

# WHO WE ARE

Platform is a branding, illustration and design studio. We build brands and design communications for the cultural and culinary industries. We work with people who make the world better, more flavourful, and more diverse in its ideas.

# HOW WE WORK

From your first interaction with Platform, we work to understand your business and design needs. Our well-defined project management practices support our creative efforts once a project is underway. Most importantly, our practices outline what you can expect as our client.

From one-time deliverables to ongoing engagements, we are dedicated to delivering work of the highest creative standards, on time and on budget. We keep clients and stakeholders informed and engaged throughout the process.

# **PROJECT PHASES**

**INITIATION** Defining the project details, scope and schedule.

RESEARCH Exploring your business goals, target audiences, and competitive landscape. This can be fast, using information on-hand, or can be more in depth with market surveys, stakeholder interviews, and so on. Goal: to conduct just the right amount of research to provide insight into your audience's behavoirs and needs.

**STRATEGY** Outlining the most effective creative solutions, campaign directions, and work processes to meet your goals.

**DESIGN** Creating your brand, marketing materials, website, campaign, etc. This typically includes 2 to 3 rounds of feedback, although complex projects require more check-ins.

**PRODUCTION** Preparing files and managing the production of deliverables (web development, fabrication, print, etc)

**DOCUMENTATION** Providing graphic standards and (often) tone-of-voice documentation to help you manage your brand or design assets.

**WRAP-UP** Debriefing and identifying lessons learned, best practices, feedback.



Pictured above: Villagers (the name given to those who eat Village Ice Cream). Pictured below: Tart pattern for the patisserie formerly known as Brulée.

# MODERN OFFICE OF DESIGN + ARCHITECTURE





Modern Office (formerly known as MODA) is a renowned Calgary based architectural firm with a reputation for its innovative and unconventional approach to projects wihtin the fields of architecture and design.

# **PROJECT DETAILS**

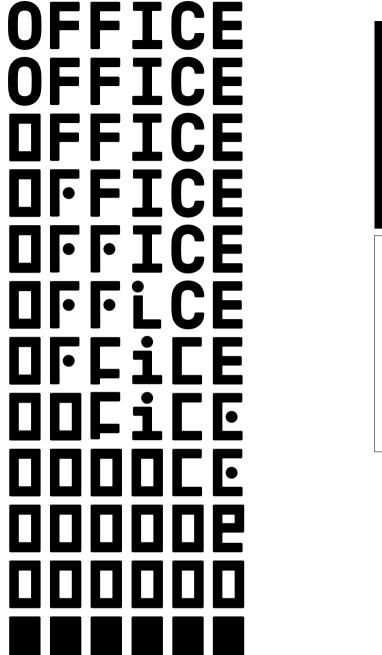
The rebranding of local architecture firm MODA came about because the firm no longer wanted to be known by their acronym—it confused their audience and did not allow them to grow into other categories of work, such as product development and architectural/arts interventions in public space.

The branding device (Modern Office with a slash) will allow them to apply different discriptors to the main brand, and to sensibly and clearly expand their offering.

# SERVICES PROVIDED

Branding Brand Application Naming consultation

# MODERN MODERN MODERN MDDERN $\bullet$ MODERN Û











Buttermilk set out to create an all-day waffle shop, with the space programmed for arts activities, movie nights, music, and so on.

# **PROJECT DETAILS**

All-day waffles on 17th Avenue didn't quite work as planned (price point, product offering, and rental rates mostly being the problem). But the waffle shop lives on as a pop-up, an easy-mix (DIY) product, and a well-loved and out-of-the-ordinary experience.

## SERVICES PROVIDED

Naming Branding Packaging/labelling system Signage Interior art installation Event branding Opening campaign and marketing Copywriting

# CREDITS

The main wall intallation was a collabortive effort between Platform and the gentlemen at svcret city.











This is *the* Ismaili cookbook—award-winning, thorough, comprehensive, well-photographed and absolutely delicious.



