## GRAPHIC DESIGNERS' QUESTIONNAIRE 1992

Martha Scotford
Please answer all the questions. Mark one answer unless requested otherwise.
A few questions may not apply to you. Write 'NA' for those.
Comments about the questionnaire itself are appreciated. Write these at the end.

## Educational experience

1-Undergraduate degree(s) ()BA ()BFA ()BS ()B Arch ()other a-school $\qquad$
2-Undergraduate major(s) ()design ()art ()architecture ()humanities ()social sciences ()science ()other $\qquad$
3-Graduate degree(s) ()MFA ()MA ()PhD ()other a-field(s) ()graphic design ()industrial design ()art ()art history ()ther $\qquad$ b-school $\qquad$
4-Think back over the period of your design education (undergraduate and graduate). What would you say now made the difference in motivating your interest and success in design.

|  | most important | important | not important |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | () | () |  |
| a-a female teacher | () | () | () |
| b-a male teacher | () | () | () |
| c-a design presentation | () | () | () |
| d-a design course | () | () | () |
| e-a design book | () | () | () |

5-Choose the most important of these and describe why this was important to you.

6-Have you had the help of someone you would call a 'mentor' (that is, someone who took special interest in
helping you by sharing his/her greater experience) ()yes ()no
a-IF YES, was the person ()male ()female
b-Where ()high school ()college ()grad school ()work ()other
c-For how long () 0 -1 year ()2-4 years () longoing
d-How was this help useful ()educational advice ()specific work ()contacts ()first or next job
()broader experience
e-How was this help problemmatic ()limiting ()hard to break away ()other $\qquad$
7-Are you aware of a bias in your education or experiences while in undergraduate school ()yes ()no IF YES, such as:
a-you were discouraged from specific courses ()yes ()no b-you were discouraged from specific major field c-your work was demeaned or not taken seriously
()yes ()no
()yes ()no d-special opportunities were not offered to you
()yes ()no e-you received unwanted persona//sexual attention
()yes ()no f-other $\qquad$ ()yes ()no g -Do you think this bias was based primarily on ()gender ()race ()class ()age ()sexual orientation ()other $\qquad$
8-Are you aware of a bias in your education or experiences while in graduate school ()yes ()no IF YES, such as:
a-you were discouraged from specific courses b-you were discouraged from specific major field c-your work was demeaned or not taken seriously d-special opportunities not offered to you e-you received unwanted personal/sexual attention

| ()yes | ()no |
| :--- | :--- |
| ()yes | ()no |
| ()yes | ()no |
| ()yes | ()no |
| ()yes | ()no |

question continues
f-other $\qquad$ ()yes ()no
g-Do you think this was based primarily on ()gender ()race ()class ()age ()sexual orientation ( )other $\qquad$

## Professional activities

9-Is graphic design your first career ()yes ( )no
10-What is your primary graphic design activity ()practice ()teaching () design-related services or supplies () other

11-How many years in practice $\qquad$ ; in teaching $\qquad$ ; in services/supplies $\qquad$ ; other $\qquad$
12-How many different graphic design jobs (own studio, staff positions, periods of freelance work, teaching) $\qquad$
13-How would you describe your current job:
a-( )own business/full-time
f-( )own business/part-time
b-( )staff position/full-time
g-( )staff position/part-time
c-( )freelance work/full time
h-( )freelance work/part-time
d-( )teaching/full-time i-( )teaching/part-time
e-( )other/full-time j-( )other/part-time $\qquad$

14-Which of the following would closest describe your job:
a-( )owner, principal or partner (design responsibility)
b-( )owner, principal or partner (financial responsibility)
c-( )manager (no design, but coordination and supervision)
d-( )senior designer/AD (design plus coordination and supervision)
e-( )intermediate designer (design plus coordination)
f-( )junior designer (design, maybe some production)
g-( )production/technical artist (no design but production for reproduction and/or computer
graphics/typesetting)
h-( )photographer
i-( illustrator
j-( )paper or other supply representative
k-( )printer or printing representative
l-( )typographer or typesetting representative
15-IF in your own business, how many employees: $\qquad$
16-Your current work location ()downtown in metro area ()large city ()small city ()suburban ()rural a-in city/town $\qquad$ state $\qquad$
17-Your practice serves clients in this/these area(s): ()international ()national ()regional ()local
18-IF you teach, your academic rank is: ()professor ()associate professor ()assistant professor Oinstructor ()adjunct professor ()other $\qquad$
19-Are you in business with a family member ()yes ()no
a-IF YES ()spouse/significant other ()parent/step-parent ()sibling ()child ()other $\qquad$
20-Do you have trouble feeling like yourself at work? That is, is there conflict in your mind between yourself as a female or as a male, and yourself as a professional designer. ()yes ()no a-IF YES, explain

