



John M Girimont | ePortfolio 0909-A
Graphic Production and Photo Illustration



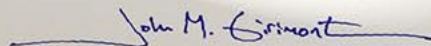
I am a freelance production artist and photo illustrator who has what it takes to bridge the gap between your initial idea and the finished product. My skills and attention to detail allow agencies and designers to focus their energies on their biggest source of revenue: the concept.

Over 17 years experience in electronic pre-press and three years serving as production coordinator and imaging specialist for a talented marketing agency have given me the skills to handle every aspect of concept realization:

- high quality file creation and photo manipulation for everything from web banners to billboards
- create interactive presentations in either Powerpoint, Keynote or Acrobat
- finalization of the layout and resizing it for various uses
- incorporation of images with other graphics and text
- communication with the vendor and adherence to his specifications
- color management of files for both print and internet
- collection of layout files, links and fonts, and/or generation of the final press-ready PDF
- printing and markup of lasers
- building mockups and folding dummies
- and much more!

If you are interested in finding out just what I can do for you, please contact me at 804-651-5973, or e-mail me at john@imaginationbox.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



TAKING ADVANTAGE OF SOME STOCK OPTIONS

Special Olympics Fanaticism	1
Your Name Engraved Here	2

THE BEST PART OF THE JOB IS WHEN I GET TO WEAR THE WHITE HAT

High Rise Interior Decorating	3
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BRINGING ILLUSTRATOR INTO THE PICTURE

Client-Centric Chart Graphic	4
3D Logo Design	5

GIVING GETTYSBURG A LITTLE MORE OOMPH

The Cyclorama Facelift	6
Historic Montage	7

ONE SWEET LITTLE SELF-MAILER

My Most Difficult Brochure to Date	8
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THE ODD THINGS THAT HAPPEN WHEN I'M IN THE DESIGNER'S SEAT

A Bit of Music Piracy.....	9
Johnny and June.....	10

OTHER STUFF NOT QUITE SO PRETTY

My Resumé	11
I'll Need a Pair of Appendectomies	13

CLIENT

Special Olympics

AGENCY

RightMinds

SOFTWARE

Photoshop CS2

BACKGROUND

The creative director had sold the concept to the client before realizing we did not own the \$499 stock photo on the left; far too expensive for a pro bono job. I suggested that I could easily create the same crazed fanaticism using a couple of \$15 stock images found on iStock, and some liberal application of "man makeup" in Photoshop.



CLIENT

LandAmerica

AGENCY

RightMinds

SOFTWARE

Photoshop & Illustrator CS2

BACKGROUND

The client wanted an image that conveyed how their merger with CNP gave the company a well-established presence in Europe. The art director's thought was nothing says "European presence" more than engraving your name into the side of a Downing Street address. It was my job to make the concept come to life using Illustrator to angle the logos, and Photoshop for everything else.



CLIENT

LandAmerica

AGENCY

RightMinds

SOFTWARE

Photoshop CS2

BACKGROUND

An outside firm had been hired to create this "peeling building" illustration. They built the model, did the photography, created the cityscape and did most of the imaging. But when it came to creating convincing office spaces within the building interior they just couldn't get it right. With only three days before the ad drop date, it was my task to finish the project by creating the interior spaces and making some significant adjustments to the cityscape.

[LEARN MORE](#)



