# **DESIGN & ENTREPREUNERSHIP**

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#### CONTENT

#### The Creative Entrepreneur:

- Do you have what it takes?
- Is entrepreunership different in the creative industry?

#### Your business in the market:

- Strategy: WHAT do you want and HOW to get it.
- WHO is your Client?
- Getting commissions: how does it work?
- POSITIONING: is your message unique?

#### WHY STARTING A BUSINESS?

- Motivation?
- Ambition?
- Necessity?
- VISION?

#### DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

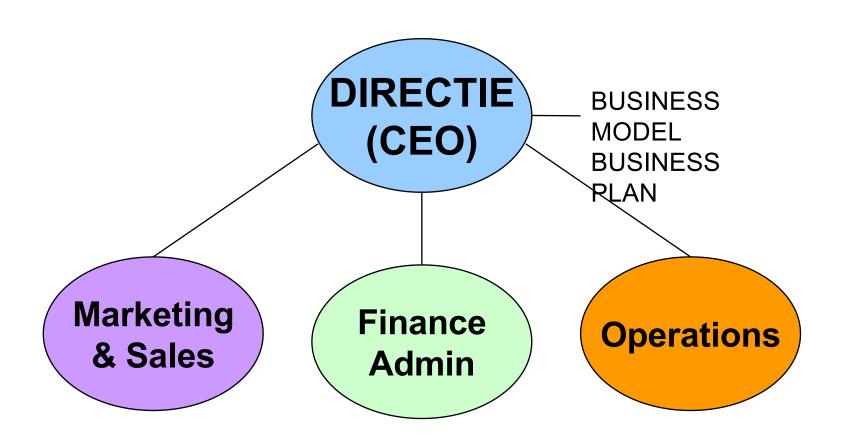


- Discipline?
- Vision?
- Enthousiasm?
- Stress resistant?
- Risk manager?
- Home situation?
- Communicative and social?

#### AN ENTREPRENEUR:

- Has corage
- Knows he doesn't have to do/know everything
- Has perseverance
- Uses his intuition AND a plan
- Does
- Grows

## **Design/Architecture Firm = Any other business**



### **SELLING PRODUCTS VS. SERVICES**

PRODUCTS	SERVICES
<ul><li>Tangible / (directly) visible</li></ul>	<ul> <li>(partially) untangible/not (yet) visible</li> </ul>
<ul><li>Prijs per unit</li></ul>	<ul><li>Hourly rate/project rate</li></ul>
<ul><li>Indirect contact w/producer</li></ul>	<ul><li>Direct/oersonal contact</li></ul>
<ul> <li>Quality measurable and comparable on specific criteria</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Quality difficult to mesure and compare, criteria more difficult to define</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Production on large scale</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Local/customed production</li></ul>
<ul><li>Production and sale typically separated</li></ul>	<ul><li>Production and sale in one- hand</li></ul>

#### SELLING DESIGN/ADVICE SERVICES

- Service provider (Architect) in center
- CLEAR MESSAGE!
- Define specific advantages and mesurable criteria
- DON'Ts: "quality", "customed design" en "personal attention"
- Everybody offers a service, but what makes YOUR service better than the COMPETITOR's?

YOUR OFFER → BENEFIT FOR CLIENT?

#### **STRATEGY IN 3 STEPS**



- Where are you now?
- Where do you want to be?
- How are you going to get there?

## WHAT DO YOU REALLY WANT?



- Wealth
- Fame
- Commissions
- Recognition?

#### **SETTING GOALS= MAKING CHOICES**



- Specific
- Mesurable
- Acceptable
- Realistic
- Time bound

#### **POSITIONING:**

All activities dedicated to achieve a (preference) position in a / your market.

# Positioning (Architecture) Services



### ARE YOU DIFFERENT FROM THE REST?



#### WHAT DO YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?







"I lay bricks"

"I build a wall"

"I build a cathedral"

#### WHO IS YOUR CLIENT?

# Define your TARGET:

- Who is it?
- What does he/she needs?
- Where to you find him?

