

Shaun Inman

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Shaun Inman



SHAUNINMAN.COMPLETE

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

JACK OF MANY MASTER OF NONE

SHAUN INMAN IS THE DESIGNER/DEVELOPER RESPONSIBLE FOR DESIGNOLOGUE, MINT AND IFR. ORIGINALLY FROM THE BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS AREA, HE NOW RESIDES IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND USA.



Shaun has always tinkered. From disassembling his sleeping father's alarm clock as a child, to forcing your browser into displaying non-standard typefaces. The process of learning, building and iterating is reward enough for Shaun. The occasional success and recognition that results are just icing on the cake.

Shaun went to public school in Norwood, Massachusetts. He then fled the Northeast for the [Savannah College of Art & Design](#). While there his studies focused mostly on print design until his senior year when his eyes finally opened to the web's potential as a communication medium.

Intro to Shaun

Background

Shaun Inman graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design in 2001. In his senior year he took two Web Design courses, which he explains as “were refresher courses touching on what I had already taught myself over the summer.” Shaun Took an independent study the following spring semester studying Flash 5 Actionscribing and PHP. He reported his work to Professor Dave Bedingfield, whom he still reports to today at Silverpoint Inc in Maryland.



Interaction

Knowing that Shaun is a computer savvy designer; I figured emailing him some questions would be a good idea. Since most of the questions about his personal life had been answered in interviews on the internet, I thought of some far more interesting questions. The questions went as follows.

*What kind of setup do you work on?
e.g. # of computers, screens, os's,
desk layout...*

*What do you listen too while
you work?*

Most useful book?

The Reply

Within one day of sending an e-mail to Shaun, a reply was received. Shaun replied with a nice hefty response to each of the questions.

Hi Randy,

Thanks for taking an interest in my work. Let's see if I can't help you out here:

> What kind of setup do you work on? e.g. # of computers, screens, os's, > desk layout..

I use Apple computers for pretty much everything I do. My main machine is a first generation G5 (single 1.8GHz with 2.5GB of RAM) running the latest version of OS X. I have two 17" Apple LCDs with screen spanning enabled. I usually have the following applications running:

- Photoshop CS*
- BBEdit*
- TextMate*
- MAMP*
- PHPfi*
- iTunes*
- Mail*
- Safari (primary browser)*
- Firefox (for debugging CSS and JavaScript)*
- Remote Desktop Connection (allows me to access the desktop of a bargain PC in the closet running XP for testing)*

For travel I use a 14" iBook with 1.5GB (or so) of RAM.

In my home office I have two simple Ikea desks against a wall. One side is for monitors, my iSight, iPod dock, and Bose speakers volume control. The other desk has a scanner and some loose paper (incoming mail and outgoing bills). I have two bookshelves on either side of the room. One with casual reading, Wired back issues and a bunch of

digital media. The other has a number of the expected web standards and O'Reilly books. A trusty Yamaha acoustic guitar is always within arms reach.

> What do you listen too when you work?

My musical preferences vary from time of day to type of work I'm doing but they generally include:

- Mum (an Icelandic band)*
- Transient (the artist not the genre)*
- Verve Remixed (the label not the band)*
- DJ Shadow (Endroducing still holds up ten years later)*
- Boards of Canada*
- Radiohead (Kid A period mostly)*
- Telefon Tel Aviv*
- Aphex Twin (Windowlicker is a frequent play)*
- Modest Mouse*
- Postal Service/Deathcab for Cutie*
- Self (Breakfast with Girls is probably the most under appreciated pop masterpiece of the late 90's)*
- The Decemberists*
- Soul Coughin/Mike Doughty*
- Coldplay*
- Iron & Wine*
- Dave Matthews Band (I still try to keep up with them but they kind of lost me after Everyday)*
- etc.*

continued...



player

Summer time and all the windows are open
we start playin' and people start jumpin
could it be that we are the life of the party

LISTEN (REQUIRES FLASH)

LIFE OF THE PARTY

> Most useful book?

Dynamic HTML: The Definitive Reference by Danny Goodman (O'Reilly).
It's a massive tome spanning a broad range of topics including HTML tags, CSS and JavaScript. It does a thorough job covering the available attributes, properties and methods of each the respective technologies.

> I have most of the information about you in links provided in your > about me page...

