

DONALD M. THOMPSON

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DESIGNER - PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT - PRODUCTION WOVENS, KNITS, DENIM, & LEATHER

Multi-dimensional Apparel Industry professional with demonstrated ability to drive revenue and profit growth across multiple styles and classifications, including designer, contemporary and urban menswear. Perceptive in identifying and capitalizing on emerging trends and niche market opportunities. Skilled in taking products from concept through domestic and overseas production with start-up and existing collections. Demonstrate broad-based strengths and accomplishments in:

Fabric & Trim Sourcing
Sample Development
Patternmaking
Project management

Costing & Pricing
Trend Forecasting
Account Management
Budget Administration

Staff Management
Quality Control
Fit, Color, & Strike-off Approvals
New Business Development

EXPERIENCE

PRODUCTION MANAGER/PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

2003 - Present

d. ROMERO MENSWEAR - Designer collection of woven tops, bottoms, jackets, outerwear, knits, underwear, and accessories. Sold through better department stores and boutiques (Saks 5th Ave, Atrium NYC, Mac San Francisco, etc.).

- Reporting directly to designer, oversaw all phases of product development from concept through production.
- Sourced fabric, trim, and domestic and overseas contractors; cost all products; negotiated and placed production; communicated daily with domestic and overseas manufacturers (Hong Kong, Italy, France); monitor quality.
- Scheduled production and coordinated all international and domestic shipping; work directly with customs broker.
- Managed accounts, ensured delivery and quality of product.
- Developed spec and technical design workbook; maintain spec sheets and sample library.
- Researched and planned implementation of new UPC/EDI systems.
- Troubleshoot design and production issues to ensure delivery timelines were met.
- Collaborated with PR/marketing team to produce and track photo ready products.
- Manage production team of four freelance patternmakers and 5 sample sewers.
- Directed Fall 2004 fashion show attended by 700 persons.
- Developed and implemented ticketing, labeling, and pack/fold guidelines.

BUYER/MERCHANDISER/OPERATIONS, CO-OWNER

2000 - 2003

THE FUNKYARD BOUTIQUE - Women's and men's sportswear/designer collections, jewelry, accessories and home furnishings.

- Designed and laid out interior, including fixtures, display systems and visuals.
- Lead Buyer for all apparel and accessories; featured over 20 designers/collections.
- Managed and scheduled shipping, receiving and inventory.
- Negotiated and secured lines of credit.
- Developed and executed all advertising and promotional strategies.

DESIGNER

2000-2003

SWAMP MENSWEAR - Sportswear/Designer Collection for urban males 25-40; vertical operation (retail and wholesale)

- Designed, merchandised and sold better collection of woven, denim, and leather tops and bottoms, jackets.
- Sourced fabric and trim; created first patterns.
- Supervised two sample makers and domestic contractors; ran fit sessions; made corrections.
- Developed boutique and private clientele in San Francisco Bay Area.

RESIDENT COSTUME DESIGNER

BERKELEY OPERA

1999 - 2001

- Managed and oversaw costume design for over 50 cast members (Men. Women. Children).
- Ran fit sessions, made adjustments.
- Managed budgets; consistently completed wardrobe/design projects on time and on budget.
- Created storyboards; presented to Musical Director, Producer, Artistic Director, Set & Lighting Designers.

EXPERIENCE continued

COSTUME DESIGNER

1998 - 1999

SAN FRANCISCO SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

- Managed and supervised design and production of period costumes for numerous theatrical productions, featuring low income and at risk youths.
- Taught costume development workshops to children aged 6 to 18.

FIRST PATTERNMAKER/CUTTER

1996-1998

LABYRINTH PHASSIONS - Women/Men's Better Designer Apparel (Tops, bottoms, dress). Sold Internationally.

- Created first patterns from designer sketches; oversaw fittings and pattern corrections; cut fabric for samples.
- Ordered fabric for sample garments.
- Worked directly with private clients for fittings.

FREELANCE EXPERIENCE

ASSISTANT PHOTO STYLIST / TAILOR

2000 - 2003

ARTISTS UN-TIED AGENCY - Full service agency for film, print, and commercial films

- Assist in styling photo shoots (still and video) for apparel companies and retailers, including private clients, GAP, Gap Kids, Levis, Millers Outpost, and Anchor Blue.
- Maintain communication with agency management; submit invoices.
- Organize and track merchandise, adhere to timely shoot schedules
- Style and fit models, prepare garments to be photo ready for both print and web.

FREELANCE COSTUME DESIGNER

1997 - 2000

- Designed costumes for over 30 theatrical, opera, and dance productions, producing a wide range of styles for men, women's, and children's apparel.
- Trained and supervised wardrobe staff of up to six persons.
- Rent, purchase, and create various costumes and accessories.
- Administer budgets.

EDUCATION

BAUDER DESIGN COLLEGE, Atlanta, GA

AA, Fashion Design

Internship: Charlotte Neuville New York, NY

COMPUTER SKILLS

MS Word, MS Outlook, MS Excel, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Acrobat, Micrografix Draw