... and in 5-10 years?

#### **USP & ELEVATOR PITCH**

- Short and simple
- Not the services that you offer, but their RESULTS → Which problem do you solve?
- Unique, differentiating → Targeted
- Compelling
- HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE KNOWN (by your target):

#### **POSITIONING**

# Differentiating???

- "X architecten is een jong en dynamisch architectenbureau met ongeveer 15 medewerkers. We geloven sterk in het ontwerpen voor mensen..."
- "Y is een jong en dynamisch architectenbureau dat met veel plezier werkt aan een grote verscheidenheid aan opdrachten."
- "X architecten is een jong een dynamisch architectenbureau, met een rijk verleden."
- "Y Architecten is een jong, creatief en dynamisch architectenbureau, dat geen opdracht uit de weg gaat."

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... en nog 40,000+ examples on Google! (Dutch only) 75,000,000+ in English...⊗
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#### How does it work?

"I specialize in designing medical clinics"

#### List the PAINS your target clients are experiencing.

- Current clinic looks old and tired.
- •A flashy new practice down the road has opened.
- •Partners don't feel proud of their workspace anymore.
- Losing patients to the new flashy practice.

# What you could say?

- I am an architect (Commodity).
- I am an architect who specializes in medical practices (Better).
- I am an architect who specializes in transforming medical practices into an environment that attracts patients and builds a winning brand (BEST).

# Why is it important?

# "If You're Everything to Everyone, You're Nothing to Anyone"

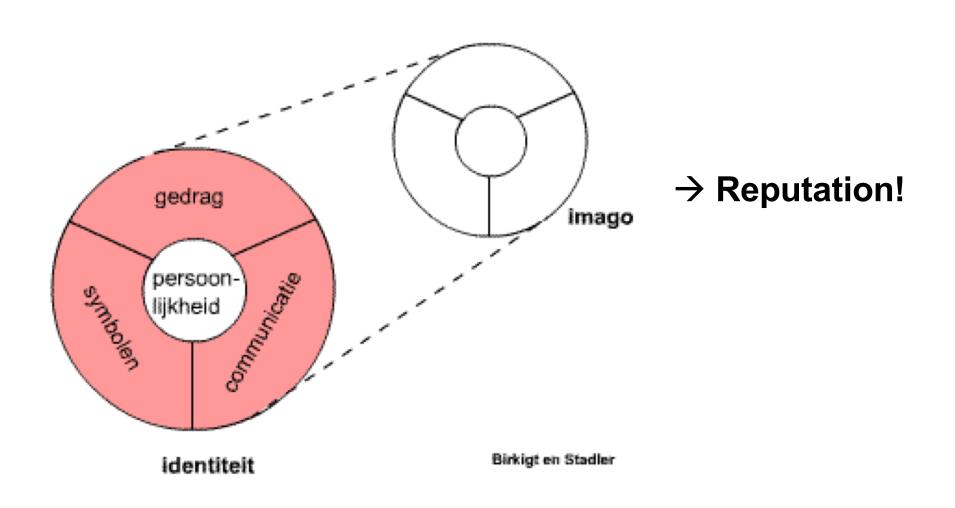
- Focus: efficiency and effectivity
- Strong fundament of your position & expertise
- Target IDENTIFIES with your promise
- •Builds CREDIBILITY→ References
- •Fees can be higher!

