

PHILLIP VITUS HÖLTGEN

PRODUCT & FURNITURE DESIGNER | CREATIVE PRODUCTION

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PROFILE

Product and furniture designer with experience carrying custom concepts from research and visualization through engineering, fabrication, and installation. Work spans luxury residential interiors, branded packaging, consumer electronics, and interdisciplinary design programs, with additional leadership in creative production and digital media.

EXPERIENCE

Project Designer | Director of Creative Production | Neal Thomas Enterprises, New York, NY *June 2024 - Present*

- Develop custom furnishings, interior architecture, renderings, material studies, specifications, and presentation materials from research and sourcing through fabrication and installation.
- Coordinate with the Founder, project leads, clients, vendors, workrooms, consultants, and installers while documenting decisions and protecting design intent, quality, schedule, and execution.
- Travel throughout the United States for site visits, showroom and workroom reviews, project installations, and coordination with fabricators and clients. Sites include Los Angeles, Hawaii, Austin, Dallas, New York City.
- Lead creative production for studio websites, portfolio, social media, photography, video, marketing, podcast production, studio technology, and emerging AI workflows.

Designer & Engineer | First Draft Design Studio, Brooklyn, NY *April 2026 - Present*

- Collaborate on custom product, packaging, and fashion-development projects for high-profile artists, athletes, and global brands.
- Develop structural concepts, mechanical solutions, prototypes, material specifications, and fabrication plans for presentation cases, branded objects, and specialty packaging.

Project Manager & Lead Designer | Projects for Peace, Peru & Canary Islands, Spain *December 2021 - December 2023*

- Awarded two independent \$10,000 grants to lead community and environmental design initiatives in Peru and Spain.
- Designed and helped construct a digital community center expanding access to education and telemedicine in the Peruvian Andes.
- Led the redesign and field testing of shrimp traps with local fishers and conservation partners, capturing the first documented footage of sea turtles breaking into traps.

Project Manager, Design | Movado x SCADpro, Savannah, GA *January 2024 - March 2024*

- Coordinated a 20-person interdisciplinary team across eight academic disciplines to develop and prototype concepts for a luxury jewelry and watch collection.
- Directed project organization, concept development, and communication across research, design reviews, prototyping, and final recommendations.
- Managed client presentations and feedback cycles throughout the collaboration.

Design Team Manager | COTY / Calvin Klein x SCADpro, Savannah, GA *January 2023 - March 2023*

- Managed a 16-person interdisciplinary team developing a multichannel concept for the future fragrance experience.
- Directed design language and concept development, and presented project progress and recommendations to the client.

EDUCATION

B.F.A. Industrial Design, Minor in Design for Sustainability *2024*

Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), Savannah, GA | Summa Cum Laude | GPA 3.93 | Dean's List every quarter

Apple x SCADpro: One of thirteen selected for a 10-week advanced digital sculpting course taught by members of Apple's Industrial Design Group, focused on production-level Rhino surfacing and analysis.

SELECTED AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- 2025** Red Dot Award: Design Concept - MIDIgo portable music-production controller
- 2025** European Product Design Award Winner - Consumer Electronics / Audio, MIDIgo
- 2025** Architectural Digest Middle East feature - custom furniture and millwork with Neal Thomas Enterprises
- 2024** Indigo Design Awards - 1 Silver and 2 Bronze awards in Social Change categories
- 2023** International Design Awards - 2 Silver awards for Project WUN
- 2023** Hult Prize Program of the Year - North America Region, selected among approximately 300 universities
- 2022-23** Projects for Peace – two separate \$10,000 grants supporting initiatives in Peru and Spain

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Core: 3D modeling, product and furniture design, packaging, prototyping, custom fabrication, rendering, material research, sourcing, vendor coordination, installation, project management, creative production

Software: Rhino, Keyshot, Figma, Wix, Adobe Suite | **Languages:** German (Native/C2), English (C2), Spanish (B1), French (A2)