortable, or worse complacent. I avoided leadership positions because I always felt that I provided more value as an instrumental boots-on-the-ground worker, as opposed to a leader. It felt good to just be the guy people could count on to get something done.

At the end of the day it was a selfish personal choice, and it made sense over time that the company would eliminate my position. I have taken some time to think through what it was that originally drew me away from being a consultant / contractor. At iLoan we were building a system that was incredibly complicated, and a lot was asked of me above and beyond my comfort zone. It was that initial year or so that gave me the high I was chasing for most of my time at OneMain. But eventually I forgot my first rule; *Be indispensable.*

I believe I need a new challenge. Maybe I will find that at your company.

REFERENCES

Erik Peterson

Consultant / Investor formerly Dir. of Software • iLoan / OneMain Financial

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Erik is the main reason I first came to Chicago. He is one of those freakishly talented polymaths that one runs into in the tech world. I didn't get to work directly with him as much as I would have liked, but he has known me for many, many years personally and professionally. He is a good source for not only what my strengths are, but a frank assessor of my weaknesses.

Matthew Butterworth

Associate Director UX • OneMain Financial

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Matt was my last manager at OneMain Financial. If anyone has a solid handle on where my skills are at, and what I am like on a daily basis as an employee he would. We worked together for a few years and he was always an honest broker when it came to priorities and expectations.

Andrew Wier

Technical Product Director • OneMain Financial

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Andrew worked with me at OneMain, and he and I had a few solid victories towards the end of my employment there. I always had a good time working with him, and he is the type of person I gravitate towards in a working environment. If he sounds and feels like the people you employ, I am probably going to really like your company.

Mei Markle

UX Designer • OneMain Financial

☎ 313.878.3963 @ meixdesign@gmail.com

I worked daily with Mei at OneMain, and she was always a source of new knowledge for me. Often as one gets older we become inflexible and lose our curiosity for the work. Mei consistently introduced me to new concepts and helped me rekindle an interest in design again. If you wish to know more about my ability to learn, talk to Mei.

Drew Bell

Retail and Marketing • Bell's Brewery

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Drew and I have been friends for about 20 years. He has served as the nuts-and-bolts practical side of my brain for a majority of that time. He would be a good person to speak to about my loyalty, and my ability to think on my feet. If anyone would know my strengths and weaknesses as a person it would be Drew.