



Sophia Neill

Industrial Designer

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"The Feed Slipper" designed by me!

PROFESIONAL SUMMARY

Entering the professional design world as a design consultant has been an incredible journey, giving me the chance to bring ideas to life, tackle real-world challenges, and collaborate with talented industry professionals. I've always loved problem-solving through design, whether it's refining product development, 3D modeling, or prototyping. What excites me most is exploring how technology and functional design come together, particularly in additive manufacturing, parametric design, and sustainable materials. Growing up in a rural environment and having been grounded in hands-on making and teamwork has given me a practical, collaborative, and problem-solving approach to design. Completing my Master of Design Innovation with a focus on parametric 3D printing opened doors to presenting research internationally and working alongside industry experts, constantly learning and evolving as a designer. I'm excited to take on new challenges, explore fresh ideas, and contribute to meaningful projects that make an impact.

Related Work Experience:

- ✓ Design Consultant (Autex)
- ✓ Industrial Design Tutor (VUW)
- ✓ 3D Modeling Tutor (VUW, online)
- ✓ Logo Design (freelance)
- ✓ Feature Product Designer (LVMH)
- ✓ Packaging Concept Designer (freelance)
- ✓ Exhibition Organiser (VUW)
- ✓ Paid Researcher (VUW, NZPA)
- ✓ Dental Lab Technician (SmileWise)
- ✓ Jewellery Designer (freelance)

AUTEX ACCOUSTICS

Design Consultant – Interior Acoustics / 2023 - present

As a design consultant, I collaborate with sales, manufacturing, architects, and installation teams to develop custom acoustical solutions for commercial spaces. I specialise in technical drawing, installation guides, and overseeing production, ensuring both aesthetic and functional quality. This role has strengthened my skills in problem-solving, project coordination, and production for mass manufacture. I've also taken creative lead on key projects, including designing the 2024 Best Design Awards lectern, the ceiling feature to the Air New Zealand Premium Check-in Lounge, and internal Autex projects such as the Mt Smart Corporate Box and Wellness Centre refurbishment.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Bachelor of Design Innovation / Masters of Design Innovation / 2018 - 2022

I completed my Master of Design Innovation in 2023, specialising in parametric design for additive manufacturing. This degree strengthened my expertise in digital modeling, fabrication, and emerging technologies, while also allowing me to tutor undergraduate Design Innovation courses. My research in 3D printing and parametric systems earned a New Zealand Product Accelerator scholarship and industry recognition. My undergraduate work received a Finalist Best Design Award (New Zealand) and an A'Design Award (Italy), leading to international exhibitions in Italy, Turkey, and China and features in many design publications. I also achieved a GPA of 8.3, made the 2020 Dean's List, and received two postgraduate scholarships.

Software: ✓SolidWorks ✓AutoCAD ✓Fusion 360 ✓Rhino ✓Grasshopper ✓KeyShot ✓Blender ✓Visualise ✓Adobe Creative Suite (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign)

Prototyping & Fabrication: ✓3D Printing (FDM, SLA, PolyJet) ✓CNC Machining ✓Water Cutting ✓Laser Cutting