

## Professional Experience

### Visible Good

Newburyport, Massachusetts

July 2012 – January 2020

#### FOUNDING PARTNER/CEO

Visible Good (VG) is a design and manufacturing company founded around an innovative new shelter system called the Rapid Deployment Module (RDM). The goal of Visible Good: develop a more humane, ecologically friendly system for shelter in disaster, military and emergency medical situations. The result is a shelter system that has been described as a Transformer™ or Lego™ for grownups. The shelter arrives as a self-contained cube. The cube unfolds to become the floor and the rest of the shelter snaps together onto the floor in about 30 minutes with no tools, special skills or hardware. Almost any pair of people can do it. When the crisis has passed, the RDM shelter folds back into its cube form to be shipped away.

- I hold US Patent #D793,578 S with additional patents pending.
- Developed innovative disaster relief partnership with AirBnB to leverage free room credits for NGOs active in disaster relief. Due to structural damage, there are seldom rooms to rent within a disaster zone. Volunteer organizations often have to “commute” to work – which is expensive and can take hours. VG rents rooms to NGOs in disaster recovery zones and *delivers* the rooms to them. The NGO receives the spaces they need at no cost; AirBnB receives positive press; VG is paid above retail price by AirBnB and secures long-term revenues through a lease to own agreement.
- Disaster deployments include Moore OK, Panama City FL, Aguadilla PR, Abaco Bahamas; Medical shelters for Pan Mass Challenge and demonstrations at numerous military installations.
- Worked with US Army under Contract to develop and prototype an “Austere Conditions” RDM. Specifically designed for extreme desert AND Antarctic conditions, the RDM-EX was tested to -60°F and nearly 100mph winds. The prototype shelter’s energy efficiency is better than many new homes.
- I was responsible for all aspects of system design and documentation, materials selection, testing, manufacturing process design, business setup and funding.
- Created, prototyped and delivered multiple accessory components and designs for shelter system.
- Developed multiple investor decks and delivered pitches that have raised over \$2,000,000.

### PowerHouse

Lawrence, Massachusetts

February 2004 – January 2008

#### FOUNDING PARTNER & DESIGN PRINCIPAL

When founded in 2004, PowerHouse was one of very few start-up companies in the US attempting to impact climate change through the residential construction sector. PowerHouse sought to fold the cost savings and construction efficiencies typical in modular home construction back into the product to produce houses that were thoughtfully designed, solar powered and heated, sustainably resourced, non-poisonous and less carbon intensive. Houses arrived on a truck and were assembled in days. In this way, a green home was delivered and guaranteed - no guessing, no figuring out systems integration – it was all done for the owner. PowerHouse successfully developed licensing agreements with modular homebuilding factories in the US and Canada.

- Designed and built two of the first 15 LEED-Platinum certified houses in the US. PowerHouse also designed the PowerPod, a first of its kind, modular “tiny house”.
- Several PowerPods were delivered to the Yellow Barn School and Festival in Putney Vermont. These were sited in several locations across rolling meadows and woodlands. The PowerPods are being used as Solo and Ensemble teaching and performing spaces. The sound problems usually associated with music buildings was avoided by making the spaces separate. Several of the Pods generate their own solar power and push excess electricity back into the grid.
- Responsible for all aspects of design and engineering coordination including meeting with developers and homeowners from the beginning of the PowerHouse integrated design process.
- Design issues involved everything from typical architectural services relating to PH modular homes to the design of a startup factory and manufacturing processes through to the integration of sustainable

manufacturing practices and materials with our designs and construction methods. We also explored alternative uses for materials with regard to our modules.

- Business responsibilities included all aspects of design relating to marketing, web site development, graphics and identity work. I was responsible for the look, feel and voice of PowerHouse as well as new product development, production methodologies, distribution, marketing and fulfillment conceptualization.

### **The Barendsen/Rossi Collaborative**

Somerville & Newburyport, Massachusetts

April 2001- June 2012

#### **DESIGN PRINCIPAL**

The Barendsen Rossi Collaborative (The BRC) was a group of professionals from multiple disciplines – architecture, landscape architecture, education, graphic design, sales and marketing. We shared space and interest in producing innovative, high-quality work that would have a positive impact on the wider world. Although we worked independently on our individual ventures, we also came together on projects to share our varied experiences and diverse areas of expertise. This group of 6 shared nearly 100 years of professional experience; we recognized our sum was greater than our parts and welcomed opportunities that enabled us to work to our full potential.

