

YUKO KANAI

STRATEGIC PRODUCT DESIGNER WITH A
BACKGROUND IN BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE
AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS

(650) 387-9813 YKANAI@GMAIL.COM
YUKOKANAI.COM

CAPABILITIES

DESIGN

Human Centered Design
User Research
Rapid Prototyping
Service Design
System Thinking

SOFTWARE

Figma
Sketch
Adobe Creative Suite
Keyshot

LANGUAGE

English (native)
Japanese (conversational)

EDUCATION

SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS

MFA Candidate, Products of Design

FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, SUNY

AAS, Fashion Design

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

BA, Psychology
BA, Women & Gender Studies

EXPERIENCE

FOUNDER, UX DESIGNER

Thymer | New York, NY | May 2020 - Current

- + Designing a stealth financial planning tool for those experiencing domestic violence in response to mounting pressures survivors face in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis.
- + A continuation of a Master's thesis on women's financial power that resulted in a suite of digital and physical products and experiences.

DESIGN RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Birsel + Seck | New York, NY | June 2019 - Oct 2019

- + Co-design workshop recruitment and research for a program funded by a grant from the SCAN Foundation.
- + Design research and facilitation for co-design sessions with older adults in the tri-state area to understand their needs and desires in experiences, relationships, communities, products, and services.

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT + TRIMS MANAGER

Adam Lippes | New York, NY | Oct 2016 - Aug 2018

- + Collaborated with designers, patternmakers, samplemakers, vendors, and factories to develop seasonal collections of woven and knit womenswear.
- + Managed in-house patternmaker and samplemaker workflow for design and production development timelines.
- + Communicated garment specifications and production expectations with domestic and overseas factories.
- + Technical consultation during fittings and product management for a team of patternmakers, cutters, and samplemakers.
- + Purchased all development and production trims.
- + Designed custom trims with factories in China and Italy.

LAB ASSISTANT + TECHNICIAN

Visible Futures Lab | New York, NY | Sep 2019 - Current

- + Operate digital fabrication and woodshop tools.
- + Consultation for various prototyping and fabrication tools including: UV printer, laser cutter, 3D printer, vinyl printer, embroidery machine, and woodshop.