## 21-Have you ever been a mentor? ()yes ()no

 a-IF YES, to how many females $\qquad$ males b-IF YES, how many were students $\qquad$ employees $\qquad$ relatives $\qquad$22-Rate the importance of your contributions to your company's output.

|  | very important | important | not important |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| a-innovative design | () | () | () |
| b-good problem-solving | () | () | () |
| c-fast work | () | () | () |
|  |  | () | () |
| d-financial strategies | () | () | () |
| e-client relations | () | () | () |
| f-solid good design | () | () |  |
|  |  | () | () |
| g-marketing of services | () | () | () |

23-Rate some possible improvements for you to your workplace now:

|  | very important | important | not important |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| a-more private space | () | () | () |
| b-less isolation | () | () | () |
| c-more interaction with co-workers | () | () | () |
|  |  | () | () |
| d-less interaction with co-workers | () | () | () |
| e-better designers | () | () | () |
| f-more interesting work | () | () | () |
|  |  | () | () |
| g-better management | () | () | () |
| h-more responsibility | () | () | () |

24-Were there relationships (other than mentor) with women that were important to your development as designer and/or professional ()yes ()no a-IF YES ()relative ()teacher ()friend ()boss ()co-worker ()employee ()other $\qquad$

25-Were there relationships (other than mentor) with men that were important to your development as a designer and/or professional ()yes ()no a-IF YES ()relative ()teacher ()friend ()boss ()co-worker ()employee ()other $\qquad$
26-There are probably parts of your heritage which are important to your sense of identity. Rate these parts for you:

|  | very important | important | not important |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | () | () | () |
| a-gender | () | () | () |
| b-race | () | () | () |
| c-ethnicity | () | () | () |
|  |  | () | () |
| d-religion | () | () | () |
| e-social class | () | () | () |
| f-politics |  | () | () |
| g-geography | () | () | () |

27-There may be important parts of your identity 'acquired' since you left home. Rate these parts for you now:

|  | very important | important | not important |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| a-religion | () | () | () |
| b-social class | () | () | () |
| c-politics | () | () | () |
|  |  |  |  |
| d-geography | () | () | () |
| e-sexual orientation | () | () | () |
| f-being a designer | () | () | () |
| g-other | () | () | () |

28-Do you choose to communicate or express any of these parts of your identity (heritage or acquired) in your work ()yes ()no

IF YES, how often:

|  | very often | often | seldom | never |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| a-gender | () | () | () | () |
| b-race | () | () | () | () |
| c-ethnicity | () | () | () | () |
|  |  | () | () | () |
| d-religion | () | () | () | () |
| e-social class | () | () | () | () |
| f-politics | () | () | () | () |
|  |  | () | () | () |
| g-geography |  | () | () | () |

29-Identify the part of your identity most important to you and which you have included in your work a-Describe the work where it is communicated.
b-If your identity is not part of your work, explain. $\qquad$

30-As a designer, would you consider yourself most ()an artist ()a scientist ()a business person ()an activist ()an educator () a problem-solver ()other $\qquad$
31-Name contemporary designers who you think express themselves in their work to a high degree.

32-Name contemporary designers who you think incorporate their identity in their work to a high degree.

33-Name contemporary designers who you think communicate their political or social agenda in their work to a high degree.

34-Think of the work of one nationally-known female graphic designer
Name the designer
a-Write three words that you associate with her work $\qquad$
$\qquad$
35-Think of the work of one nationally-known male graphic designer
Name the designer a-Write three words that you associate with his work $\qquad$
$\qquad$
36-Can you make any generalizations about women as graphic design professionals ()yes ()no a-IF YES, what

37-Can you make any generalizations about men as graphic design professionals ()yes ()no a-IF YES, what

38-Have there been design projects in your office which fostered your values ()yes ()no a-IF YES: were you able to work on these projects? ( )yes ()no b-IF YES: was this experience different from other projects ()yes ()no c-IF YES: how was it different
d-IF NO, why were you unable to participate

39-IF YOU ARE A WOMAN, did you ever change your professional behavior to protect yourself against being treated "like a woman". ()yes ()no a-IF YES, describe the circumstances $\qquad$
$\qquad$

