



simon rankin

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Profile

I am a graphic and multimedia artist. I'm passionate about art and design and have a keen interest in training and education. I've worked freelance for cultural and commercial clients to produce video artwork and editing, DVD and Blu-ray menus, animation and motion graphics. I've worked at The Age newspaper, creating information graphics and illustrations. I'm currently the Graphics Editor at *The Age Online* and studying for the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

Education

Currently undertaking **Certificate IV in Training and Assessment** - Kangan Institute
Advanced Diploma in Electronic Design and Interactive Media - RMIT, 2000-2001
Bachelor of Fine Art (Painting) - Victorian College of the Arts, 1994-1996
Advanced Certificate of Art and Design - RMIT, 1992-1993
Victorian Certificate of Education - Princes Hill Secondary College, 1991

Work Experience

National Graphics Editor – Fairfax Online News Mastheads, Melbourne March 2009 – Present

theage.com.au, smh.com.au, watoday.com.au, brisbanetimes.com.au are some of Australia's most visited news websites. I'm responsible for delivering graphics and visuals for publishing across this network. I support fast paced newsrooms with continuous deadlines, I have become accustomed to delivering work under pressure, and have developed keen news sense and an understanding of news audiences. I'm also responsible for producing online news features, notably, *Pheasant Wood*, *The lost diggers of Fromelles*, which is a finalist in the 2010 Walkley Awards for excellence in journalism.

As part of my role I am responsible for the overall quality of editorial graphics. In an effort to lift the standard of graphics made by Fairfax online producers, I lead a national training program to develop Photoshops and imaging skills.

Graphic Artist - The Age Newspaper, Melbourne June 2004 – March 2009

Working as part of a team of graphic artists, I used desktop publishing software to create information graphics such as news break-out panels, graphs, maps, illustrations and interactive graphics for publication in The Age newspaper and *The Age* online. In July 2007, I initiated *The Age - animated cartoon* website and vodcast, animating works from leading Age cartoonists including John Spooner and Andrew Dyson.

Interface Designer - Buffdubs DVD Authoring and Encoding, Sydney June 2004 – March 2009

Working with Photoshop and After Effects, I created animated menus for the release of feature films on DVD for various distributors including Icon Entertainment, Siren Entertainment, Sony Pictures and 21st Century Pictures. At the end of 2008 I was one of few artists in Australia designing interfaces for the new Blu-ray medium.

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Freelance Graphic and Multimedia Designer**July 2001 – Present**

I have worked extensively as a freelance designer creating graphic design and multimedia projects for various organisations including Melbourne Museum, Immigration Museum, ABC Online, SBS new media, North Melbourne Football Club, Jesuit Social Services, Australian Education Union, Industri Communications and William Adams CAT.

Graphic and Multimedia Designer - Think Productions, Melbourne**July 2001 – June 2004**

I worked full time designing and delivering a diverse range of client projects, including multimedia and print works, at this small design agency. The role provided me with three years of professional industry experience in meeting the demands of commercial graphic design.

Career and Experience Highlights**Designer and Producer, *The Age Online* – 2010**

Pheasant Wood, The lost diggers of Fromelles was selected as a finalist in the 2010 Walkley Awards for excellence in journalism.

Trainer, Fairfax – 2009-2010

Wrote and delivered a training course to improve the imaging skills of online news producers. Covering intermediate to advanced imaging concepts and software utilisation. This included ongoing assessment of students capabilities via set weekly tasks.

Animation producer, *The Age Online* – 2007-2008

Initiated *The Age - animated cartoon* website and vodcast, animating works from leading *Age* cartoonists including John Spooner and Andrew Dyson.

Trainer, RMIT – 2005

Wrote and delivered a short course, *Digital Fine Art Imaging*. Covering basic to intermediate imaging concepts for artist incorporating computers into their art practice.

Animation Producer, SBS New Media and Film Victoria – 2005

I was selected to create an animation for the SBS New Media project 'World Tales'. The project involved developing, storyboarding, designing, editing and budgeting an animation for online and television.

Animator - ABC New Media and Film Victoria – 2004

I worked as part of a team to produce an animated music video for the 4 Minute Wonders Project. This included concept development, character design, animation and interactive design.

Referees

Professional referees can be provided upon request.