

Slanted: the design magazine with a heart

Being an avid reader of magazines, and design magazines, in particular, I have watched the ebb and flow of many print publications over the years. Some, like *Communication Arts*, are still here and thriving, while others, such as *Print Magazine*, are now only available online. Still, I am always on the lookout for design magazines with fresh and engaging content. So when a colleague from Temple University, Ian Lynam (from Temple's Tokyo campus) told me about Slanted, I was pleased to be introduced to a publication that for me, is a portal into design and design culture that I am not typically exposed to on a daily basis. To me, this is the magic of a publication like Slanted. With its unique thematic editions that focus on specific cities and countries, it presents a holistic view of the design world. Through its pages, I can study great designers and their work but just as importantly, I can read thought-provoking, timely and fascinating essays. Slanted opens up dialogues and ideas around design (and beyond) that are not always readily available to many designers and readers. It has given me a wider appreciation of design and designers that I might otherwise not have encountered. Writing for Slanted has been a singular experience too. Working closely with editor Julia Kahl and her team affords me the space to delve into topics, in-depth, and explore areas of interests that dovetail with their chosen theme.

Of course, design magazines, like many other printed publications, are having to evolve with the technologically driven times we live in. Changes in readership and access, have fundamentally

altered how we interact with content, and design publications have had to adapt accordingly with an augmented online presence and outreach through digital platforms. Fortunately, publications like Slanted, with high production values, a great heart, and an ear to the pulse of current design, will survive and no doubt thrive in this evolving market.

Bio:

Dermot Mac Cormack is a designer, educator, and writer, living near Philadelphia. Together with Patricia McElroy, he is a partner in an award-winning, multidisciplinary design firm, 21xdesign. He is also an Associate Professor and Chair of the Graphic Arts & Design Department at Tyler School of Art, Temple University, in Philadelphia. His work has earned numerous awards and has appeared in design publications and exhibitions both nationally and internationally. His passion for design and education has always been driven by the desire to both learn from and inspire, the next generation of designers. He has also been fortunate to teach in international locations, in Rome and Tokyo.

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