Check out the Interview section of this post for some newer podcast interviews while I was at SXSW this year:

<http://www.shauninman.com/plete/2006/03/sxsw-breakfast-with-the-blogroll>

Hope you find this helpful. Best of luck on your project.

Cheers,
Shaun



Conclusion

Shaun seems like a pretty cool guy. After receiving this reply I had one more question to ask, but that comes later in chapter 3.

Life of the party, created during
Shaun's junior year at SCAD.



SHAUNINMAN.COMPLETE

A LOVE/H8TML RELATIONSHIP

JUNE 17, 2001 POSTED 04:00 AM

It's a love/h8tml relationship.

I'm currently redesigning shauninman.com so check back frequently to see if the new design is up. You can [aid](#) in the evolution (or extinction) of my ideas.

Here's the current version ([link removed](#)) and the previous risky navigation([link removed](#)) that I wussed out on

(Actually, I stopped because I was guilty of mystery meat navigation, ugh!).



ABOUT THIS ARTICLE

RELATED	CATEGORIES	KEYWORDS
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[SXSW Web Awards](#)[Choo-choo-choose Me](#)[Nominmanation](#)[Mistrial? No.](#)[Your trial has expired](#)[Asleep at the wheel](#)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

JACK OF MANY, MASTER OF NONE



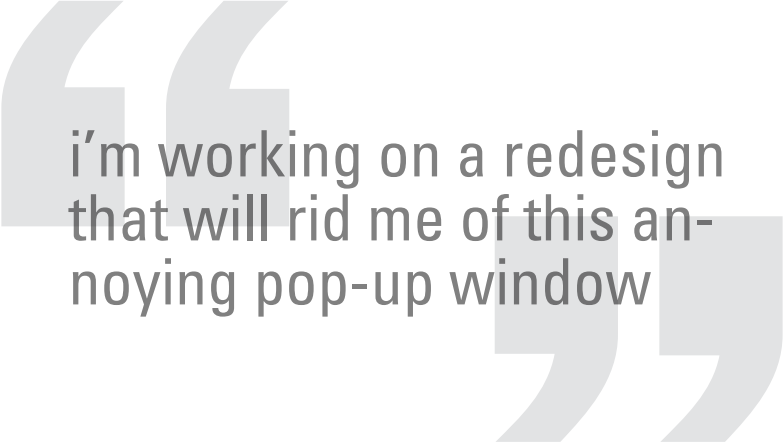
Personal Progress

Si5.shauninman.com

Si5 starts off with a splash page that opens a small dimensioned web box ... which is basically an annoying pop up. This pop up style was trendy in the early 2000's.

This site is very simple. The simplicity allows it to be visual heavy and interesting. His palette is #000000 #F61820 with a grey gradient.

The opening page is a simple web log. Other internal links are his work and sites he likes. The large image to the left changes on demand via link click. His portfolio is yet another popup window from the current popup.



i'm working on a redesign that will rid me of this annoying pop-up window

“Anybody else tired of this site yet? Good thing I built that visual pun into the concept of REDesign coz it’s been a while...”

Si6.shaurinman.com

Getting better. Si6 is still a very small web log. The structure and feel is very similar to Si5. The column width is almost the same, less imagery but still busy visually.

Use of shadows, fades, and gradients is heavy . Shaun eliminates black text and jumps into the grays. Pinkish headers and links add nice balance and contrast.

No more splash page reduces user frustration. Si6 is far greater success from Si5 ...the beginning of subtle shades and gradients has begun.

SHAUNINMAN.COM
COMMENTARY/



NAVIGATE:

.COM/POSER/

.COM/MUTE/

.COM/MUNICATE/

.COM/MAND/

THE BEST MEDICINE IS PREVENTIVE.
UPDATE REGULARLY.

SECTION DESCRIPTION: COMMENTARY

SOMETIMES I FIND TIME TO BREATHE.
USUALLY, I JUST POST INSTEAD.

02.14.04 03:38 AM

Time to update your bookmarks, ShaunInman.com has relocated with a new design.

01.10.04 05:44 AM

Imagine an iPod tangling with OS 9. Okay, got that image in your head? Good.