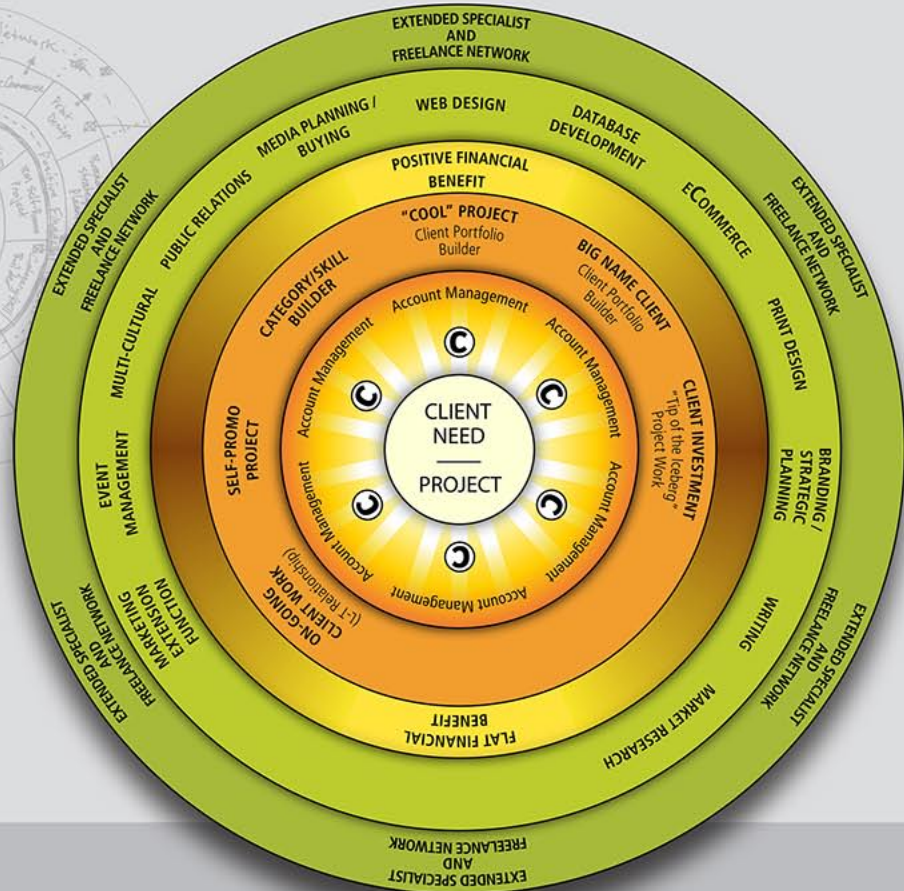
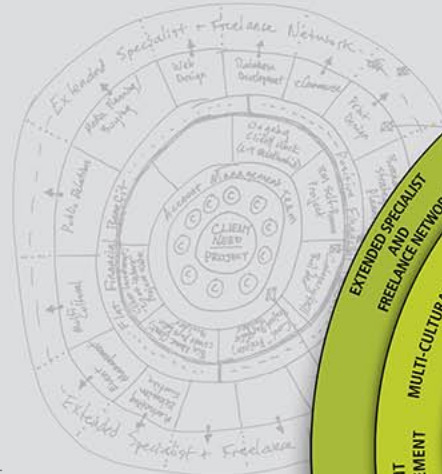
CLIENT
Internal

AGENCY
RightMinds

SOFTWARE
Illustrator CS2

BACKGROUND

One of our sales managers was preparing for a presentation to a new client the next day and all he had was a rough pencil sketch of a circular workflow chart that he wanted cleaned up. His one request was that the art needed to reflect the Client Need as the central focus, so I chose the color scheme and use of gradients as a means to convey this.



CLIENT

Preferred Outlets at Lake Park

AGENCY

Spurrer Media Group

SOFTWARE

Illustrator CS3

BACKGROUND

The client was holding a series of game show auditions in area malls and needed a logo for the series. The art director asked me to base my logo on that of the hit show "Are You Smarter Than a Fifth Grader". This logo was done completely in Illustrator making use of its excellent 3D capabilities.