- Architectural work from this period includes residential and commercial renovations in Massachusetts and in Connecticut, new residential construction work in Connecticut, Maine and on Martha's Vineyard, master planning work for Amesbury Artworks in Amesbury Massachusetts.
- **Industrial Design and prototyping work included** tool designs for carpenters, painters and masons; bicycle parts, camping equipment, boat safety equipment, baby gear and **modular designs for temporary/disaster relief housing.**

### **CBT/Childs Bertman Tseckares, Inc.**

Boston, Massachusetts

April 1997 – April 2001

#### **STAFF ARCHITECT/DESIGNER**

- My four years at CBT afforded me the opportunity to grow in terms of my professionalism, architectural and design skills and management abilities. I began as part of design and drafting teams and ended as a project manager/project architect.
- I participated in the planning and design development of several assisted living and multi-unit residential projects throughout New England. This work totaled over 0.5M square feet of pre-fab, panelized construction. My work responsibilities eventually came to include roles as designer for a major addition to the Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich Vermont; lead design and project management for the construction of the Nativity Prep School in Jamaica Plain, Boston; lead design for assisted living facilities in New Hampshire and Connecticut and Contract Administration for over \$22M at any one time.
- Other work at CBT included design and drafting work on mid and high-rise commercial development, numerous preliminary designs and presentations for educational and institutional projects; a winning entry for a competition to develop a former MBTA parcel on Massachusetts Avenue in Boston and serving on CBT's design review committee.
- In April 2001, nearly one year after the birth of our first son, I left CBT on the most friendly and agreeable terms. I decided it was time for me to move on for reasons of schedule flexibility and so that I might begin to work more steadily in my industrial design and prototyping work.

### **Olive Jar Animation Studios**

Boston, Massachusetts

June 1995 – April 1997

#### **DESIGNER & TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

- In June of 1994, Olive Jar Studios commissioned me to design a sculptural/architectural installation for their entry and conference spaces in their new location. Of critical importance to the client was the projection of a vital – even aggressive – dynamism. I was responsible for all architectural services relating to these spaces.
- Architectural consulting led to full time employment. As a production designer and technical director, my focus was the articulation of a director's concept. My designs set the visual quality of the piece; I then guided the production team through fabrication, assembly and finish of sets, characters and riggings.

Live action and animation film work demanded excellent management and decision-making abilities while working under very intense client, budgetary and time constraints.

**OTHER** work has included positions in small and large architectural firms in and around Boston (including **TAMS Consultants, Inc.**, the **Office of Richard C. Alvord** and **Douglass Okun & Assoc.**). Prior to that, I was the sole proprietor of a small design-build company. Operating first in New England and then Chicago (during Architecture School), I took hands-on responsibility for all aspects of design, documentation, permitting, contracting and construction. In graduate school, I hired several of my studio-mates and put them to work on construction projects in Chicago and in New England.

### **Education & Accreditations**

NY State Registration # 031376

LEED-AP, accredited by the USGBC

University of Illinois/Chicago School of Architecture: MARCH 1993

Bates College, Lewiston ME: BA 1988

### **Awards, Exhibitions, Publications**

- Visible Good articles can be found in Fast Company, Engineering Magazine, Wired, Giz Mag, Fortune and others.
- Multiple television and radio interviews are available detailing aspects of Visible Good, the RDM and some of our deployments.
- Numerous television appearances and articles in print regarding PowerHouse include the Eagle-Tribune newspapers, Boston Globe and Globe Magazine, Boston Business Journal; New England Cable News and WCVB TV, DESIGN New England May/June 08 features the PowerPod.
- Discovery Channel with Steve Thomas (This Old House) has filmed my work as an example of what the eco-friendly house of tomorrow can be.
- CNET News has run a video interview about the PowerPod and PowerHouse (<https://www.zdnet.com/article/modular-and-green-the-powerpod-seeks-a-home/>), and photo journal of one of our houses.
- PowerHouse was also featured in Prefabulous+Sustainable by Sherri Koones, forward by Robert Redford. Redford commented that the affordable, sustainable house PowerHouse designed for Lawrence MA, which elegantly incorporated industrial and salvaged materials pointed to a new way of affordable, sustainable urban construction in the US.
- Work has appeared in Business Week and the Green Alert Christmas wish list '06.
- BSA Citation, Kurdi Residence, work done with the Office of Richard C. Alvord, Build Boston, 1997
- Award Citation, Canadian International Film Festival, *Animated Short Film* October 1996
- Work appears in Millimeter Journal of Media, August 1996
- AIA/American Architectural Foundation Scholarship, academic year 1992-93
- Christian & Oline Larson Scholarship, U. I. C., academic year 1992-93

### **Volunteer Experience**

My volunteer work began with my participation in a grass-roots campaign to design, build and site small personal shelters for the homeless in Chicago (Mad Housers, Inc.) during graduate school, and volunteering remains a strong part of my personal ethic as an architect. Volunteer experiences include teaching a design curriculum to fifth-graders at Boston's Renaissance Charter School, serving as a carpenter for Habitat for Humanity and as a Site Captain for Christmas in April (Boston). I've been pleased to create sculptures and birdhouses, auctioned to raise funds for Shelter Inc. of Boston and I have also been happy to work with local architecture students, serving on juries at the Boston Architectural Center (BAC) and Harvard's Graduate School of Design (GSD).

I am currently a member of Team Rubicon, a veteran/civilian organization that volunteers in disaster-stricken areas world-wide. Because I have worked in many diverse but related fields, I am always glad to offer help and advice to volunteer organizations and start-ups. I am also on a new building task force for The Waring School in Beverly MA. The school is constructing a \$5M building to Passive House US standards. When certified by PHUS, the building will be the first of its kind for small independent schools in Massachusetts.

***Portfolio, video and references available upon request***