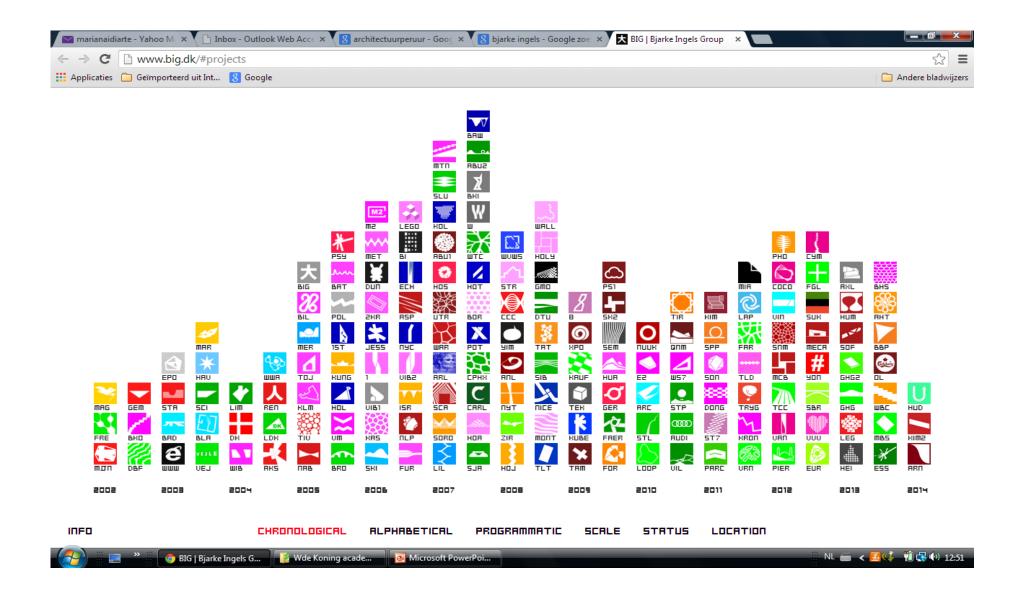
### **IDENTITY VS. IMAGE**

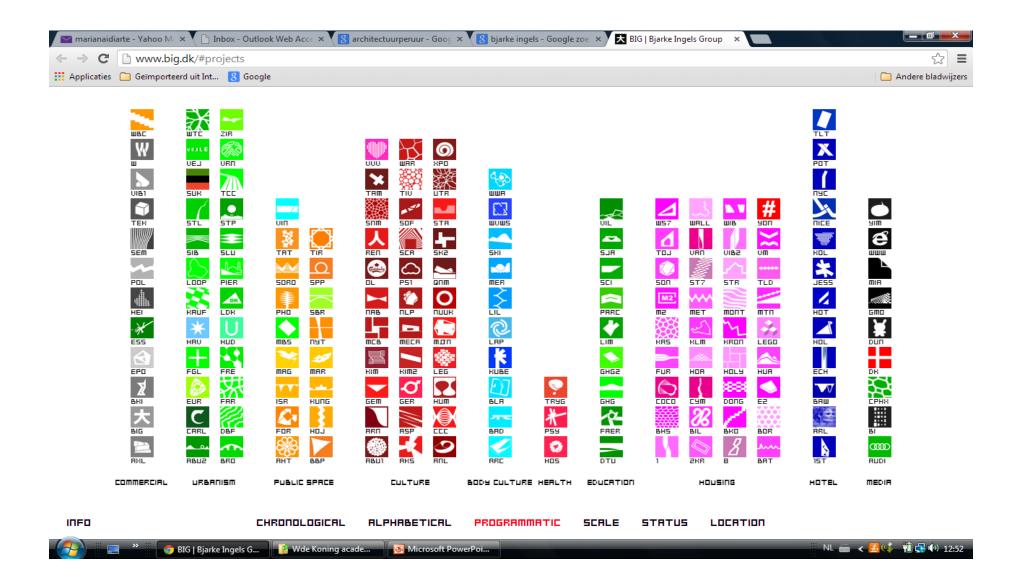


