

AHMET BURAK AKTAS

aburakaktas.com // aburakaktas@gmail.com // 312-792-7830 // Chicago, IL

Product designer and maker, looking to use the power of design to improve lives.

EXPERIENCE

Inofab - Innovation Factory // Ankara, Turkey

Partner - Industrial Designer // 2014 - Ongoing

- Partner of start-up located in the biggest technopark in Turkey focusing on design and production of an innovative personal pulmonary health monitoring device.
- Have been doing ideation, user research, product strategy, product and interaction design, user experience design and prototyping.
- Won several grants and fundings from government and entrepreneurship competitions.

METU Industrial Design Department // Ankara, Turkey

Research Assistant - Usability Researcher // 2013 - 2015

- Developed a government-funded project focusing on improving blood donation system in Turkey using design thinking methods.
- Worked as a part-time usability researcher for various start-ups.
- Assisted product design studio classes as a teaching assistant and taught CAD software to undergraduate students.

Metaphys & Hers Experimental Design Lab // Osaka, Japan

Industrial Design Intern // 2012

- Contributed to design process of several products. Contributions include ideation, concept development, 3D modelling and prototyping.
- Developed a personal "social design" concept which was presented at Kyoto University of Art and Design.

Turk Traktor Inc. Case & New Holland // Ankara, Turkey

Intern at R&D Design Department // 2011

- Gained experience and working knowledge on metal mass-production techniques and worked with production engineers.

EDUCATION

IIT Institute of Design // Chicago, IL

Master of Design // Expected 2017

- Mastering research and innovation methods with a focus on interaction design.

Middle East Technical University // Ankara, Turkey

Master of Industrial Design // Ongoing

- Focused on interaction design, interactive prototyping using embedded systems, and social innovation.

Middle East Technical University // Ankara, Turkey

Bachelor of Industrial Design - 2013

- Graduated with highest honors, developing the project "AquaKit" which is a product system for villagers living without water plumbing system. The project won several international design awards and exhibited in Tokyo and Istanbul design fairs.

SKILLS

Software

Rhinoceros Photoshop
SolidWorks InDesign
3ds Max Illustrator
T-Splines After Effects
V-Ray Premiere
KeyShot Muse

Prototyping

Arduino
3D printing
Laser cutting
Clay - ceramics
Styrofoam
Wood - metal

AWARDS

2014 **Bogazici Uni. Entrepreneurship Awards**, First Rank
2014 **YFYI Entrepreneurship Awards**, Finalist
2014 **Every Drop Matters Water Awards**, First Rank
2014 **TUBITAK Entrepreneurship and Innovation Awards**, First Rank
2014 **IDEA**, Bronze
2014 **Ghost Project**, Winner
2014 **The Dieline Awards**, Third Rank
2014 **iF Concept Design Awards**, Shortlisted
2014 **Automotive Component Design Awards**, First Rank
2014 **Cardboard Package Design Awards**, Mention
2013 **WPO Worldstar Student Awards**, Mention
2013 **ASD National Packaging Design Awards**, Mention
2013 **IDEA**, Finalist
2013 **A' Design Award**, Silver
2012 **iF Concept Design Awards**, Winner
2011 **IMMIB National Design Awards**, Mention
2010 **WPO Worldstar Student Awards**, Mention
2010 **ASD National Packaging Design Awards**, Mention

SCHOLARSHIPS

2015 **Fulbright Scholarship**, for master's degree
2015 **Doblin Fellowship**, for attending IIT Institute of Design

EXHIBITION // PRESS

2015 Sheepd // **Ankara Maker Faire**
2014 AquaKit // **Innovation Magazine**, Fall
2014 Spaghet-i // **Paris Emballage Fair**
2014 Guide and EcoStand // **Turkey Innovation Week**
2013 Washit and AquaKit // **Tokyo Designers Week**
2013 Washit // **Fast Company Magazine**, March Issue
2013 Flora // **CNR-Expo Office Fair**
2012 Washit // **Turkey Innovation Week**
2012 Washit // **DailyMail**
2012 Washit // **Fast Co.Exist**

LANGUAGES

Turkish // Native
English // Fluent
Japanese // Elementary