

# zofia kostyrko-edwards

artist • creative director • concept designer

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zofia kostyrko



portraitista

## qualifications

- Thirty years in themed entertainment creatively leading multi-disciplinary teams; generating new content across multiple entertainment & exhibit platforms; adapting branded Intellectual Properties (IP's)
- Thorough, hands-on understanding of theme parks' & exhibits' creative development process from initial Blue Sky concept through production, installation & hand-off to operations
- Developing & communicating creative vision to diverse clients, design & construction teams, and the public on projects ranging from multi-billion domestic and international entertainment brands attractions; private & public non-profit clients, and government entities
- Accomplished multi-media artist & illustrator: fluent in 2-D & 3-D digital media, hard & soft sculpture, painting & theatrical installation arts; stage & costume design including fabrication

## experience summary

### • Concept Development

Developed original content for theme parks & resort rides, attractions, exhibits and area development features

Conceptualized & produced Client presentations using multiple painting & sculptural formats

Developed new & adapted existing characters for attractions & exhibits

Designed & built commissioned fine art installations

Designed custom themed lighting fixtures for major domestic & international theme-parks & resorts

### • Creative & Art Direction

Art directed diverse IP content across different platforms in themed dining, retail & attractions

Creatively supervised multidisciplinary project teams across all project phases; successfully provided design interface & creative continuity to vendors & subcontractors in creative & technical disciplines

Worked with senior management & multiple celebrities attached to global entertainment companies to develop, communicate & guide visualization of creative deliverables

Collaborated with the scientific community, special interest & government groups on multiple exhibit projects; guided large brainstorming sessions. Produced & designed multimedia presentations

### • Applied Art Skills

Digital skills:

- 2-D: Photoshop / Illustrator/ InDesign
- 3-D: SketchUp Pro, ZBrush
- VR: Gravity Brush, Tilt Brush
- Microsoft Word / Excel / PowerPoint

Sculpture:

- metal, clay, paper, textiles
- paper show models
- embroidery & leather sculptures

Painting & Illustration:

- oil, watercolor, acrylic, pastel, mixed media

Excellent verbal & written communication skills

Holding dual citizenship for USA and EU

Multilingual & fluent in English & Polish (native language), understands & reads German, Russian, Italian

## employment highlights

- |                      |  |                    |  |
|----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| april 2020 - present | <b>Senior Art Director</b><br><i>Reveal Studios Inc., Glendale, CA</i><br><i>Multiple Fine Art installations - concept proposal for a Performing Art Center in Goldendale, WA</i>  | jan 2000 - present | <b>Owner • Principal &amp; Creative Director</b><br><i>deZign sKape LLC</i><br><br><i>Selected projects include:</i><br><i>Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach, CA</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Oceanauts / fine art exhibit &amp; film installation</i></li><li>• <i>Pacific Island Summer Celebration - art signage installation</i></li><li>• <i>Rios de La Vida Fountain</i></li></ul><br><i>NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries</i><br><i>Exhibit concept design through completion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Channel Island Boating Center, Oxnard, CA</i></li><li>• <i>Old Lahaina Courthouse Visitor Center, Lahaina HI</i></li><li>• <i>Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, Alpena, MI</i></li><li>• <i>Fagatele Bay, American Samoa, and others</i></li></ul><br><i>Cirque du Soleil, Montreal, Canada</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Blue Sky development of Complexe Cirque concept</i></li></ul><br><i>CM2 Children Museum, Portland, OR</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Master planning of the renovated museum</i></li><li>• <i>Design &amp; fabrication for the front lobby custom displays &amp; interactive exhibits</i></li></ul><br><i>ESPN Zone, Downtown Disney, Anaheim, CA</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Concept design &amp; fabrication of multiple fine art installations including "Pray for Surf" &amp; "Billy the Kid"</i></li></ul> |
| jan 2016 - present   | <b>Art Director/ Concept Designer</b><br><i>MyCoToo Inc., Pasadena, CA</i><br><i>Morehead Planetarium Exhibit - opened 2020</i><br><i>Concept development team for multiple exhibit, art installation &amp; entertainment projects</i>   |                    |  |
| 2013 - 2015          | <b>Featured Artist / Exhibit Designer</b><br><i>Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach, CA</i><br><i>"Oceanauts" Art Exhibit of 26 custom portraits with exhibit graphics &amp; media about the world's most influential marine explorers</i>   |                    |  |
| 2013 - 2014          | <b>Art Director / Concept Designer</b><br><i>RIVA Creative USA, Pasadena CA</i><br><i>Motiongate Themepark - Dubai UAE</i><br><i>Concept through Schematic Design for Main Entry complex &amp; Dreamworks multiple attractions &amp; area development</i>  |                    |  |
| 1987 - 2000          | <b>Senior Concept Designer</b><br><i>Walt Disney Imagineering, Glendale, CA</i><br><i>member of the Core Creative Group. Projects included:</i><br><i>Disney Animal Kingdom 1989-1998</i><br><i>Epcot: Life &amp; Health Pavilion - multiple shows</i><br><i>Epcot: Millennium Village</i><br><i>Pleasure Island, among others</i> |                    |  |