

GIGI POLO LAB

707 Fairmount Avenue, Chatham, NJ 07928
347-228-1847 | gigipololab@gmail.com

PhD, Practice-Based Research (projected, 2029) >>
RMIT University - Melbourne, Australia

Certificate, Design Futures (projected, 2026) >>
Parsons, The New School for Design - New York

Certificate, Business Design for Social Impact (2020) >>
Parsons, The New School for Design - New York

MA, TESOL (2018) >>
The New School for Social Engagement - New York

MA, Design Studies (2014) >>
Parsons, The New School for Design - New York

MA, Media Studies (2011) >>
The New School for General Studies - New York

BFA, Communication Design (2005) >>
Parsons, The New School for Design - New York

AAS, Communication Design (2003) >>
Altos de Chavón School of Design - Dominican Republic

Multidisciplinary designer, educator, and researcher with 20+ years of experience in visual communication, design pedagogy, and inclusive systems practice. My work bridges art, design, and social impact through student-centered instruction, neurodiversity research, and equity-driven creative strategies. I lead Gigi Polo Lab, teach part-time at Parsons School of Design, and pursue a practice-based, design-led inquiry PhD focused on sustainable, brain-based learning in built environments for neurodiverse learners.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Design Tools: Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere, Audition, Acrobat, Procreate, WordPress)

Expertise: Branding strategy, Visual identity, Creative & Art direction, Editorial design, Packaging, Social Media strategy, Film production, Storytelling, Copy Editor, Content Strategist

Platforms: Mac/PC, Microsoft 365, Miro, Basecamp, Teams

Pedagogy: Brain-based/Project-based learning, DEI, Language justice, Compressed learning models, Curriculum Development, Multi-modal teaching

Languages: Fluent in Spanish

DESIGN LEADERSHIP (Full-Time)

Design Director

Dauphin | May 2021-August 2023

- Led marketing and design services departments for high-end corporate German furniture manufacturer.
- Developed systems and platforms for internal and out-facing support.
- Developed social responsibility and sustainability programs and partnerships.
- Designed Tradeshow marketing materials, space design, and showroom seasonal redesign

Art Director / Lead Designer

Maurice Villency | Jan.-Dec. 2006

- Directed brand Identity, visual strategy, and special programs for luxury Italian furniture brand in NYC.
- Built and managed design teams.
- Designed website
- Managed design and production of ad campaigns and editorial pieces for newspapers and magazines.

RECOGNITIONS & GRANTS

↳ Madly Gifted documentary adopted as medical education content by UTMB Psychiatry Clerkship (2022)

↳ Second Language Through Design[ing], book authorship, supported by The New School University Innovation in Education Fund (2017)

See the world
every day
anew.



www.linkedin.com/in/gigipolo

Gigi Polo Lab.

TEACHING & ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Part-Time Associate Teaching Professor - Design Theory & Practice.

Parsons, The New School for Design -
New York, NY | 2006-Present

Teach interdisciplinary design courses through critical theory and visual culture.

Present global research via Osmotic Bubble, exploring neurodiverse education.

Author Second Language Through Design[ing] reference book, advancing DEI and language justice in studio classrooms.

PhD Researcher -

The Neuropsychology of Design Education

Investigate mutualistic learning environments for neurodivergent and neurotypical learners.

Integrate spatial design, interior design, emerging technologies, and adaptive pacing into pedagogical frameworks in built leaning environments.

Develop inclusive, multisensory learning environments grounded in neuroscience.

Present research in conferences presentations, workshops, and trainings, globally.

Conference Speaker/Researcher

- Neurodiverse Leaning Spaces
Nineteenth International Conference on Design Principles & Practices, Lasalle College of Arts, Singapore, September 26, 2024. TCGScholar, The Image Conference, Paris, France, September 2025
- Neurodiversity in Design, and Life (workshop).
Digitally Engaged Learning (DEL), Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA), Singapore, September 26, 2024 /AIGA Weaves, Normal, IL, March 2025
- Sprint to Pacing: 4-year Intensive Curriculum.
Eighteenth International Conference on Design Principles & Practices, Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain, March 12, 2024 /3er Foro Iberoamericano de Diseño, Madrid, Spain, November 2025

CONSULTING (Independent)

Creative Director / Lead Designer

Brand Development & Implementation /
Marketing Strategy & Management

- Sequoia Flooring (2024-present)
- Local Parti Architects (2023-Present)
- Zandur Sustainable Flooring (2024-2025)
- Charlotte Symone (2023-2025)
- Durato Flooring USA (2023-2025)
- NuWud / Nu Solutions Group (2020-2022)
- Dr. Lluberres, Forensic Psychiatrist (2019)

Space Design

- Dauphin Showroom - NeoCon, Chicago (2022 & 2023)
- Durato Booth - Hospitality Design Expo, Las Vegas (2023-2024)

Web & Social Strategy

Web Design/ Social Media Strategy & Management

Local Parti Architects, Roosters Coffeehouse, Shehadi Flooring, Pure Napkin RD.

Editorial Design

Monthly ad campaigns: Durato Flooring, NuWud, Dauphin | **Publications: Hospitality Design Magazine, Interior Design Magazine, Metropolis Magazine, BDNY Show Guide**

Art & Photo Direction

Local Parti Architects, Durato Flooring USA, Dauphin HumanDesign™ Group, NuWud.

Photoshoots concept development and and direction
Digital graphics and image editing for multiple product and brand campaigns.

AFFILIATIONS

- ↪ VP Communications, Foundations in Art Org. [FATE]
- ↪ Member, Type Directors Club
- ↪ Member, AIGA