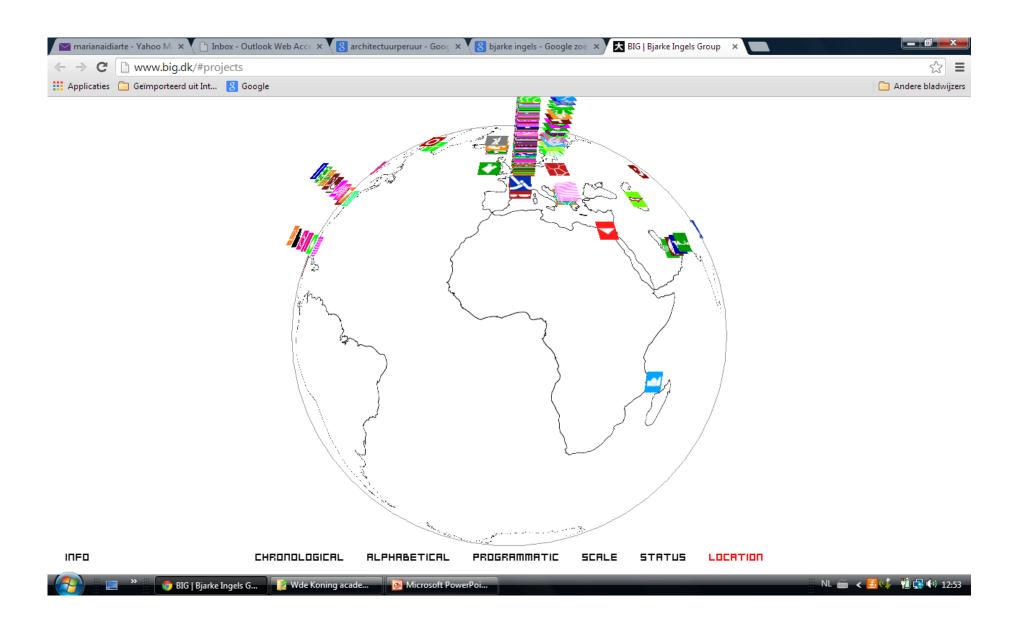
"I care for animals"

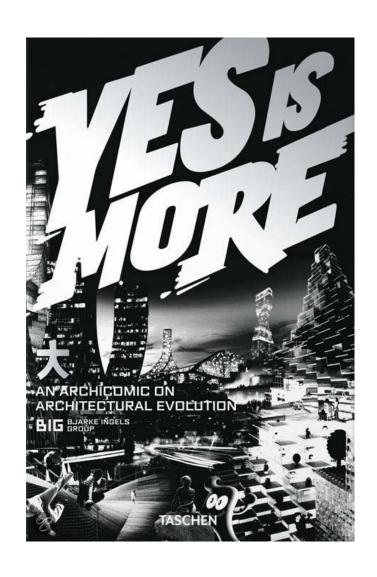
#### **POSITIONING: BUILDING REPUTATION**



