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# Michael Zhang

Illustration  
Art Direction  
Background Paint  
Visual Development  
Graphic Design

michael.bh.zhang@gmail.com  
michaelzhangdesign.com

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## Education

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design,  
May 2014

### Additional Education:

Color & Light with Kat Tsai  
Environmental Painting with Kalen Chock  
2D Sequence Illustration with Patrick O'Keefe

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## Skills

### Software

Adobe Illustrator, Indesign, Photoshop,  
After Effects, Animate, Premiere Pro, Sketch,  
Figma, InVision, Procreate

### Services

Illustration, art direction, concept art, visual  
development, background design and  
background paint for animation, branding,  
editorial and layout design, typesetting

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## Recognition

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|------|---|
| 2022 | <i>The Boys Presents: Diabolical</i><br>nominated for Emmy for Outstanding<br>Short Form Animated Program       |
| 2018 | 54th Chicago International Film<br>Festival Poster Design<br><br>STA100 for Paul Rand: Art of Design<br>Catalog |
| 2017 | Cannes Lions Shortlist<br><br>Clios Shortlist<br><br>D&AD Wood Pencil<br><br>International ANDY Award Silver    |
| 2016 | Exhibited at Typeforce 7  |
| 2015 | Cannes Young Lions Competition<br>3rd place in film category  |

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## Experience

### Titmouse Inc. Animation Studios

*Design Supervisor on Disney Jr's Pupstruction*  
September 2021–July 2022 | Full-Time

I supervised a team of painters, prop designers, and production  
designers to create a variety of assets. I worked closely with the  
director, show creator and supervising director to guide the visual  
direction of the show and oversaw the production of 3D designs.

*Background Painter on The Boys Presents: Diabolical*  
May–July 2021 | Full-Time

I painted backgrounds for two separate episodes utilizing very different  
painting styles and color palettes.

### Netflix Animation

*Background Painter on Captain Fall*  
September 2021 | Contract

I painted dozens of background layouts and color thumbnails in the  
show's unique style and color palette.

### Freelance Designer, Illustrator

January 2018–present

I worked on a variety of projects, including short animations for the  
R&B artist Pink Sweat\$, the artwork for a tabletop strategy game, and  
numerous illustrations for both personal and commercial clients.

### Shillington School of Graphic Design

*Graphic Design Teacher January 2019–December 2021 | Part-time*

I taught a rigorous nine-month program that provided students with a  
comprehensive graphic design education and a professional portfolio.  
Many students have gone on to have successful design careers.

### Google

*Visual Designer July 2019–September 2020 | Contract*

I produced illustrations for Google's Mastery Team in their unique brand  
style that accompanied online learning programs for their clients and  
sellers. Some work can be found at [skillshop.withgoogle.com](https://skillshop.withgoogle.com)

### Wright Auction

*Graphic Designer June 2016–December 2018*

I designed and typeset auction catalogs, produced graphics for the  
website and advertisements. I also wireframed and designed UI/UX  
features for the website [wright20.com](https://wright20.com)

### Ogilvy & Mather 485

*Graphic Designer June 2014–June 2016*

I produced visual identities and graphics for multi-channel ad  
campaigns. Clients included Pinnacle Vodka, Corona Light, Modelo  
Especial, Huggies, Mrs. Meyers, Glade, Tyson Foods, Jimmy Dean  
Sausage, UPS, CDW, AIGA Chicago and Steppenwolf Theater.