

James Boekbinder, born in New Orleans, USA, resident in the Netherlands, has a unique approach to creation of interactive media. He is active as a writer and editor, information architect, interaction designer and filmmaker for a vast range of clients, from international companies to children's TV programs. This résumé gives an overview of his personal and professional experience.

Résumé of James M. Boekbinder 2016

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1 Who is James Boekbinder?

James Boekbinder (born 1959 in New Orleans, US) studied audio-visual design at the Utrecht School of the Arts (Netherlands), majoring in animation. During his studies, he also developed a thriving practice as a free-lance editor and translator, working in Dutch, Russian, English, French and Spanish. He was one of the first editors in the Netherlands to specialize in interactive media, and has developed special expertise in the editorial process of interactive publications of large-scale, multinational clients. He continues to work both in the areas of film and content creation and more recently, information architecture. He makes films, writes, and participates in brainstorming and concept development for products ranging from corporate websites and intranets to magazines and games. From 2006 to 2016, he held a position as lecturer on interaction design at the Communication and Multimedia Design faculty of Rotterdam University of Applied Science.

1.1 PERSONAL INFORMATION

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1.2 FILM

In the audio-visual design course of the Utrecht School of the Arts, he specialized in animation, but also was involved in documentary projects and film restoration. His final exam work included reconstruction of the language of a silent film for the Dutch Film Museum (Nederlands Filmmuseum), an English adaptation of a Dutch feature film, and his own drawn animation film 'Home and to Bed' (1993, 7 min., Betacam SP & 16mm).

He now uses animation to make personal documents about the kinds of topics a documentary-maker might also explore. His recent film 'The Story of the Kolobok' (2002, 12 min., 35mm) has been shown worldwide and won two international prizes for its original depiction of five characters surviving in post-communist Russia.

1.3 NEW MEDIA

He became involved with internet in its very beginnings in the early 1990's, editing website content, writing for publications on interaction design, and helping develop some of the earliest international content management systems, intranets and extranets. As webmaster for the Design for Ageing network (1995 - 1997), he developed broad knowledge of usability, disability and ageing in relation to design.

From 1999 to 2002, he was a senior copy consultant with Lost Boys Content & Usability, leading teams of copywriters and editors developing websites, intranets, extranets, games, and other interactive publications for a wide range of international clients. It was in this period that he helped develop new analytical and editorial tools specifically for large-scale, interactive media such as multinational websites. In 2002, he began working as information architect and interaction designer, combining these disciplines with design research.

1.4 PRESENT

At present, he creates, analyses and structures web content for multinational commercial clients, helps research and restore silent films, participates in brainstorming for new publications and products, and is working to realize his childhood ambition to finally, finally comprehend the Russian verb.

1.5 VISION

He is a very heavily user-focused professional. In his point of view, the primary questions are: what will users think, feel and do? As a teacher, he sees himself and the students as members of a team in which all play both teaching and learning roles.

2 Character

A good sort of frog to fall into a milk barrel with. Creative, interested in just about everything that has to do with people, languages and communication. A born teacher: loves to organize work with clients into learning experiences like workshops and seminars.

2.1 LANGUAGES

English, Dutch, Russian, French

2.2 HOBBIES

German, Catalan, Portuguese, Spanish

2.3 CAPABILITIES

Extensive experience in:

- Translation, editing, copywriting
- Analysis of interactive text content
- Film directing, animation and storyboarding
- Concept development for interactive and print media
- Teaching and training professionals and students
- Interaction design
- Information architecture
- Design research
- Usability testing

Skills and knowledge of:

- Russian, English, Dutch (certified translator), French, Spanish (enthusiast)
- Usability research and interface ergonomics
- Graphic and text-editing software
- Language learning and teaching
- Educational design

3 Professional experience

- 2002-2016 Executive editor, information architect, interaction designer, researcher, filmmaker
- 1999-2001 Senior copy consultant for Lost Boys Content & Usability
- 1990-2000 Freelance translator, editor, copywriter, filmmaker

3.1 MILESTONES

- 2003-2005 Two international prizes (Grand Prix and Best Debut) for film 'The Story of the Kolobok'
- 1999-2002 Development of innovative new editorial tools for interactive media
- 1996-1998 Three children's films for Dutch Educational TV (NOT) program 'Koekeloere'
- 1995 Participant in Social Care & IT workshop of Doors of Perception 3
- 1993-1996 Pioneering editorial work for Mediamatic and Doors of Perception
- 1994 Lecturer for exchange students from Ukraine (Utrecht School of the Arts)
- 1993 Translator certification in three languages
- 1990- 1994 Translation of several books on Soviet film, restoration of classic silent film 'Lucky Star'

3.2 STUDY

- 1988-1993 Audio-Visual Design - Utrecht School of the Arts

4 Clients and projects

Financial & Insurance

- Nationale Nederlanden
- Postbank
- ING Bank
- AON
- Rabobank

Industrial

- Corus Group
- Bosch
- Goodyear
- Philips
- Smead Office Products
- Fokker Services (Stork)
- Akzo Nobel

Automotive

- Volkswagen

ICT & Computers

- CMG Benelux
- Atos Origin
- Pink Roccade
- Getronics
- Cordys

Telecom & Internet

- Siemens
- Nokia

Publishing & Media

- Multimedia Graphics (international book series, Bangert, Thames&Hudson)
- Items magazine
- BIS Publishers
- J. M. Meulenhoff

Food, Beverages & Tobacco

- Heineken International
- Menthos

Real Estate

- NVM (Dutch Association of Real Estate Agents)

Travel

- KLM

Recruitment

- CMG Benelux

Advertising Agencies

- DPP (Y&R Amsterdam)
- VBAT
- SSA
- SIYW