

Freeman Abayasekera

Positive, energetic project manager from a creative background, looking for a new challenge. I have extensive production experience, working on complex projects for award-winning international artists. I am looking to work on ambitious campaigns and projects

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Experience

Film work 2020/2021

- Prop man - Netflix, The swimmers feature length film.
- Art department assistant - clean bandit ft mabel, TikTok - music video.
- Set builder and Art department assistant - KSI really love ft craig david - music video
- Production assistant, Matilda Cole -The Clouds music video produced by obey.

Freelance Production and Project Manager 2020/2021

Working across the art, design and retail sector, managing the creation/ installation of displays. Clients include Lisson Gallery, Cork Street Installing such works as Anish Kapoor and Tony Craig.

Shape Build and Design

2019 Oct - March 2020

Project manger with in a creative design and build production company specialising in retail display products and installations based in West London. We had clients such as Dover Street market, Harvey Nicholson and worked with creative teams design teams such as Hotel creative to help bring together high end displays and installations for brands like Nike and Huawei.

- CAD Drawing
- CNC milling
- Project management
- Set building

Senior Producer at Ryan Gander, OBE

September 2013 - August 2018 (5 years)

Production lead for British contemporary artist, Ryan Gander. I produced many of Ryan's creative visions, developing the initial idea and seeing it through to exhibition. Each project was completely unique and came with its own set of challenges.

- Managed projects with galleries/ organisations including: Lisson Gallery, Frieze London, Art Basel, Taro Nasu
- Liaising with curators, head technicians and operational managers
- Pitching to and advising for high profile international clients
- Technical plan diagrams for exhibition spaces and artworks
- Budgets, team management and timelines
- Researching specialist vendors (e.g. craftspeople, mechanics)
- Researching bespoke materials to create each artwork
- Troubleshooting technical issues to tight deadlines
- Creating technical handbooks for correct installation of artwork
- Managing photoshoots, and film shoots of artwork
- Logistics, shipping and packaging of artwork
- Quality control artwork display
- Worked between studios based in Suffolk and London

Skills

Creative problem solving
Client management
Production scheduling
Budget handling
Technical drawings
Painting/ woodwork/ sculpture
Fabrication processes
Full drivers license
First aid trained
Manual handling

Software

Adobe Illustrator ●●●●●
Adobe Photoshop ●●●
Rhino 3D ●●●
SketchUp ●●●●●
Microsoft Office ●●●●●
CAD ●●

Owner of Blackwoods Farm House

August 2018 - 2019

1 year spent establishing my family business Blackwoods Farm House, I relocated to Sri Lanka to manage all aspects of the renovation, from construction through to brand development.

- Project management and production scheduling
- Budgets and payroll / financial management
- Liaising with local government for building permissions
- Business communication in both English and Sinhalese
- Managing construction, from foundations to interiors
- Establishing infrastructure (building a well and roadways)
- Management of tradesman/craftsmen
- Installing a clean water system for the estate
- Construction of an irrigation system for tea terraces

Education

University of the West of
England
BA Hons Fine Art,
Grade: 2.1
2007–2010

Dunstable College
BTEC National Diploma Art and
Design,
Grade: Distinction
2004 - 2005

Fluent in Sinhalese
References available on request

Specialist Painting Assistant at Damien Hirst Holdings / Science Ltd

June 2011- June 2013 (2 years)

Part of a team responsible for producing Hirst's artworks, including the "Spot Paintings" and butterfly paintings for the "In and Out of Love" exhibition at Tate Modern. Each project involved extensive training and working to tight deadlines.

Gallery Assistant/Technician at Spike Island

April 2009 - June 2011 (2 years)

Front of house position at Bristol based art gallery and studio space. Working closely with both local and international artists.

Co-Director at Bristol Diving School

March 2009 - June 2011 (2 years)

I co-founded, built and ran an independent studio/exhibition space within a once derelict diving school. As a team we produced a year long program of exhibitions and events. This success led me to curate shows in Birmingham, Stockholm and Linz.

Youth Curator at Tate Modern

January 2005 - August 2007 (2 years)

Organisation and delivery of workshops, tours and events. I gained valuable experience in teaching and working with school groups and young people.