# **PROJECT DETAILS**

The 2013 Alberta floods inundated Noorbanu Nimji's basement, destroying all her previous copies of her huge-selling self-published cookbooks. So she and her friend decided to create a new, larger (320 page) cookbook to record, preserve and share her cast knowledge of Ishmaili cuisine.

A few years later, and after much testing and documenting, the book is complete and Noorbanu says she can die happy (

# SERVICES PROVIDED

Branding Design and layout Promotional materials Eating

# CREDITS

Noorbanu Nimji deserves credit for *everything*. Karen Anderson dilligently pursued the whole project: copywriting, food styling, you name it. Pauli-Anne Creer: photographer. Tilli Sanchez: editing, lots of editing. Julie Van Rosendaal: food stylist consultant.







Caffe Rosso started as a single coffee shop in Ramsay. They were ready to launch an ambitious expansion: in-house roasting, multiple new locations, a much-expanded product offering, and a subscription service for the coffeelover and tea-curious.

# **PROJECT DETAILS**

We worked with the founders to test a new, simpler name (Rosso) and to develop branding, assets, and implementation guidelines to successfully meet their goals.

Of interest: the brand platform allowed Rosso to continue their expansion efforts with in-house design and communication.

We consider Rosso a great support to the Calgary cultural scene. They are agile, will support all kinds of cultural events, and they make great *Third Place*\* venues where meaningful things can happen.

\* See: The Great Good Place, Ray Oldenburg (1989). Home is the "first place," work is the "second place," and centres of community (cafes, community centres, etc) are the culturally significant "third place."

# SERVICES PROVIDED

Naming Branding Packaging system Signage Subscription campaign marketing Assets and brand guidelines for in-house work

# CREDITS

Cole, David and Jessie, who run Rosso, are inspiring. Holland Design worked on the Inglewood shop (top left): they are brilliant people.







**COFFEE ROASTERS** 











CALGARY 2012



Calgary was designated the Cultural Capital of Canada in 2012. This isn't a figure of speech: the federal Department of Canadian Heritage gave Calgarians money to make art—to produce events, and to provide grants.

# **PROJECT DETAILS**

Funds were distributed to thousands of projects. We got to help with this program, and in the end (in 2013) made a book documenting all of the THOUSANDS of arts activities that took place across the city.

### SERVICES PROVIDED

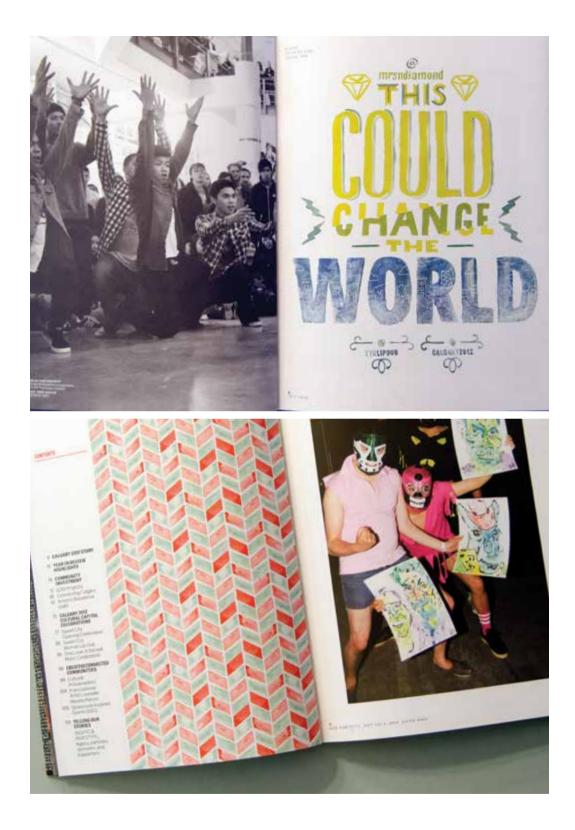
Shown here: Book Design, illustration, information design. Platform provided numerous other design services to Calgary 2012, from event branding to zamboni-wraps to banner ads.

### CREDITS

Printing by Unicom. Cover art by Brian Batista; much of the interior photography by Sean Dennie. Writing, help, direction and feedback provided by Alyssa Berry, Karen Ball, Linnea Dixon, and Michael Green.

