



LUCAS HESSE

MAINZ, GERMANY

He is currently completing his bachelor's degree in graphic design in Mainz. During his studies he spent a semester abroad in Seoul, for a guest course at the HFG in Offenbach under the direction of Eike König, as well as in Rotterdam for an internship at Studio Dumbar. This made him "curious about how different personalities and people from different cultures approach design." It taught the designer how some influences can indirectly effect one another, and Lucas brings this principle to a graphic design practice focused on typography, editorial and graphic design.

"My work is built very systematically,
I break down the content into its simplest
form and put it in a graphic scheme
that's as straightforward as possible."

This is seen in the designer's Swiss-inspired work that focuses on grid-based simplicity which offers the viewer an obtainable clarity. Lucas' "reduced graphic" aesthetic also translates through a mainly monochrome colour scheme, amplified by designs that are based on the "graphic environment" such as geometric shapes or contours.



How much has your living abroad influenced your education, and if you were asked to advise an aspiring graphic designer which destination would you recommend and why?

For me, it is difficult to separate work-related and personal influences, since most ideas come up when you don't expect them. Nevertheless, my stays abroad brought me a lot of personal progress, which in turn had a strong influence on me as a designer. For this reason, it is difficult to pinpoint inspirations in one place. My semester abroad in Korea was an incomparable experience, especially because I had never been outside Europe before. But my time in the Netherlands was also very important, as I always wanted to live there. In relation to graphic design, the Netherlands is always a great inspiration. I am fascinated by how design is accepted and even assumed in society there. But these were only two examples. I think we are influenced by our environment everywhere and every

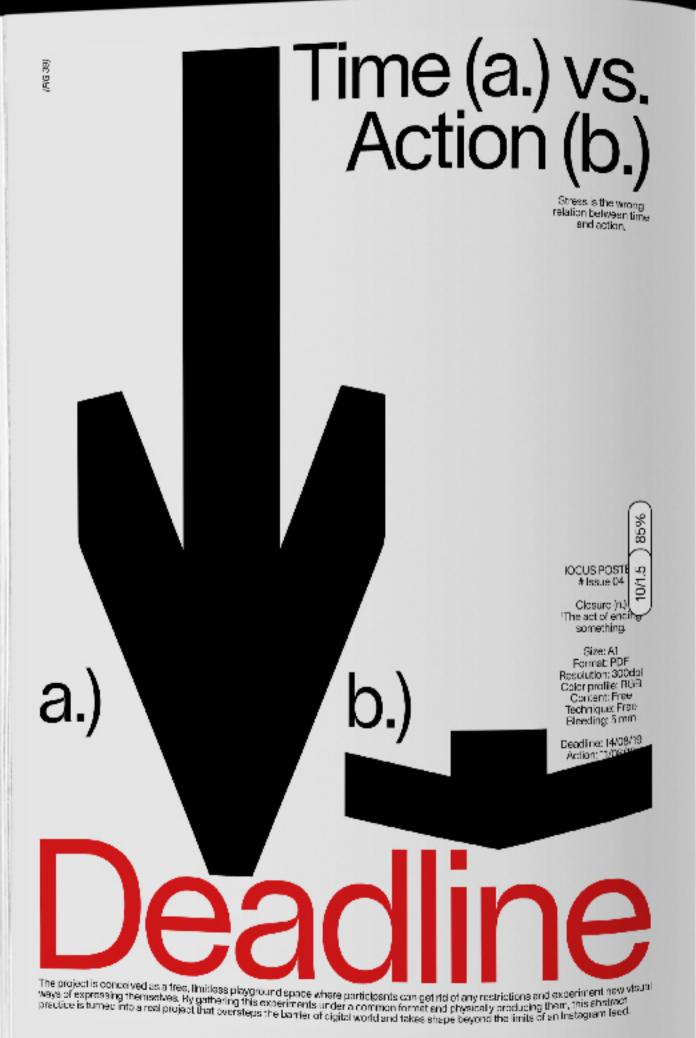
Although you are still studying, your website displays a fair amount of working collaborations. What are the difficulties of being both a student and a freelancer at the same time, and how do you relate to them?

During my studies, I started working as a freelancer. In the beginning, I hardly got any assignments and set focus on the projects in my studies. With the time the focus shifted. I took fewer courses at the university, the projects became smaller, but instead, I worked more on commercial assignments. So there was no conflict between those two areas. The study of graphic design provides students with a lot of freedom to design their studies according to their wishes. Now, during my graduation project, I realize how important planning and time management is to be able to combine both

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feel about it?

as a designer and what my skills are.

Your Instagram profile can boast a consistent number During your higher education, were you most influenced of followers. Do you think that people could consider by the university context or by the environment outside you an influencer? If that was the case, how would you of it (such as the urban scene, travels, Instagram, etc.)? In the beginning, university definitely influenced me I don't like the term "Influencer", nor would I call myself the most, especially for an essential understanding of that. However, I can't disengage myself from the fact what graphic design is. This is what has enabled me that with increasing visibility, I influence others through to discover and develop my expertise on typography. my work. But for me, Instagram is primarily a kind of motion design and coding. But beyond that, I am "archive" of my work. This function also has its own influenced by much more than just the university, website, Pinterest, Tumbir etc., but Instagram makes it by my habitat and in a certain way by my digital very easy to share my projects. It allows me to publish environment with platforms like Pinterest, Behance, any piece of work, no matter how small, in any situation. dribble and many more. Especially Instagram has This is an opportunity to create an extensive portfolio made a significant contribution to this. But if you only for and about myself. Because of the simplicity and the let yourself be influenced by the digital media with their daily access I can always confront myself with who I'm current trends, you lack the basic and the different perspectives on the design itself, which you discover during your studies.



