



# DOMINIQUE JOHNSON

CREATIVE PROFESSIONAL

## PROFILE

Experienced Designer with a demonstrated history of working in the apparel and fashion industry. Skilled in CAD design, trend, fabric and customer research, creating technical spec packs, customer relations, liaising with the Far East and working under pressure to strict deadlines. Strong arts and design professional with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) focused in Fashion Design Knitwear from University of Leeds.

### CONTACT

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**L:** Leeds, UK

### EDUCATION

**BA (HONS) (IND)  
FASHION DESIGN KNITWEAR  
2.1**  
*University of Leeds  
2009-2013*

**A LEVELS  
BUSINESS STUDIES,  
TEXTILES,  
ENGLISH LITERATURE  
A, B, B**  
*Durham Johnston 6th Form  
2007-2009*

**GCSES  
11, INCLUDING:  
MATHS, ICT  
ENGLISH & FRENCH  
A-B**  
*Framwellgate School Durham  
2005-2007*

### EXPERIENCE

#### LADIESWEAR DESIGNER

*More UK LTD / Leeds / 2019 - present*

Ladieswear supplier to the high street including brands such as J D Williams, Yours Clothing, Dorothy Perkins, Roman Originals, Peacocks and Evans.  
Producer of "Classic" own brand concession range stocked in stores such as TJ Hughes, Boundary Mills and Arnott's Ireland, and "Emreco" brand concession and online range.

- Designing trend-driven ranges and products whilst taking into account target customers, price and commerciability.
- Designing shapes, prints, embellishment details and branding.
- Building ranges for concessions with visual and retail merchandising in mind.
- Creating visual merchandising guides for concessions stores.
- Communicating with factories in Vietnam and China to arrange samples and negotiate prices.
- Sourcing fabrics and trims with suppliers in the Far East always aiming to find the best possible price and quality.
- Managing customer accounts including design and product development, price negotiations, daily email communication and face to face meetings.
- Liaising with other departments, such as Technical and Merchandising, as well as factories in the Far East to ensure all details are followed through from development to production.
- Use of Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop & Microsoft Office on a daily basis.

#### DESIGNER

*R. H. Smith & Sons / Leeds / 2016 - 2019*

Fancy dress company supplying high street retailers with both own brand range and bespoke ranges.  
My role involves working on the bespoke ranges for customers including George, Walmart, ASDA, Tesco, Sainsbury's and Universal Studios.

#### Key responsibilities included:

- Researching and identifying key seasonal trends, new characters and new product opportunities to support growth and expansion of the business.
- Designing ranges for a variety of different seasons.
- Designing with innovation and flair whilst taking into account retailer's target customers, target prices and commerciability.
- Designing a range of products including costumes from toddler to adult, accessories, tableware and props.
- Managing customer accounts & face-to-face customer meetings, ensuring all design requirements regarding development of products were clearly understood and developed accordingly.
- Working within in a rapid paced and energetic environment, whilst thinking outside the box and meeting deadlines.
- Excellent knowledge of garment construction and manufacturing process with the ability to produce accurate and detailed CAD designs, spec working drawings and artworks.
- Liaising with Far East suppliers and factories on a day to day basis to ensure ranges/styles are executed correctly.
- Working closely internally with other departments such as Sales and Technical to ensure the product is fit for purpose, safe and the right price from the start of the development process.
- Overseas travel to the Far East to oversee sampling, USA for research and customer meetings.
- Use of Adobe CS Suite and Microsoft Office on a day to day basis.

SKILLS	EXPERIENCE
<p><b>PRACTICAL</b></p> <p>Hand and machine knitting and sewing (industrial and domestic)  Amends and garment care  Hand drawing  CADs  Technical drawings  Specs  Print design</p> <p><b>ICT</b></p> <p>Adobe Creative Suite particularly Illustrator and Photoshop  Microsoft Office  Windows and Mac literate</p> <p><b>PERSONAL</b></p> <p>Very organized  Great timekeeper  Good communicator, both written and verbally  Team player  Works well under pressure</p>	<p><b>PRODUCTION ASSISTANT</b>  <i>Project AF/ London/ 2014 - 2015</i></p> <p>Printed fabric supplier to the high street. Customers include Wallis, Dorothy Perkins, Debenhams, M &amp; Co. and BHS.</p> <p>Key responsibilities included:  - Liaising with mills in Turkey and the Far East.  - Arranging strike-offs, samples and lab dips based on customer requirements, CADs and pantones.  - QCing prints and bulk samples, relaying comments back to the mills.  - Raising POs and SOs on Sage Accounts.  - Archiving, organization and general office support.</p> <p><b>FREELANCE PRODUCTION ASSISTANT</b>  <i>Roland Mouret / London/ 2014</i></p> <p>Luxury womenswear brand.</p> <p>Key responsibilities included:  - Organizing and collecting materials, trims, components and specification sheets for production packs to be sent to factories in the UK, France, Italy and China.  - Assisting on production fittings, taking detailed notes to be relayed back to the factories.</p> <p><b>KNITWEAR STUDIO ASSISTANT</b>  <i>Mary Katrantzou/ London/ 2014</i></p> <p>Luxury womenswear brand specialising in prints, embroidery and embellishment.</p>
<p><b>ACHIEVEMENTS</b></p>	<p>Key responsibilities included:  - Producing hand and domestic machine knit samples for showpieces and production based on imagery provided by the design team.  - Fabric and trim research.  - Knitwear intarsia and print placement design.  - Creating spec sheets for amendments and embroidery placements, relaying changes and comments to factories in the UK and the Far East.  - Assisting on fittings for show and production, taking care of garments and making quick amends.</p>
<p><i>Nominee for</i></p> <p><b>BEST LICENSED DRESS-UP OR PARTYWEAR RANGE</b></p> <p><i>The British Licensing Awards 2018</i></p>	<p><b>FREELANCER - KNITTER</b>  <i>2012 - 2015</i></p> <p>Sarah Hellen, London  Luxury menswear brand.</p> <p>C.V.G., London  Luxury knitwear brand.</p> <p>Leutton Postle, London  Luxury knitwear brand.</p> <p><b>INTERNSHIPS</b>  <i>2011 - 2013</i></p> <p>Percival, London  Luxury menswear brand.</p> <p>Leutton Postle, London  Luxury knitwear brand.</p> <p>Cooperative Designs, London  Luxury knitwear brand.</p>

**REFERENCES**

**LAURA SCHOFIELD**

Senior Designer  
R. H. Smith & Sons

**CLAIRE GOTHARD**

Group Account Manager  
R. H. Smith & Sons

*Details available on request*