CLIENT

Gettysburg Foundation

AGENCY

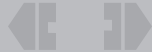
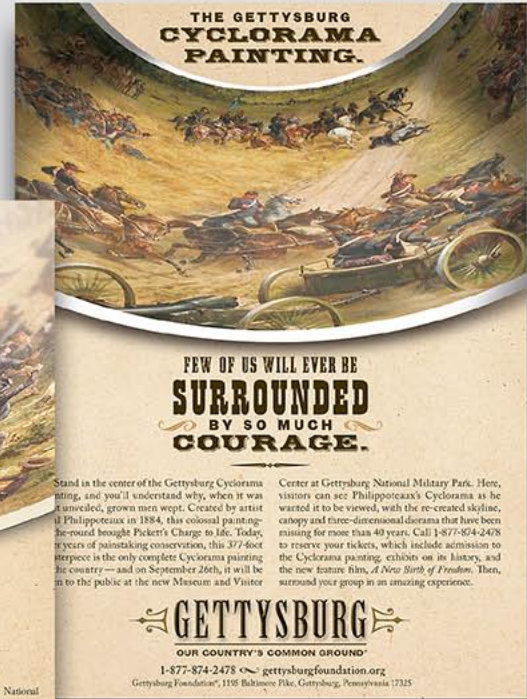
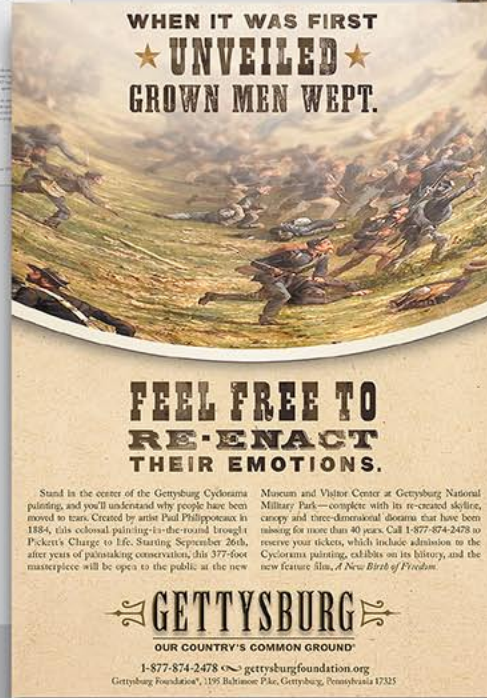
Freelance (with art direction)

SOFTWARE

Photoshop & InDesign CS3

BACKGROUND

Asked by the client to develop some ads for the upcoming unveiling of the restored Cyclorama Painting, the art director came up with some great concepts, but her initial use of the image (small ad to the left) did not have the impact I felt the ad—or the painting—deserved. Both the art director and the Foundation were very pleased with the wrap around images I created.



CLIENT

Gettysburg Foundation

AGENCY

Freelance (with art direction)