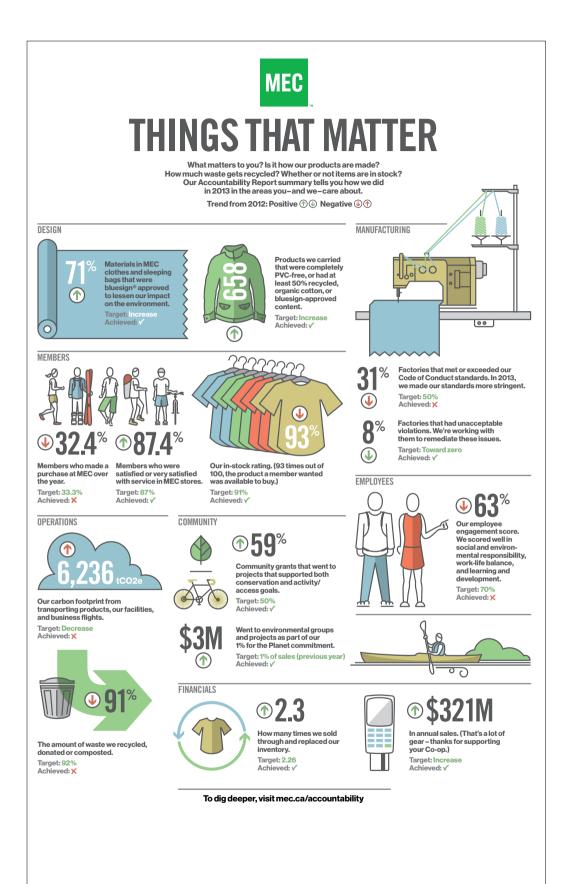


We received an Anvil Award in the Best Brochure Design category for our 132 page Calgary 2012 book.









Mountain Equipment Co-op is an early adopter of 1% for the planet, bluesign textile systems, and other industry-specific sustainability initiatives. As a values-driven organization, they take corporate and sustainability reporting seriously.

# **PROJECT DETAILS**

We've worked on a number of accountability reports for MEC.

The work is based in data and dumpster diving, and in the end must be presented as a longer form as well as an easily understand quick look for the average member of MEC.

Not shown: other projects with MEC, from in-store signage, outdoor ad campaigns, and development of information graphics for product as well as bicycle fitting principles.

# SERVICES PROVIDED

Information design Illustration Web assets

# CREDITS

Various sustainability directors at MEC; copywriting and editing by Victoria Bushnell.



Above (top): "Mother" brand; (below): icon.

Right: Market specific consumer-facing sub-brands **ALBERTA FOOD TOURS** 

Karen Anderson has expanded Calgary food Tours to include the whole province. This is an amazing organization that is quickly becoming vital to tourism, culture, and the food industry in our province.

# **PROJECT DETAILS**

Last year we took our Calgary Food Tours brand, and expanded it to encompass the whole province.

Specifically: Edmonton and Canmore identities, as well as a sales and media website for travel agents in other countries to book tours:

albertafoodtours.ca

# SERVICES PROVIDED

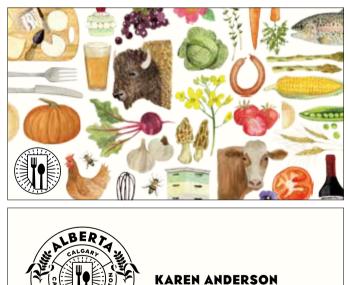
Branding Illustration Copy editing Web design Various marketing assets

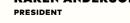
# CREDITS

Karen Anderson is a hero. Tilly Sanchez: copy editing, also hero.



Above: Alberta Food Tours illustrated food pattern, for use on various material.





PHONE 403 968 2783 EMAIL karen@albertafoodtours.ca WEB albertafoodtours.ca

FOOD, FUN & ADVENTURE! Creating authentic connections to Alberta's culture



Above: Business Card.



