one mark with your participation. You have to attend all the conferences meetings.

- one mark with a quick synthesis for each conference at the ends of all conferences (3 slides per conference)
  - Present lecturer
  - The highlights of the conference
  - What you learned
    - Questions prepared upstream (en amont)
  - The answers that the lecturer gave you
  - Your personal opinion on the conference and the one you would have prefered

# Conference 30 septembre Sebastien Mermet

freelance designer, lived in America

2004-2010 / Running - Football - Women's / designer 2010-2017 / W Training / design director 2013-2017 / NSW - Skate - Tennis - Kid's / Creative Director 2017-2019 / NSW / Air Max - Fuel - ACG - Women's / Creative Director 2019-2020 / Global Design Studios / creative director 2021 / Design & Innovation / creative director

## My 10 principles of being a designer: what he learned so far

#### 1) Don't listen to the consumer : go under his/her skin

- people go to what they are confortable with
- consensus and design by committee don't make great work
- difference between design for an athlete and design from insights of athlete

#### 2) Create chaos

- Process don't make creativity happen, environment do
- build a framework let the mess happen within
- drive plan, not a process
- chaos and discipline the dichotomy of a leader

inspirational trip: Iceland: you need a budget - sketch on the napkins

- the journey to create a god design is messy, crazy, uncertain
- you have to take detours, shortcuts
- explore, try, fail, restart
- crate chaos

## 3) Design at the edge ... and never use the word "versatility"

- design for the influencer, not for the consumer

## 4) Be confortable while being uncomfortable

- Accept that you don't control everything
- embrace the unknown
- adjust perspective
- fight in the shape of fear
- familiarity can create laziness
- fear makes people choose cautiously

## 5) Learn to copy to innovate

- need to learn the basic skills to create product/shoe
- he design a shoes that is a stan smith but witch is nos a stan smith

## 6) Experience / expression

#### Questions:

- what problem to solve?
- what is new and better? and why?
- What is the aesthetic references ? (driven by culture)
- creator / curator
- the geek and the hypebeast

## 7) Adaptation and perpectives

- dont' create products, tell stories
- tell the story they want to hear
- adapt to your audience
- same product, different audience
- understand perspectives
- prospectives matter s
- USA-China-France : different narrative depending on where you're at

### 8) consumer innovation VS technical innovation

- it's not about creating super products, but better products
- design what truly matters

#### 9) Failure is success

- whatever you do you can keep doing, fail for some people but success for others
- people will forgive if you try and fail, but they will forget you if you don't do anything

#### 10) Influence over control

- **inspire**: building a creative direction
- a clarity in the vision but a flexibility in the process
- start from the problem, not the solution
- Lead : Be Do Say
- there are no bad teams, only bad leaders

# A designer journey

stylist -> problem solver

Functions intercessions & design for context (marketing, development, merchandising, brand, biomechanics, indus)

performance and lifestyle is a new paradigm

next "the new journey of the immunized shopper - young people surfing through crisis - is a process of separating value from values, wants from needs, entertainment, from enlightenment"

### For the future:

- Digital revolution & big date
- open sources & creative collectivity
- virtuous creation

Book recommendations : Dear client, this book will teach you how to get what you want from creative people. Sincerely Bonnie Siegler

#### THANK YOU

11) it's either shit or cool, netter if it is cool shit" Phil D