

# Monica John

## Design Professional

📍 Alpharetta, GA 30022 (Open to Remote/Relocation)

### CONTACT

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### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Inventive and tenacious designer with extensive expertise in apparel and accessories product development, technical design, and manufacturing. Skilled and purposeful professional with a strong knowledge of design software and a proven ability to nimbly and effectively collaborate with cross-functional teams.

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### Self Employed-Monica John Design Studio, New York, NY/Atlanta, GA 02/2018 – Present Freelance Designer

- Partner with clients to transform tailored measurements into custom apparel designs.
- Apply technical skills to create and/or modify block patterns; revise patterns based on client fittings and feedback.
- Construct and finish garments utilizing industrial and home machinery.

#### Swain Apparel Group, Alpharetta, GA 02/2024 – 08/2024 Product Development Coordinator

- Conducted market research for six collections of menswear, womenswear and children's apparel, accessories and lifestyle products in alignment with brand identity and company goals.
- Translated 30+ approved styles for each season into vector mockups and technical drawings utilizing Adobe Illustrator for product development with Asia based suppliers.
- Selected fabrics, trims and finishes; created tech packs for proto production with graded specs, construction sketches and pattern adjustments which covered four size categories including missy, men's and plus sizes.
- Measured and inspected proto samples for adherence to vendor supplied specs and tech pack instructions.
- Scheduled and administered 1-2 monthly fittings; updated tech packs in PLM and used Illustrator and Photoshop to provide visual clarification to factories, which propelled production forward to completion.
- Streamlined the digital design library, enhancing design department accessibility; coordinated efforts with four key departments including management and manufacturing ensuring that on-time delivery deadlines were met.

#### The Apparel Group LTD, New York, NY 11/2013 – 06/2015 Production Coordinator

- Managed 400-500 apparel PO's each season for domestic and international clients spanning Europe, Asia and Latin America.
- Translated design ideas into CAD sketches and digital pattern illustrations; wrote specs in Microsoft Excel for dispensation between five international production partners.
- Acted as main point of contact for six vendors in Asia; answered queries related to specs, trims, construction and garment fit, which reduced errors in proto development.
- Evaluated and measured prototype samples; conducted two weekly fittings on missy and plus sized models; identified fit problems and offered solutions by fitting, cutting and pinning samples as necessary; photographed samples on and off live models to clearly identify revisions for proto and pre-production samples.
- Provided and tracked fit comments, proto and production efficiency and seasonal deliveries to meet contract deadlines utilizing Microsoft Excel and daily email communications.
- Oversaw quality assurance; reviewed pre-production and top of production garments; ensured factories implemented amendments where necessary.

#### Tommy Hilfiger, New York, NY 08/2013 – 10/2013 Freelance Designer

- Assisted menswear design team to develop and execute 20+ visually pleasing CAD sketch presentations for product development and marketing meetings covering seasonal branded products.

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### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### **Bolívares Nueva York, Long Island City, NY**

03/2012 – 11/2013

##### Men's Cut and Sew Designer

- Conceived three seasons of men's apparel with creative director for Latin inspired street wear start-up.
- Rendered CAD sketches, technical drawings and custom prints based on approved development, which established accurate representation of design elements and streamlined production workflows by 50%.
- Identified potential production, quality and costing issues and offered guidance on changes that would reduce occurrences, maintain design aesthetic integrity and brand identity.
- Measured proto samples and contributed expertise in garment fittings; disseminated corrections to three South American based manufacturing partners.

#### **KBL Group International, New York, NY**

04/2011 – 01/2012

##### Men's Sweaters Designer

##### Women's Assistant Designer, Sweaters

- Conceptualized and executed two seasons of cut and sew knits and sweater development for branded labels Alex Stevens, Buckle and Heather B.
- Generated CAD and technical sketches; established seasonal line sheets; assembled and preserved tech pack and color standard archives, which increased efficiency in referencing previous product development by 20%.

#### **MIX/NY Brand Studio, New York, NY**

11/2010 – 03/2011

##### Assistant Designer, Women's Cut and Sew Knits

- Worked with design and marketing team to launch MIX Apparel in twenty Coles supermarket locations in Australia.
- Produced mockup sketches, digital mood boards, color cards, line sheets and tech packs by harnessing tools such as Microsoft Excel and Adobe Illustrator.

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### EDUCATION

#### **Fashion Institute of Technology, New York, NY**

2009

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Design (Tailoring and Knitwear Concentrations)

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### SOFTWARE SKILLS

- |                     |                        |                 |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| • Adobe Illustrator | • Microsoft Word       | • Google Docs   |
| • Adobe Photoshop   | • Microsoft Excel      | • Google Sheets |
| • Adobe In-Design   | • Microsoft PowerPoint | • Google Slides |
| • PLM               | • Microsoft Teams      | • Google Forms  |

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### HARD SKILLS

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|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| • Apparel Design               | • Pattern Making   | • Construction         |
| • Accessories Design           | • Technical Design | • Fit                  |
| • Textile Design and Fabrics   | • Specs            | • Production           |
| • Technical Illustration (CAD) | • Grading          | • Quality Control (QC) |

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### SOFT SKILLS

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|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Task Management       | • Flexibility         | • Organization        |
| • Written Communication | • Innovative Thinking | • Conflict Resolution |
| • Verbal Communication  | • Negotiating         | • Perseverance        |
| • Project Accuracy      | • Vendor Management   | • Creativity          |