40-IF YOU ARE A MAN, has the fact of being male worked against you in a professional context. ()yes ()no a-IF YES, describe the circumstances $\qquad$
$\qquad$
41-Are you satisfied with the extent to which your personal and professional lives are integrated ()yes ()no IF NO, how do you feel about the following:

|  | strongly | agree | disagree | strongly | don't |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | agree |  |  | disagree | know |
| a-not enough time to do good work | () | () | () | () | () |
| b-not enough time for family or friends | () | () | () | () | () |
| c-child care not as good as I want | () | () | () | () | () |
| d-spouse/sig.other resents work time | () | () | () | () | () |
| e-commuting takes too long | () | () | () | () | () |
| f-too much travel for work | () | () | () | () | () |
| g -my values conflict with my work | () | () | () | () | () |
| h-not paid reasonably for what I do | () | () | () | () | () |
| i -work does not fulfill me | () | () | () | () | () |

42-Rate these possible rewards of your work:
very important

| a-money | () |
| :--- | :--- |
| b-fame | () |
| c-power | () |
| d-fun | () |
| e-influence | () |
| f-social change | () |
| g-self-expression | () |
| h-other | () |

important
()
()
()
()
()
()
()
not important
()
()
()
()
()
()
()
()

43-Are you aware of bias in your professional life ()yes ()no
a-IF YES, did this affect you (choose worst case):
()as an owner ()as an employee ()as a freelancer ()as a teacher ()other $\qquad$ IF YES, did this affect you: b-on an individual level (for example: you didn't get a specific job or project) ()yes ()no c -on an organizational level (for example: you didn't get promoted or recognized for work done) ()yes ()no d-on a societal level (for example: your work is known but not acclaimed by awards or publication)
()yes ()no
e-Do you think this is based primarily on ()gender ()race ()class ()age ()sexual orientation
()other $\qquad$
44-Are you a member of any professional design organizations ()yes ()no a-IF YES ()AIGA ()STA/ACD ()local AD Club ()other $\qquad$
45-Rate these benefits of membership:

|  | very important | important | not important |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| a-publications | () | () | () |
| b-programs | () | () | () |
| c-competitions | () | () | () |
|  |  | () | () |
| d-networking | () | () | () |

46-Have you held any offices in these organizations ()yes ()no
47-Have you served on a design jury ()yes ()no a-IF YES, do you recall any remarks suggesting bias ()yes ()no b-IF YES, bias based primarily on ()gender ()race ()age ()sexual orientation ()other $\qquad$
48-Do you have a design philosophy (that is, do you believe there are specific things design can and should do in this world) ()yes ()no
a-IF YES, what is your philosophy $\qquad$
$\qquad$
49-Do you follow any design theories in your work (that is, do you use specific communication strategies which you believe produce specific and intended results) ()yes ()no a-IF YES, describe the theories
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
50-Do you tend to use a consistent design process which is comfortable and successful for you. ()yes ()no a-IF YES, describe the stages $\qquad$
$\qquad$
51-Rate the following as part of your definition of good graphic design.

|  | very important | important | not important |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a-looks g | () | () |  |
| b-quickly understood | () | () |  |
| c-appeals to audience |  | () | () |
| d-pleases client | () | () | () |
| e-wins awards | () | () | () |
| f -involves audience | () | () | () |
| g-easily read | () | () | () |
| h-solves problem | () | () | () |
| i -innovative solution | () | () | () |
| j-fosters understanding | () | () | () |
| k -makes life better | () | () | () |
| 1 -beautiful imagery | () | () | () |
| m-high production values | () | () | () |
| n -presents more than one viewpoint | () | () | () |
| o-other | () | () | () |

52-If you have a choice, do you prefer to ()work on a team of designers ()work individually ()doesn't matter a-Explain

53-At your workplace, are you more likely to ()work on a team of designers ()work individually ()both equally
54-When you work with other designers, does it make a difference if they are the same gender as you are. ()yes ()no a-IF YES, why

55-Do you have a business partner ()yes ()no
a-IF YES, is the partner the same gender as you are ()yes ()no
b-Do the advantages of your working relationship have anything to do with gender? ()yes ()no c-Explain
d-Do the disadvantages of your working relationship have anything to do with gender? ()yes ()no e-Explain

56-Have you been invited to present your work and/or design ideas to public or professional groups (clients excluded) ()yes ()no

57-Have you presented your work and/or design ideas to the public ()yes ()no
58-Have you volunteered to present your work or design ideas ()yes ()no
59-Have you been invited to write about your work or about design ()yes ()no
60-Have you written and published about your work ()yes ()no
61-Has your design work been published ()yes ()no
62-Do you know (from conversations, reviews, publications, etc.) that your work is appreciated a-by your boss ()yes ()no b-by your known design peers ()yes ()no c-by the larger professional design community ()yes ()no d-If your work is not appreciated, what is your explanation