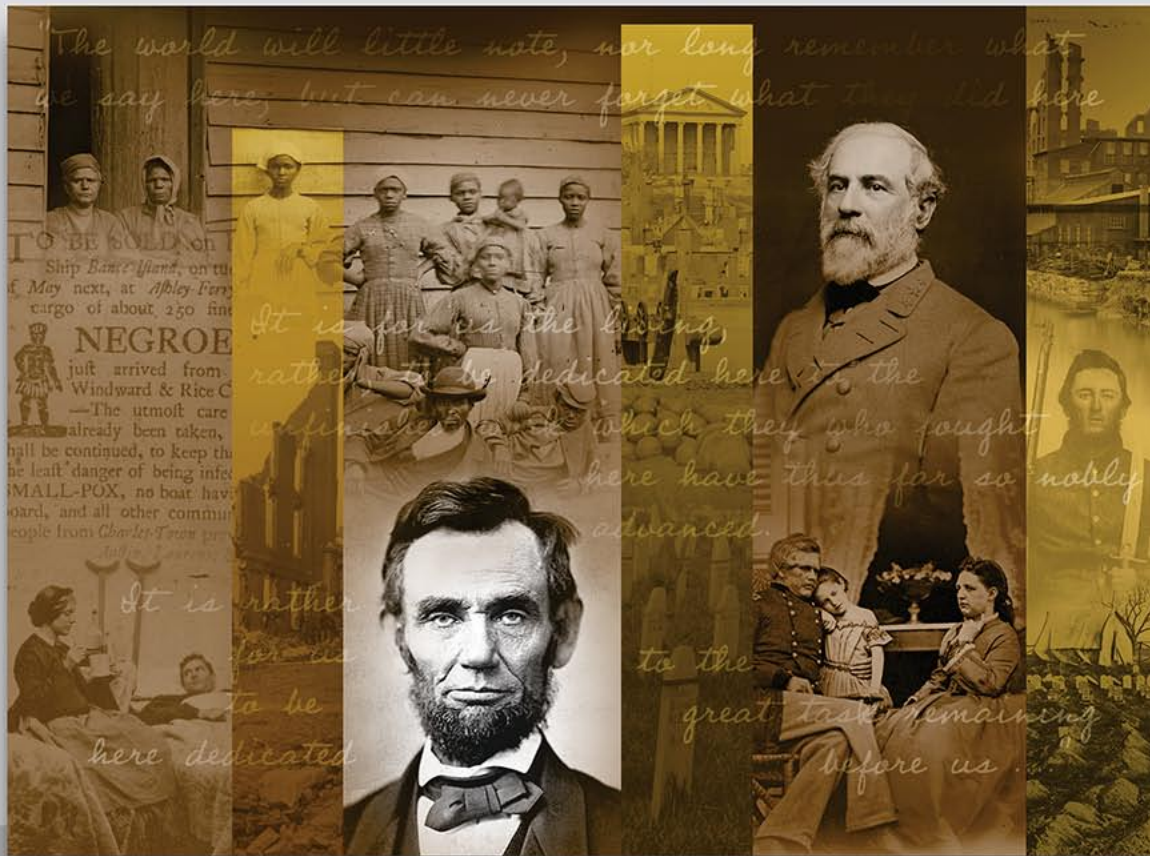
SOFTWARE

Photoshop CS3

BACKGROUND

Using an existing montage from the interior of the new museum as a guide, the art director was asked to create a new montage to be used in a series of collateral pieces. The AD selected some photos from the library of Congress collection and asked me to put it all together. The results so impressed the Foundation that I have since been asked to design more montages for other collateral, tradeshows and even their website masthead.

[LEARN MORE](#)



CLIENT

Music Festivals

AGENCY

Freelance

SOFTWARE

Photoshop, Illustrator
& InDesign CS3

BACKGROUND

Easily one of the more complicated brochures I have ever created. Not only was I responsible for the design and imaging, but also engineering this self-mailer, which is comprised of only one bi-fold cover and three sheets of paper stagger-folded to create the 12 tabbed pages.



CLIENT

Clan MacCool

AGENCY

Freelance

SOFTWARE

Photoshop & Illustrator CS3

BACKGROUND

A Celtic band with piratical tendencies, Clan MacCool asked me to design the cover to their first album using photos taken by a local photographer. The band's logo is also my design.