Now imagine the make-up sex. That's how I'd describe version number 7 of ShaunInman.com. Some subtle, not-quite-old school bevels on the interface elements, splashes of red from one too many sucker punches, and white all over. I'm not quite done yet but close. Most of the coding and familiarizing myself with a new CMS (Yup, I took the plunge and adopted **Moveable Type**) is done. Now I just need to finish up some headers, figure out the best way to keep the search template up to date (no php includes on cgi pages) and write up project descriptions for my portfolio.

THIS IS WHAT'S HAPPENING.

ACTUALLY, THIS IS JUST THE
PORTION I'M ABLE TO FIND
TIME TO TRANSCRIBE.

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW
WHAT'S GOING ON I SUGGEST
YOU TRY CONTACTING ME IN
MEAT SPACE.

© COPYRIGHT 2002 SHAUN INMAN

Si7.shauninman.com

His grey and whites are at work, this site reflects the new design going on with apple (with everything they make). Subtle faces of grey playing off white borders. There is no black in his design.

This is my favorite design, it is straight forward and simple to navigate. In this version you can find things fast. The updated to Si8 feels confusing in contrast to Si7.

When you enter the site there is a nice scroll down bar which is implemented in CSS and can only be seen in action in Firefox and Safari. Since internet explorer does not render transparent .png files, the site is coded to internet explorer users from his search and designologies (seen immediate right).





My Designologues... ▾

Search Shauninman.com

Options ▾

Search

BREADCRUMBS, BITS AND PIECES

2 TRACKS

Casual Despair (Heavy) 03:04

Seams 02:56

COLLABORATIONS

1 TRACK

I am the Mouse 02:24

MISCELLANEOUS DEMOS

7 TRACKS

What's the Word 02:19

Pigment 02:36

Latest Issue 03:14

Life of the Party 03:23

One Day 02:46

Your Little Secret 04:04

Yellow to Red 03:53

MISCELLANEOUS DEMOS

WHAT'S THE WORD

While attending the [2005 South by Southwest Interactive conference](#) I was asked to participate in the [Fifth Annual 20x2](#). Each year for the past 5 years the 20x2 event organizers have selected 20 individuals and given them 2 minutes each to answer a single question. This year's question was "What's the Word?" and this song of the same name was an experiment in dropping as many names as possible into a two minute ditty.

[Archive Link](#)[Download \(3.1MB\)](#)[Lyrics](#)[Comment \(15\)](#)

MISCELLANEOUS DEMOS

PIGMENT

This tune is a fuster-cluck of highschool half-truths and remembrances. Heavily influenced by [Self](#)—the band not the magazine.

[Archive Link](#)[Download \(3.5MB\)](#)[Lyrics](#)[Comment \(8\)](#)

MISCELLANEOUS DEMOS

LATEST ISSUE

Stopping Flagrant Piracy
of Mint Feb 03

Sweet on Mint Jan 30

Down the Ruby Hole...on
Rails Jan 29

Four Things or Please No,
Not Another Meme Jan 24

Portfolio



INCREASE CONTRAST AND TYPESIZE, SITE-WIDE

PAST ARTICLES ▶

ALL CATEGORIES ▶

VERSION INFINS.0
©2005 SHAUN INMAN



NAVIGATE/SEARCH

Shauninman.com/plete

Like his past redesigns, 8.0 is very grey, not striking much emotion. He relies heavily on a three color palette of #666666 #B2B2B2 and #9B4D4D (the reddish pink skin tone from Si6 which now matches his self portrait on the front page)

Si8 is typography on a page. Very little imagery is a refreshing attribute on the web.

The gradients, shadows, and fades have all gone away. Shaun uses different weights of grey to avoid a flat page.

Si8 includes a nifty search bar (above). The bar bounces form the top of the page and reveals an involved search page.



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VALIDATING DOMAIN NAMES

MAY 08, 2006 POSTED 07:42 AM

Cal has [validating email addresses](#) down pat but I can never seem to find a respectable regular expression for validating the format of domain names (useful when you license [software](#) by domain). So using the list of [generic](#) and [country-specific](#) top level domains ([combined list](#)) provided by the [Internet Assigned Numbers Authority](#) I put this together:

```
/^([a-z0-9]([-a-z0-9]*[a-z0-9])?\.)+([a-cdefgilmnoqrstuvwxyz
```



It checks against all known tlds and ensures that the domain name begins and ends with an alphanumeric character, allowing for dashes and sub-domains. Single character domains are allowed (did you know PayPal [owns x.com?](#)) but maximum length restrictions are not enforced. Additional logic is required to prevent something like co.uk passing as a valid domain name or to confirm that the domain is actually hosted somewhere—but I'll leave that as an exercise for the

My Designlogues...