63-Have you won awards for your design work
a-locally ()yes ()no
b-regionally ()yes ()no
c-nationally ()yes ()no
d-internationally ()yes ()no
64-Do you do pro bono work ()yes ()no
IF YES, rate these possible reasons:

|  | very important | important | not important |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| a-to keep working | () | () | () |
| b-for creative freedom | () | () |  |
| c-to find projects which match my values | () | () | () |
| d-to make contacts | () | () | () |
| e-to make a contribution to society | () | () | () |
| f-to look good on resume | () | () | () |
| g-to work with specific people | () | () | () |
| h-other | () | () | () |

65-Do you have design work which was not used because the client deemed it 'too personal' ()yes ()no
66-Do you have a personal agenda (social/political ideas) which you try to make part of design projects ()yes ()no a-IF YES, are these ()"real" job projects ()pro bono projects ()both
b-IF YES, what is your agenda

67-Do you actively seek projects which make it possible to incorporate your personal agenda ()yes ()no
68-Are you aware of contemporary designers (of either gender) whose work denies or presents a limited view of the existence and experience of women ()yes ()no
a-Name the designer(s)
69-Are you aware of contemporary designers (of either gender) whose work acknowledges and/or celebrates the existence and experience of women ()yes. ()no
a-Name the designer(s)
70-In general, are you satisfied with your career in graphic design ()yes ()no
71-If you changed careers into graphic design, at what age did you change $\qquad$

72-Have you considered a career change recently ()yes ()no IF YES, why $\qquad$

Personal life
73-You are ()female ()male

## 74 -Your current age is

$\qquad$
75-Your racial/cultural identity is ()European-American ()African-American ()Hispanic-American ()Asian-American ()other $\qquad$
76-Your religious identity is
()Protestant ()Catholic ()Jewish ()other $\qquad$
77-Your family's socio-economic class identity during your childhood was
()working class ()lower middle class ()middle class ()upper middle class ()wealthy

78-Your sexual orientation now ()heterosexual ()gay/lesbian ()bisexual
79-Your birth order ()only child ()first ()second ()third ()other $\qquad$
80 -You are ()right-handed for writing ()left-handed for writing
81-You have how many older brothers $\qquad$
82-You have how many older sisters $\qquad$
83-Your current marital status ()never married ()married ()sep./divorced ()committed relationship
84-You are married to/living with a designer ()yes ()no
a-IF YES, person is ()graphic designer ()industrial designer ()architect ()other $\qquad$
b-IF YES, in general for the relationship is this fact ()beneficial or ()detrimental
85-Do you have children ()yes ()no
IF YES, how many are
a-0 to 5 years old $\qquad$
b-6 to 10 years old $\qquad$
c-11 to 13 years old $\qquad$
d-14 to 17 years old $\qquad$
86-Your childhood was spent mainly in the state of $\qquad$
87-Your childhood was spent mainly in ()large city ()small city ()suburban area ()rural area
88-Is anyone in your family in graphic design ()yes ()no
a-IF YES, what relationship ()father ()mother ()sibling ()aunt/uncle ()grandparent ()other $\qquad$
89-Is anyone in your family in other design areas ()yes ()no
a-IF YES, in ()architecture ()industrial design ()interior design ()textiles ()crafts ()fashion ()other $\qquad$
90-At what age did you first consider yourself a 'creative person'
()3-6 ()7-12 ()13-17 ()18-24 ()25-30 () Over 30

91-At what age did you first learn about graphic design as a career
()3-6 ()7-12 ()13-17 ()18-24 ()25-30 ( ) over 30

92-How did you first learn about graphic design
()family ()friend ()teacher ()professional ()library ()museum ()other $\qquad$
( )don't know
93-As a child how often did you participate in physical activities such as sports, athletics, camping, hiking, biking, outdoor games
()often ()sometimes ()seldom ()never

94-As a child how often did you participate in artistic activities such as drawing, painting, music, dance, theater, crafts
()often ()sometimes ()seldom ()never

95-What are your politics or social/cultural ideologies (check all that apply)
()republican ()democrat ()liberal ()libertarian ()radical ()feminist ()separatist ()utopian ()conservative ()socialist ()independent ()other $\qquad$

WONDERFUL! YOU HAVE FINISHED.

For a related analysis and possible publication - please send, separately, photocopies of your work which you think incorporates your political/social agenda. Be sure to put your name and address on the back of each one and explain the project.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME!

BE SURE TO MAIL THE POSTCARD TOO!
Return the questionnaire to Martha Scotford, 3.

Comments are welcome here.