CLIENT

Personal Work

AGENCY

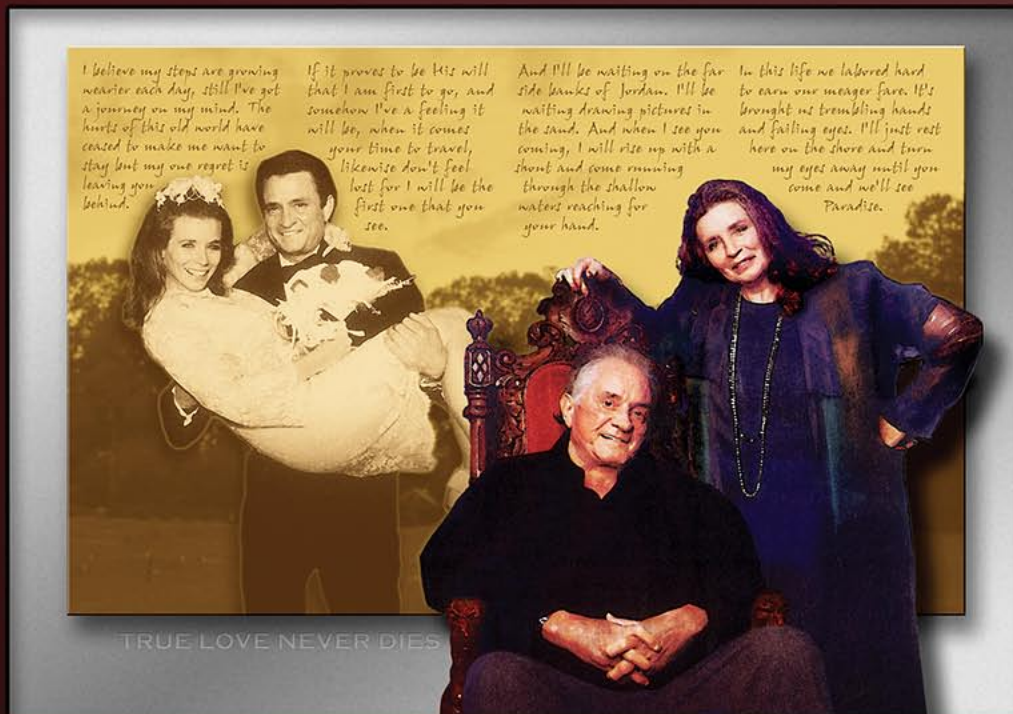
Freelance

SOFTWARE

Photoshop & Illustrator CS

BACKGROUND

A friend of mine, a true Johnny Cash fan, came to me shortly after the musician's death to ask a favor. He gave me a couple of photographs torn from magazines and some song lyrics, and asked me to put together a poster-sized portrait expressing the timeless love of this great couple.



I believe my steps are growing
weavier each day, still I've got
a journey on my mind. The
hearts of this old world have
ceased to make me want to
stay but my one regret is
leaving you
behind.

If it proves to be We will
that I am first to go, and
somehow I've a feeling it
will be, when it comes
your time to travel,
likewise don't feel
lost for I will be the
first one that you
see.

And I'll be waiting on the far
side banks of Jordan. I'll be
waiting drawing pictures in
the sand. And when I see you
coming, I will rise up with a
sob and come running
through the shallow
waters reaching for
your hand.

In this life we labored hard
to earn our meager fare. It's
brought us trembling hands
and failing eyes. I'll just rest
here on the shore and turn
my eyes away until you
come and we'll see
Paradise.

TRUE LOVE NEVER DIES

John M. Girimont
2004

John M Girimont

GRAPHIC PRODUCTION, IMAGING and DESIGN

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OBJECTIVE

Seeking freelance and contract work with firms and designers in need of a detail-oriented person possessing years of graphic production and photo retouching experience for both print and internet.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 6/08 – Present **FREELANCE - Richmond, Virginia**
Designer / Production Artist / Photo Illustrator – Since leaving RightMinds I have had a successful career as a freelance artist, specializing in realizing the concepts of art directors and designers in both vector and bitmap formats, for both print and interactive media. I have also had many assignments where I have been asked to serve as designer and art director, taking my own concepts from rough sketches all the way to final production. My freelance clients include Music Tours Unlimited, The Gettysburg Foundation, Spurrier Media, Response Marketing Group, and The Virginia Lottery (through Qorvis Communications).
- 9/07 – 6/08 **RIGHTMINDS - Richmond, Virginia**
Digital Imaging Specialist / Production Artist – In addition to Production Artist duties listed below, as Digital Imaging Specialist my duties included executing all complex imaging work, including color correction/alteration, image combines and retouching, resizing, and preparation of images for final use based upon specifications provided by vendors. Creation of images based upon direction from creatives. Maintain and organize large image library, and oversee purchase and correct use of stock photos. Operate and maintain wide format Epson inkjet proofing system. Client list includes LandAmerica, MeadWestVaco, S&K Clothing, Genworth Financial, Estes Express Lines, Dominion Power and Special Olympics.
- 5/05 – 9/07 **RIGHTMINDS - Richmond, Virginia**
Production Artist / Coordinator – Pick up where Art Directors leave off by completing and refining production-oriented work, performing file collects, preflight checks and technical proofing, preparing mechanical comps/dummies, preparing and mounting artwork, preparing and double-checking files for printers, and reviewing proofs back from printers for technical accuracy. Execute designs and production of a broad range of end products based on provided direction. Resize ads, make edits and revisions to existing files, produce presentations/proposals including the layout and production for both print and web work, proofing and internal coordination of resources. Generate proof PDFs of Art Director's concept layouts and post to RightMinds' website by updating html based system. Assist creatives with file problems, printing problems and issues related to creative/production software, fonts, etc. Working with IT Department, perform archival and organizational duties with job files and images. Serve as backup to the imaging technician for Photoshop and image related work.
- 7/01 – 5/05 **PROGRESS PRINTING COMPANY - Richmond, Virginia**
Electronic Production Leader / Senior Designer – Oversee production of all manner of projects for printing on both in-house and off-site presses using a wide array of software on both the Windows and Mac platforms; lead production artist responsible for the electronic assembly of the more complicated print projects, involving editing and creation of page layout and correction and manipulation of photographic images; senior designer responsible for the design and production of projects for both press and the internet; create electronic files used for the manufacture of complex dies for cutting out pocket folders, custom edged commercial pieces, boxes, etc; work closely with designers on the creation of their files to facilitate faster throughput in prepress; improve departmental performance through the development of standardized workflows and quality control procedures; train fellow employees on advanced electronic production techniques; work closely with press manager to improve press performance by manipulating electronic files for better color control. Client list includes, but is not limited to: Beatley and Gravitt, Communications Design, Barker Campbell Farley & Martin, The Martin Agency; Watson Wyatt