Elitist Tea Party

Neue Moderne

Birds on a Wire

moderne

Pixelogue: A Pixel in the Life

provider

strange ways

Aviation and Blood

Phobia_II

forum



My Designologues

Search ShaunInman.com

Options ▾

Search



SHAUNINMAN@THEDEAD.COM

LEARN-UP IN VERSION 7

[.COM/MUTE/RECENT/
WORK](#)

MORE ▸



MAY 26, 2005 POSTED 02:15 PM

ADOBE, ARCHIVE AND INSTALL

I recently did an Archive & Install of OS X Tiger only to find that double-clicking files mapped to Adobe apps only launched or brought the application to the front without actually opening the file (the same thing happens when dragging the file to the application's Dock icon). I found the solution here but wanted to lend a little bit of my Google juice to help others facing to this annoyance.

[.COM/POSER/RECENT/
MUSIC](#)

MORE ▸

What's the Word

02:19

Pigment

02:36

Latest Issue

03:14

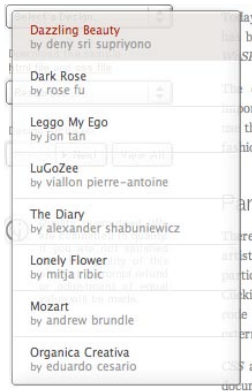
Adobe apps use some sort of kludge involving Scripting Additions to handle the opening of their files, placing the necessary file, `Adobe Unit Types`, in your `/Library/ScriptingAdditions/` folder (not to be confused with `/System/Library/ScriptingAdditions/`). The `ScriptingAdditions` folder is not restored when performing an Archive & Install—but it is backed-up with your previous system in `/Previous Systems/Previous System`

Selected Works

This is Cereal

Like he has done in his personal sites, Shaun pushes the limits of CSS. *This is Cereal* is written for advanced browsers. Hence users browsing with Internet Explorer 6.0 cannot use nor see the drop down box that Shaun created, instead they see a typical static page.

This is Cereal is a fun page that is typographically nice for the web. Most of Shaun's sites are strict and not nearly as fun as this design, it's refreshing.



Shaun explores the wonders of CSS2, which is not supported by Microsoft browsers.

A screenshot of the 'This is Cereal' website. The main heading is 'THE BEAUTY OF CSS DESIGN' followed by 'CSS ZEN garden' in a large, stylized font. Below this, it says 'BRAND' and 'WHOLESUME, SWEETENED STANDARDS No Proprietary Tags or Technologies'. There is a dropdown menu for 'Select a Design...', a link to 'Download the sample html file and css file', and another dropdown menu for 'Resources...'. At the bottom, it says 'Design Archives:'. The background features a bowl of cereal.

Littering a dark browser-specific support.

One bowl av

Today, we must enlightenment h efforts of folk like creators.

The css Zen Gard

Si6



Shaun's page style (above) reflects Willi Kun's architectural design.

Si6 was the first design I witnessed by Shaun. The design is very different from a typical web page. I wasn't sure why this site was so different from most sites I've looked at. Then I discovered it had something to do with typography not just design and image.

Shaun's Si6 submission to *CSS Zen Garden* made me realize how important typography is on the web. Ultimately, in the end it's all about the content.



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Inman, Shaun. [Shaun Inman](#). May 2006. 14 May 2006 <<http://shauninman.com/plete>>.

Kropp, Justin. "Shaun Inman Speaks." [SKinny J](#). May 2006. 14 May 2006 <http://www.skinnyj.com/archives/2005/06/shaun_inman_spe.php>.

Inman, Shaun. "I am writing a book about you." E-mail to Author.01 MAY 2006.



This book was designed by Randy Apuzzo
It was edited and set into type in USA,
then printed in the USA.

The type face is Univers LT, designed by Adrian Frutiger

The book was printed on basement aged
paper from 2001 with HP ink jet cartridges.

