

PLAYMATE

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Juicy Temples

What's playing on your CD/IPOD?

Mostly the old stand-bys: Hip-Hop, Downtempo, Electro, Bossa Nova, Funk, Disco, The Rat Pack, The Bouncing Souls. Some current stuff too, but I don't pretend to keep up: Jimmy Edgar, Dizzee Rascal, Milosh, Prefuse 73, Five Deez.

Last good book you read?

The last two books I've read were Design is One by Lella and Massimo, and On Bullshit. Both 1-sitting reads. Right now I'm pouring over a short stack of the quarterly publications that the SEGDC puts out. I think I might have to become a member so I can keep up with these guys.

What book is next?

My brother bought me a copy of Who Moved my Cheese (Spencer Johnson) yesterday, which I plan to begin immediately. Design in Action by Ladislav Sutnar, and the new Andy Warhol biography, Giant Size will follow.

**Share a web link with us:**

I'm a ravenous Engadget (<http://engadget.com>) hound. Out of all the blogs of which I keep abreast, I will probably read through the latest Engadget posts first.

What's something you'd like to see happen in the design profession?

I'm not sure what the solution is yet, but there needs to be less Design put out into the world that is visually repugnant. My girlfriend (non-Designer) and I were at the House of Presidents (<http://www.houseofpresidents.com>) recently, where we saw collections of printed ephemera from past Presidential terms: buttons, pins, event collateral, luncheon menus, etc. When comparing JFK's to George W.'s, she remarked of the more recent, ill-considered designs, "Nobody's going to want to come to Museums in fifty years because this is what they're going to see!" And I'm pretty sure she's onto something.

Who inspires you?

A couple recent favorites: Tamara Shopsin (<http://tamarashopsin.com>), Zak Keyes (<http://zak.to>), Jacqueline Casey, Marushka.

What inspires you?

Learning about new things inspires me. Also, putting myself in new situations and interacting with other creative people. Studying the system, the pattern, or the trend operating below the surface. Supergraphics, 70's Interior Design, Pop Art, and good furniture.

What's your opinion of the local design scene? Dig it, hate it? Why?

I can't complain, since the scene has been so good to me. I've noticed, however, that this scene is unique because it seems to be almost entirely dedicated to Advertising pursuits, with few firms focusing on Design or Branding.

When did you first think of yourself as a designer?

Probably when my friend Mike and I entered a "Design competition" in High School. The client wanted to see ideas for a series of bus stop benches promoting an anti-drug message, and would compensate the "winner" with a \$500 reward. Mike's designs were chosen in the end, and I thought that he was famous for having his work all over town. It opened my eyes to a few very rudimentary facets of Design's power and how it works to conduce communication.

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