I am a NYC-based designer with 6+ years of experience working in the fashion industry, with expertise in Cut& Sew Knits and Sweaters. With an exceptional eye for art direction and color, my skills reach beyond apparel design. A true creative at heart, I excel at adapting my skill set to meet a clients needs or brand direction.

# Kristina Rhen V 724-288-1254 Krheno202@gmail.com kristinarhen.online NYC

# **ASSOCIATE DESIGNER**

#### Michael Kors I 2022- Present

Responsible for the development of Cut and Sew knitwear across Tops, Bottoms, and Dresses. Plays a vital role in the communication and execution of design concepts internally and with vendors overseas. Duties include trend research, collaboration with the design team, management of product information in a PLM system, communication with vendors, and ensuring all production needs are met. The role also requires strong technical skills for sketching, creating digital design decks, and working on special projects. Hands on involvement and direction in garment fit, beginning at proto development, all the way through bulk fit.

# FREELANCE GRAPHIC DESIGNER

#### Freelance I 2020- Present

Conceptualizes and executes impactful design solutions. Translates client needs into clear design briefs, then develops mockups and final designs for brand and communication content across digital and print media. Collaborates with clients to refine ideas and ensure final deliverables align perfectly with brand identity and design

#### **ASSOCIATE DESIGNER**

#### Steve Madden x BB Dakota | 2021-2022

Led the development of knitwear and sweater collections, while contributing to dresses and woven tops as needed. Managed all aspects of production from yarn and fabric sourcing to sample creation, ensuring on-time delivery and high-quality product. Maintained communication with vendors and technical design teams, tracked salesman sample inventory, and created visual merchandising materials for sales purposes. Conducted extensive trend research to deliver innovative and marketable designs.

#### **ASSISTANT DESIGNER**

#### KOHL'S | 2018-2021

# LC Lauren Conrad - Nov 2019-June 2021

Demonstrated progressive flexibility in apparel design, managing Sweaters and assisting with woven tops and denim. Successfully launched and oversaw a graphic tee program. Utilized PLM systems for style management, communication, and linesheet generation. Led the "Fabric First" initiative, managing sourcing, pricing, and sample creation. Aided in virtual design presentations through exceptional CAD and Photoshop skills, further enhanced by 3D CAD capabilities in V-Stitcher. Collaborated with teams to ensure current fit blocks are trend relevant, while conducting competitive research and seasonal trend analysis.

# Candies- June 2018- January 2020

Led Knit Top and Dress development. Driving concept creation and fabric sourcing while considering trends and cost-effectiveness. Assisted in developing seasonal color palette development. This included seasonal trend research and Archroma selections. Collaborated with the technical design team to ensure flawless garment fit. Conducted competitive research and seasonal trend analysis. Contributed to creating visually compelling product presentations for market meetings.

#### PROGRAMS

Adobe Illustrator- Advanced Adobe Photoshop- Advanced Adobe InDesign - Advanced PLM Systems- Advanced Figma- Intermediate Procreate- Intermediate Procreate- Intermediate Valedo- Beginner Shima Seiki- Beginner 3D- CLO and V-Stitcher- Beginner

EDUCATION BFA Fashion Design KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

AWARDS/CERTIFICATE Fundamentals of Graphic Design CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS 2023

INTERNSHIPS CHRISTIAN SIRIANO KOHL'S- ROCK & REPUBLIC AMY'S ALTERATIONS