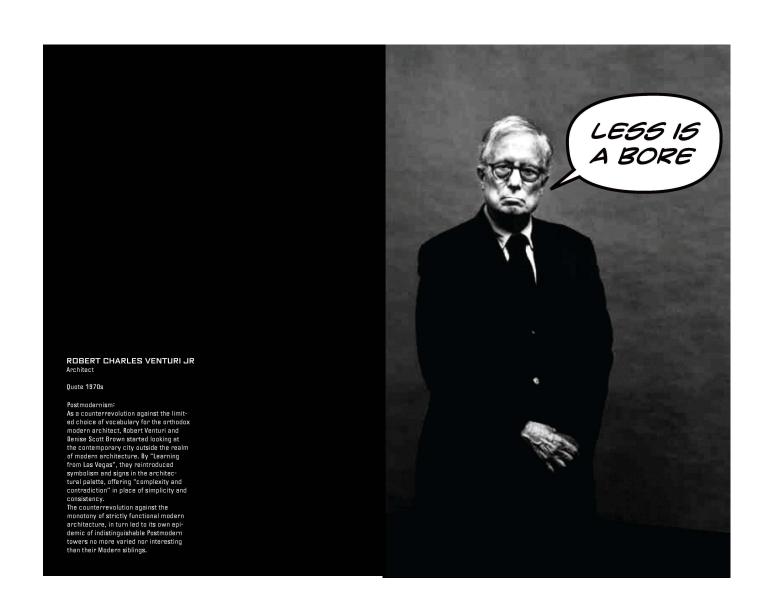




















# Positioning: <u>Lumen architecture case</u>



Heeft u woon- of (ver)bouwwensen, maar weet u niet goed hoe die kunnen worden verwezenlijkt? Wilt u uw huis uitbreiden, renoveren, verbouwen of opnieuw indelen? En bent u daarbij op zoek naar advies op zowel ruimtelijk als technisch vlak? Dan bent u bij Lumen aan het goede adres! Lumen werkt graag direct samen met de klant, zodat er unieke en op maat gemaakte ontwerpen ontstaan. Lumen gelooft in een architectuur die gebaseerd is op dagelijks gebruik, die gemaakt is van eenvoudige en duurzame materialen en die alle ruimte geeft aan daglicht. Lumen is opgericht door ir. Simone Bijlard en is gevestigd te Amsterdam. Nieuwsgierig? Kijk gerust even rond!











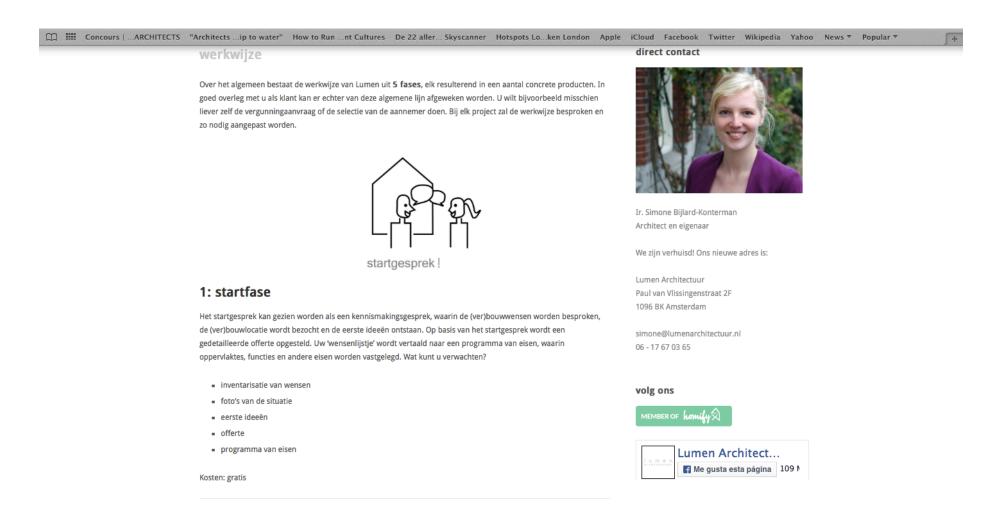








# Positioning: Lumen architecture case



# Positioning: JHD Architects case (UK)



#### CONTACT Jhd

Request a consultation

#### FEATURED PROJECT

Replacing a Kent Pub with a Modern Architecture House in Greenbelt

#### LATEST NEWS

What To Do With Timber Framing?

Contemporary
Replacement Home in
AONB



#### Contemporary Architects in Kent, Sussex, Surrey and Greater London

3D Design for New Houses, House Extensions, Alterations, Listed Buildings, Basements, Pools and Outdoor Living Areas, Healthcare and Leisure projects



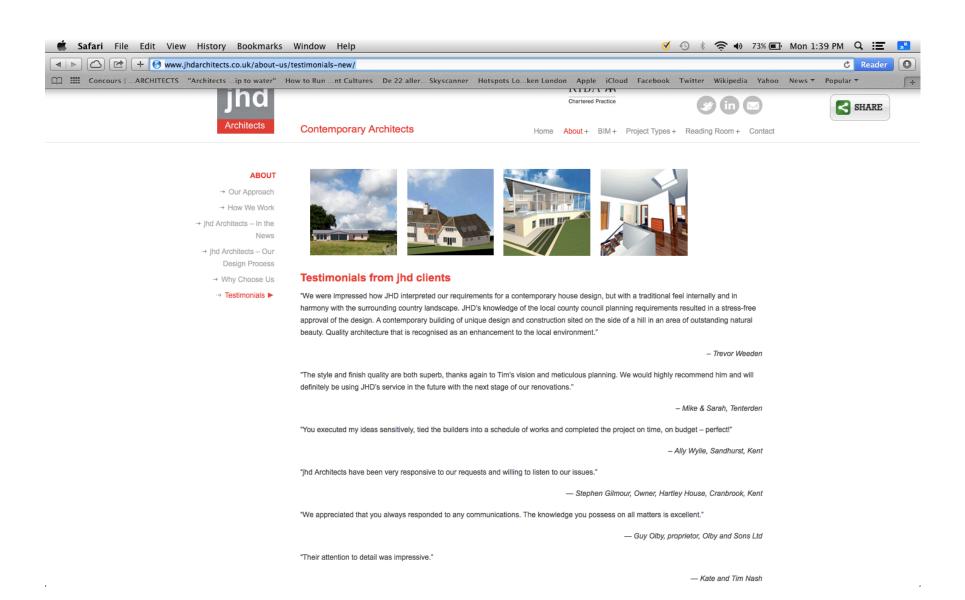
Tim Ball, Director (Benenden) and Jon Hughes, Consultant (Sevenoaks)

