

Gabriela Valentín

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FOOTWEAR & HANDBAG DESIGNER

Pattern Making ▪ Hand Sketching & Rendering ▪ Machine & Hand Sewing ▪ Materials Selection ▪ Digital Rendering ▪ Prototype Development ▪ Technical Specifications ▪ Spec Sheets ▪ Color Theory/Management ▪ Mood Boards ▪ Customer Profile ▪ Luxury Branding ▪ Sustainable Practices ▪ Style Curation ▪ Sneaker Design ▪ CAD Designs ▪ Customer Service ▪ Visual Merchandising

Key Highlights include:

- Designed and developed a luxury accessories senior collection recognized for its bold design and craftsmanship; selected for the **SCAD Fashion Show 2024** and featured on *Vogue Runway*.
- Conceptualized and developed luxury footwear and handbags from initial research and ideation through material selection, prototyping, refinement, and final presentation.
- Designed multiple products using high-quality, production-feasible materials, balancing aesthetic direction, functionality, craftsmanship, and sustainability considerations.
- Applied expertise in color, material, and hardware selection to strengthen product identity while meeting design specifications and functional requirements.
- Managed multiple stages of the product development process, coordinating design development, material sourcing, prototype execution, quality review, and final presentation.
- Evaluated materials, prototypes, and finished products for construction, quality, and craftsmanship, refining design details throughout the development process.

EXPERIENCE

GALERIA

Footwear Sales Associate & Stylist

San Juan, PR

Oct 2025 – Present

- Provide firsthand understanding of consumer preferences, fit expectations, functionality, and market trends through direct customer interaction.
- Develop strong knowledge of footwear construction, materials, silhouettes, brand identities, and seasonal collections across proprietary and international footwear brands.
- Maintain product presentation and visual merchandising in alignment with individual brand identities and seasonal campaigns.
- Collaborate with team members to support product launches, merchandising initiatives, inventory organization, and overall customer experience.
- Observe and communicate customer feedback and product responses, gaining insight into how design decisions translate into real-world consumer experiences.

SAM EDELMAN

Associate Designer

New York, NY

June 2024 – Feb 2025

- Contributed to seasonal footwear collections from concept through development, creating hand sketches and CAD renderings aligned with brand DNA, consumer needs, and seasonal direction.
- Researched emerging trends, color palettes, materials, and seasonal themes, translating insights into commercially relevant footwear concepts and design details.
- Developed detailed technical specifications and tech packs for footwear components, including hardware, outsoles, and heels, facilitating clear communication with manufacturing partners.

- Participated in prototype and sample reviews, refining construction, proportions, materials, and design details to achieve aesthetic, quality, and production objectives.
- Created standardized footwear construction and sketching templates while maintaining accurate digital design files, style information, sample imagery, and seasonal development boards.
- Coordinated sample organization, tracking, and shipments with manufacturing teams and maintained an accessible footwear library to support design reviews and seasonal development.

RALPH LAUREN

Intern, Lauren Accessory & Footwear Designer

New York, NY

June 2023 – Aug 2023

- Contributed to Winter and Spring accessories and footwear collections, developing CAD designs, digital sketches, renderings, and concept boards to support seasonal concept development and design presentations.
- Utilized Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop to translate design concepts into polished visual proposals, supporting the visualization and refinement of new styles.
- Supported material and sample development through leather and material organization, showroom inspections, and review of samples for color, construction, and manufacturing accuracy.
- Curated sample assortments and presentation materials for concept reviews while maintaining organized physical and digital archives of samples, materials, colorways, and product imagery.
- Coordinated digital sample documentation and product imagery in SharePoint, ensuring accurate and accessible information for international and cross-functional teams.
- Collaborated on a cross-functional intern project to develop and present a business solution, earning **1st place among four teams** and demonstrating strong creative problem-solving, teamwork, and presentation skills.

MOVADO X SCADPRO COLLABORATION

Designer & Craftmanship

Savannah, GA

March 2023 – May 2023

- Collaborated on the concept development of innovative watch designs, exploring minimalist, colorful, futuristic, and playful design directions aligned with Movado's brand identity.
- Designed and developed leather watch straps for functional prototypes, integrating material research, craftsmanship, and sustainability considerations into the design process.
- Conducted color, material, market, and brand research to inform design decisions and develop concepts relevant to target consumers while maintaining Movado's design standards.
- Created and refined digital design visualizations in Adobe Photoshop and contributed to prototype development and presentation materials for stakeholder review.
- Collaborated on the final concept presentation to Movado executives and SCAD faculty and designed branded supporting pieces, including keychains and wall clocks, to extend the project's visual identity.

SCAD FASHION SHOW 2022

Dresser

Savannah, GA

May 2022

- Supported models during rehearsals and the live runway show, coordinating garments, footwear, handbags, and jewelry to ensure accurate and timely looks.
- Organized, tracked, and prepared fashion pieces for runway changes and post-show inventory while working within a fast-paced production schedule.

EDUCATION

Savannah College of Art and Design – *BEA in Accessory Design* | May 2024 | Cum Laude

Relevant Coursework:

Sneaker Shoe Design • Digital Seaker Design (VR) • Footwear Design • Handbag Design • CAD for Accessory Design • Sketch & Render for Accessory Design • Sewing Tech for Accessory Design • Drawing for Design • Drawing Print / Pattern • 3D Form in Space • Color Theory and Application • Introduction to Accessory Design • Business for Design • Economy Principles

WORKSHOPS

Vendali Fashion Institute - Textile Print Design *San Juan, PR* Aug 2025 - Dec 2025

- Combined hand-rendered and digital techniques to develop original textile prints and translate artisanal designs into industry-ready digital artwork.

Textile Surface Design *San Juan, PR* May 2025 – June 2025

- Explored sustainable natural-dye techniques using botanical materials, applying experimental color processes across textile surfaces.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Technology: Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign) • Rhino • Gravity Sketch • Procreate • PLM Systems • Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Teams)

Languages: Spanish — Native • English — Fluent • Italian — Elementary