

“Creative Talk”

With Katrina Page, freelance illustrator and creative nomad, born and raised in the UK, currently based in Auckland.

Who are you? - How would you describe yourself?

That's a really hard question to answer – at the moment, I'd probably say creative nomad.

What do you love about your job?

I just love meeting creative people and seeing what they're inspired by, and what they create from that. I've been mainly freelancing as a Mac Operator this last year and you always see something new and exciting.

What keeps you sane and on top of your game?

I don't know, is it possible to stay sane? I've been travelling for 15 months now and found it difficult to do creative work when you lack the tools you're used to. I've always carried a small sketchbook with me though, you never know when you'll see something that will spark an idea, and when travelling, you see a lot.

What would you say your strengths and your weaknesses are?

I have an extremely dry sense of humour and a really overactive imagination – I'd also have to say that I'm secretly a bit of a perfectionist. I'm still trying to work out which of these are strengths or weaknesses.



What inspires you?

Everything! Pretty much anything can spark an idea.

As an illustrator/designer in a digitally dominated world, how much of your work is done by hand? And what is your all-time favourite digital tool or app and why?

I love using texture in my illustrations so most of that is usually created by hand. My favourite tool has to be Photoshop though, it's made the whole process so much quicker.



Tell us about your favourite or most memorable project you have worked on so far and why?

My favourite project by far has to be my final major project at University – we had so much freedom to explore what we wanted. I collected a wealth of stories by interviewing numerous older people about their lives. I then turned these into illustration to celebrate some of those experiences. I just enjoyed the whole process, you wouldn't have believed half the things they told me.

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If you hadn't become an Illustrator/Graphic Designer, what would you be doing now?

I originally wanted to study psychology but changed my mind last minute. Who knows where that would have taken me.

After growing up in the UK and travelling part of the world, how do you find working and living in "the little big smoke" – Auckland, NZ? And what would be your top destination to live and work?

I feel really at home here. I've had nothing but warm welcomes and met a load of really nice people. I don't really have a number 1 destination, I'm just seeing where life takes me.

Are you where you thought you would be 5 years ago? And where do you want to be in 5 years?

I had no idea I'd have been here 5 years ago, I've experienced and gained so much alone over these last 2, who knows where the next 5 will take me – watch this space.

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