Are you looking for an Architect who can create striking, practical spaces in which you will want to live, work, relax and entertain? Spaces which will make you say 'wow' when you walk into them and which are flexible to accommodate your changing needs.

That's our passion at jhd Architects. Maximising the potential for luxury, light, space and energy-savings, we have a strong track record for discretely integrating 'green' technology, and for obtaining planning permission, particularly in areas where restrictions are tight.

We are a successful Kent architecture firm specialising in modern architecture for clients in Kent, Sussex, Surrey and London. Our projects include contemporary new house design, traditional and listed building extensions, alterations, basements, swimming pools and outdoor living spaces, leisure facilities and care homes particularly designed for dementia

# Positioning: JHD Architects case (UK)



# A website is not enough to position a firm or build reputation!

Marketing & Communication Plan

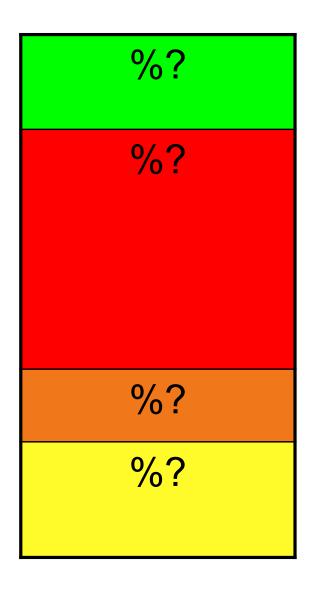
#### Social Media? YES! BUT HOW?

- Choose social media (mix) addecuate to your target group
- THINK what and why: show expertise? Make contact with potential clients? Reinforce image of the office?
- It may be for FREE, but it costs TIME=MONEY
- Contact is DIRECT AND 2-WAY: react to discussion, generate traffic
- Plan: define your social media strategy before starting!
- What to tell, how and when on each medium
- Keep positive and proffesional tone, also in personal messages

#### **NETWORKING**

- Choose strategically: map your own network and work out extension plan
- Keep an eye on market developments
- Learn about your client's challenges and get to understand him
- Don't talk too much about yourself: ask the other!
- GIVE (tips, knowledge, contacts...) and don't expect anything (immediately) in return
- Try to confirm follow up: doesn't need to be (directly) a commission!
- FOLLOW UP: even if you don't get an answer.
- Don't give up, keep seeking contact.

#### **GETTING A COMMISSION - ACQUISITION**



- Opening: potential client interested
- Analysis: map and understand client's requirements
- Proposal: addressing client's requirements?
- Agreement: summarize and confirm. Sign!

#### **GETTING COMMISSIONS...**

- Costs time AND money
- Is a continuous process
- Long term
- Goals give direction, but... make use of opportunities
- DON'T NEED TO WORK FOR FREE... IF VALUE IS CLEAR FOR THE CLIENT!!!

#### Info links:

- https://www.businessofarchitecture.com
- http://marianaidiarte.com/publications
- http://www.bna-academie.nl
- www.kvk.nl
- www.zzp-nederland.nl
- http://www.startendeondernemers.nl/