**VILLAGE ICE CREAM** 

Village Ice Cream is an institution in Calgary. Sure: it's easy to think that it's just Ice Cream. But the parking lot in Victoria Park is also a cultural hub (with big things coming up), not to mention in the top 5 of most-instagrammed places in Calgary!

# **PROJECT DETAILS**

Branding from start-up to present day. Many of the pieces use research and strategic engagement to involve Villagers (Village customers) in the work.

Example: the pints are all actual people that supported Village from the beginning. The bags are all data pulled from a 1,500 Villager survey.

# SERVICES PROVIDED

Branding Illustration Copy writing Web design Campaign management Space design

# CREDITS

The Village team of young executives (they seem to like that word); Rick Jansen, sign painter; Mckinley Burkart: interior design.



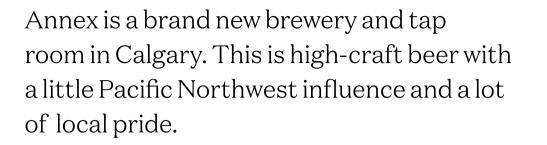




This is a platform project. Page 33 of 40

**ANNEX ALE PROJECT** 











# **PROJECT DETAILS**

Branding from start-up to present day, both for the Soda line (shown) and the expanding beer line.

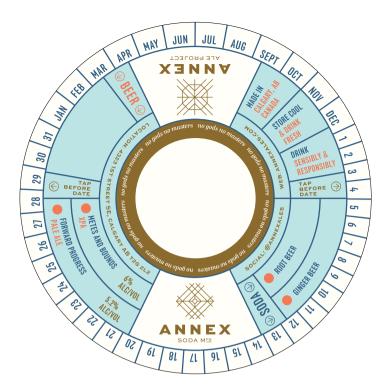
Not shown yet: New can packaging (just released), development of identity and assets for the Barley Belt, a collaboration with 6 local breweries, site signage and other wall art installations.

# SERVICES PROVIDED

Branding Illustration Copy writing Web design Fund-raising support material

# CREDITS

Erica and Andrew: beer visionaries.











This is a platform project. Page 37 of 40

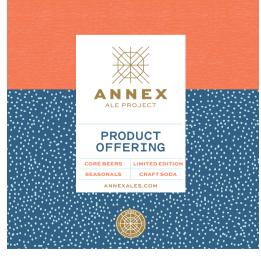
















**OSHIIS SURF & YOGA** 













Oshiis is a Calgary and Costa Rica based surf and yoga company. Through their extensive network of Central American partners, they put together an amazing surf/yoga/food/culture 7-day experience. You should try it!

# **PROJECT DETAILS**

Start-up branding, with specific requirements: Convey a surf-oreinted retreat experience; create a variety of brand marks for web, print, and screenprinting on wetsuits; and deliver a brand and asset package that can easily be used in-house for on-going marketing efforts.

# SERVICES PROVIDED

Branding Illustration/pattern design

# CREDITS

Amy Kapitza for making this amazing thing happen; Joanna "Magik" Majcherkiewicz for great web copywriting.

# SERVICES

# BRANDING

Visual identity Brand strategy and development Brand guidelines Naming strategy Slogans and taglines Copywriting and tone of voice

# PRINT AND TACTILE

Books and publications Editorial Annual reports Packaging and labeling Print and promotional collateral Stationary packages

# WEB

Web design and development Social Media support Digital campaign support

# ART DIRECTION

Photography Illustration Brand application to environment

# ENVIRONMENTAL

Space and Retail Signage and Wayfinding

# PARTIAL CLIENT LIST

Mountain Equipment Co-op United Nations Vancouver Coastal Health Authority Village Ice Cream Alberta Food Tours ROSSO Travel Alberta Sidewalk Citizen BC Parks Buttermilk Fine Waffles Annex Ale Projects Gastown Business Improvement Assoc. Red Deer Public Schools Calgary 2012

# CONTACT

*Nina Palmer* Owner/Designer nina@platformdesign.ca 403 620 4515

*Todd Macfie* Owner/Designer todd@platformdesign.ca 587 226 6583