Richard Yurewitch

UX Designer · New York, NY

hello@ricky.now

Portfolio: ricky.now

Google · UX Designer (Contract), Emoji Team

July 2022–Present · via Magnit, BayOne

Interaction design · Design systems · Prototyping · Creative technology · AI fluency

- Maintained the emoji spec: a horizontal, cross-functional standard for Gboard, Meet, Gmail, Chat, and Android.
- Led 0→1 design of Emoji Kitchen in Search: 150,000 drawings browsable on the results page; 2x Webby Honoree.
- Reduced skin tone modulations by 90% with Global emoji skin tone, a cross-Google standard (2,000-person study).
- Partnered with PMs and engineers to ship Global emoji skin tone and Emoji Kitchen in Search.
- Built a Gemini pipeline that scores contrast and grades AI redraws for 4,000 emoji, guiding the Noto 3D redesign.
- Created an installation at Made by Google that mirrored viewers as Noto 3D Emoji mosaics. 7.5M+ projected reach.

The Cooper Union · Adjunct Professor

Sept. 2025–Present

Mentoring · Product design · Design systems · AI prototyping

- Teaching interdisciplinary art, engineering, and architecture students how to be AI native designers and technologists.
- Mentoring students in AI prototyping, product design, and design systems in weekly check-ins, critiques, and lectures.
- Designed and built eating.computer, the class's iOS and web app, with its own design system and authoring tools.

Freelance · Designer and Developer

Sept. 2018–Sept. 2025

Visual design · Motion · Product design · Frontend engineering

- Unicode Consortium, 2023–25: generative graphics and interactive demos from the Unicode Standard in WebGL.
- Rhoda Lubalin Fellowship, 2021–23: designed and built the full-stack archive and its CMS, plus a variable logo.
- Meso AI, 2024: MVP frontend and all UX for the earliest versions of Meso's flagship AI marketing product.
- Intra-Disciplinary Seminar, 2021–22: designed and built the site and color system for 24 talks; NYCxDesign talk.
- End of Year Shows, 2020–21: designed and built the online shows, 412 works in ten disciplines, with live cursors.
- Independent clients, 2018–22: sites and prototype apps, including a home-to-blueprint app for design with FRANK.

Education | Awards

The Cooper Union
BFA, Design, Code
Sept. 2018–May 2022

Webby Honoree, Weird
Webby Honoree, NetArt
Anthem Awards Finalist

Rhoda Lubalin Fellowship
Henry Dropkin Award
Innovator Scholarship

Technology Grant (2021)
Technology Grant (2022)
Half-Tuition Scholarship

Skills

Artificial Intelligence
AI prototyping
Agentic workflows
Multimodal pipelines
Output evals

Design, UI/UX
Figma, design systems
Flows, wireframes
Hi-fi prototypes
Visual design, type

Prototyping in code
SvelteKit, React, Next.js
TypeScript, HTML, CSS
WebGL, three.js, GLSL
d3.js, p5.js, MediaPipe

Visual, Motion, 3D
Illustrator, Photoshop
After Effects, Lottie
Cinema 4D, Blender