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JULIEN MILLIÈS

SENIOR DESIGN DIRECTOR

BRAND, PRODUCT & DIGITAL SYSTEMS

LYON, FRANCE · REMOTE, HYBRID, OR RELOCATION DEPENDING ON ROLE

PROFILE

Independent design director with 20+ years of practice across brand systems, digital products, UX/UI, and design systems. From 2019 to 2025, I co-founded and led Skarand, a strategic design consultancy focused on translating business change into coherent brand and product systems.

I operate from strategy and creative direction through to prototyping and hands-on execution — aligning founders, product, design, and engineering around coherent digital outcomes.

EXPERIENCE

Independent Design Director

2013 - PRESENT

Freelance · Remote

Direct client and agency-collaboration practice spanning brand identity, digital products, UX/UI, e-commerce, and experimental interaction design across culture, fashion, food, transport, healthcare, maritime, and consumer goods.

- Delivered senior design work for agencies, studios, brands, and product teams across both embedded collaborations and direct client engagements.
- Worked across brand identity, digital platforms, UX/UI, front-end experimentation, and implementation-aware design depending on project scope.
- Built long-term independent relationships with creative agencies, digital studios, and end clients in France and internationally.

Clients: Google · Air France · Bandai Namco · OMDA · Tefal · B-Reel · Publicis Groupe · Ubisoft · ASP Ships · HCP Packaging · Valrhona · Avène

Co-Founder / Design Director

2019 - 2025

Skarand · Lyon, France

Strategic design consultancy operated alongside independent practice. Collaborative, partner-led engagements across brand systems, digital products, and digital transformation for consumer, enterprise, healthcare, and B2B environments.

- Led brand and digital transformation projects end-to-end — from strategic positioning to UX/UI systems, design systems, and implementation for clients including GE Healthcare.
- Led business development and proposals alongside creative direction — consistently winning competitive pitches across enterprise and mid-market clients.
- Built scalable production frameworks for e-commerce, healthcare platforms, and service environments.

Clients: GE Healthcare · Carré Blanc · Pour Les Gourmets · Rendez-vous Déco · FFR

EXPERIENCE

Partner / Design Director

Exoskills · Lyon, France

2016 - 2019

Positioned Exoskills within digital transformation, leading design across brand systems, SaaS products, and enterprise platforms.

- Solo-led Bandai Namco Europe's rebrand and full digital ecosystem.
- Designed enterprise and B2B product interfaces for renewable energy and healthcare platforms, including ENGIE Darwin's wind and solar asset-monitoring ecosystem.
- Contributed to business development and proposals — won notable pitches including ENGIE and ISKN on significant budgets.

Clients: Bandai Namco Europe · ENGIE · Renault · Valeo · General Electric · ISKN

Head of Digital

Pajama Consulting · London, UK

2014 - 2016

Led digital transformation and UX/UI for international clients across brand systems, product launches, and multi-market platforms. Managed distributed design teams across Russia, Germany, Norway and the UK.

- Led JetBrains' international rebrand and developer-facing product identity ecosystem.
- Directed B2C product launch work for Telenor across Asia and Europe.
- Recognised work: Webby nominations, Transform Awards, London Design Awards.

Clients: JetBrains · Telenor · NTT Data · Wacom

Design Director

Groupe 361 · Lyon, France

2013 - 2014

Digital design for corporate, pharmaceutical, and consumer campaign environments within multidisciplinary advertising workflows.

Clients: Biogaran · Bioderma · Heinz · Groupe Aoste

Early Career

EWA and Diplomatic Cover · Lyon, France

2005 - 2013

EWA (2006 – 2012) and Diplomatic Cover (2005 – 2006), Lyon. Digital design, UI, e-commerce, and mobile for Zilli, SFR, Ubisoft, Atari, BBC, Adecco.

SELECTED RECOGNITION

FWA Cutting Edge Award ×1 · FWA SOTD Award ×5 · Webby Honoree ×2 · Webby Nominations ×2 · Transform Awards ×5 · Awwwards ×5 · London Design Awards ×1 · IDA Awards ×1

TOOLS & TECHNICAL

Figma · Adobe Creative Suite · HTML / CSS / SCSS · JavaScript · PHP · Python · SQL · Prototyping · Design systems documentation · Front-end