

Thomas Morris

Thomas was drawn to design early, with his illustration and interpretive letterforms in hand-crafted memos to family and friends as a child. He studied engineering at UC Davis with a certain reluctance, and later, switched to the arts with enthusiasm - learning under the country's foremost contemporary artists at the time. Thomas's multi-color silkscreen posters for campus events at the Student Union print shop, were later purchased by the University to begin their "History of Poster Art on Campus" Archive.

Moving to the Bay Area, Thomas had a brief stay at California College of Arts and Crafts before starting a business with roommate Frank Carson, working with local promoters designing rock posters. An archive of some of his rock posters is chronicled in the collector's edition book "The Art of Rock".

Thomas opened his own design shop in downtown Berkeley - Sharpshooter Studios - where he created award-winning advertising and business collateral for many of the Bay Area's retail, industrial and early-stage tech companies. During this period, he also married, and found time to raise a son and daughter, both now young adults living and working in the Bay Area.

He was recruited in 1992, to build an in-house creative department at Brobeck, Phleger & Harrision, a national law firm. Thomas was challenged to deliver on-demand solutions under critical deadlines, and by his second year had designed and produced business collateral and advertising that supported more than 10 practice groups and 14 offices around the country, saving the firm over a half million dollars. Firmwide Marketing Director, David Geyer, remarked, "During my 20 years in the advertising business I've had the opportunity to work with numerous fine art directors and graphic artists, and in terms of the quantity, quality and originality of his work, Thomas Morris definitely is the very best of class."

With the unpredictable closure of Brobeck in early 2002, Thomas once again began his own consulting and design business. He networked with old and new friends – and has been on board as contract Creative Director for Hogan Marketing years for over 10 years, supplying original design and marketing solutions for their Pleasant Hill, Concord and Walnut Creek customer list.

Since 2006, Thomas has also worked as a contracted Vice President of Creative Services for ZINFI Technologies – a start-up that has grown into a global, Internet-based company that delivers webbased demand-generation and business development tools for tech channel companies like McAfee, Hitachi and others. His key role in designing customer experience platforms and user-interaction activities – from landing pages to banner ads – has been instrumental in ZINFI's success.