Continued on next page

WORK EXPERIENCE

continued

6/93 - 6/01 **CADMUS GRAPHIC SOLUTIONS - Sandston, Virginia**
Senior Production Analyst – Senior production artist responsible for the electronic assembly of all manner of print projects using a wide array of software for both the Mac and Windows platforms; troubleshoot difficult projects for other operators and departments; image editing and creation; conversion of print material for use on the internet; test latest software and develop new production techniques and standards; train other production artists and generate the necessary training materials; directly involved in production planning and the generation of job-specific workflow instructions for all prepress teams; assist other departments in the understanding and organization of client submitted files and instructions; preflight incoming jobs and estimate production times; maintain strong relationship with clients by assisting them in improving their own design and page assembly skills; develop reference and training documentation for a variety of client-specific topics; developed and presented well-received client training seminar entitled “Secrets to a Better Prepress Experience” and created the accompanying PDF file. Client list includes, but is not limited to: Reynolds Metals, Wolff Fording & Co., Mitsubishi Corp., CSX Corp., The Glass Baron Inc., Media General, Inc.

4/92 - 6/93 **CADMUS COLOR CENTER - Richmond, Virginia**
Macintosh Systems Manager – Department supervisor responsible for development and management of new electronic prepress department; evaluated and purchased equipment and software; hired, trained and managed a staff of five operators working three shifts; developed production techniques and methodologies for both the prepress and imaging departments; coordinated activities of electronic prepress with those of scanning, proofing, conventional litho, scheduling, and account management departments; consulted with clients and vendors; maintained computers, imagesetters, and processors.

Additional experience gained from freelance assignments developing websites and internet-ready art.

SOFTWARE & HARDWARE

Adobe Acrobat Professional, Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, Bridge, Dreamweaver, PageMaker, and FrameMaker; Quark XPress; CorelDraw and Ventura Publisher; Microsoft Word and PowerPoint; BBEdit; PitStop; Scitex FullAutoFrame and Remake; Heidelberg Delta Trapper; Fetch

Windows and Macintosh (both OS9 and OSX) desktop computer systems; Heidelberg Delta 7 RIPs and Signa Imposition workstations; Fuji Finalproof 5600 digital proofing system; Scitex Brisque, Star, and PS Assembly stations; Scitex Iris Realist and Kodak Approval proofing systems; Scitex 400 and 800 series imagesetters

EDUCATION

9/80 - 5/85 **VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY - Richmond, Virginia**
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Communication Arts and Design – Honors include: Dean's List; selection of illustration in juried competition for publication in Richmond Arts Magazine (1985); selection of print in juried competition for show in Painting and Printmaking Exhibition (1984).

PERSONAL

Married since 1987 with two daughters.

APPENDIX A

BACKGROUND CONTINUED

On the left is a close-up of the building interior as the outside retouching firm had it when they delivered the “final” image. This was after a week of the art director going round and round with their client rep explaining the need for more realistic office space, and not simply some odd montage of ghosted images. This image would be enlarged for use at trade shows, so even the little details were important. Three days before the art was due to the publication for the first of many ads using this image, the art director asked me to give it a try. On the right is a close-up showing my revisions — completed within two days, and without the use of any 3D software. (Not shown is other retouching I did to the cityscape in the background.)

[BACK TO PROJECT PAGE](#)



