



INGA
BIRKENSTOCK
IALD
Principal
Lead Designer
Project Manager
bio

Inga Birkenstock brings over 30 years of experience in the interior architecture field. She is a professional Member of both the IALD and the IESNA., as well as an Affiliate Member of IIDA. With her 15 years' experience in interior design, Inga is a visionary leader while integrating cutting edge lighting technology into architecture.

Trained in Philadelphia, Inga has been relentless in her search for challenging opportunities to demonstrate her vision of lighting as an artistic as well as a technical tool. While based in New York, San Diego, Houston and San Francisco, Inga honed her knowledge, skills and abilities as a creative and responsive design industry partner.

Inga's reputation and leadership has attracted a team of diverse and talented designers and project managers who are laser-focused on their shared vision to win awards for clients.

She has contributed to award winning designs throughout her history.

In March of 2017, BLD's project 301 Howard Street (designed with Huntsman Architects) won the hearts of the San Francisco IES Section's judging committee, and took home the SF Lux Award of Excellence for Interior Lighting Design. In 2015, BLD broke their own record by serving on the teams to capture thirteen prestigious awards, two IIDA awards, 3 Interior Design BOY (Best of the Year) awards, six IESSF Awards of Merit, an IES Special Citation, and the honored IES Edwin F. Goth Memorial Award of Distinction for the San Francisco International Airport Terminal 3, Boarding area E project.

IIDA award winning projects include the San Francisco International Airport Terminal 3, 888 Brannan Street, Autodesk, Cushman & Wakefield, The Battery, Samsung Design Offices, Nokia Headquarters and the Guess? Headquarters. Most of these projects have been featured in Interior Design Magazine as well numerous trade magazines.

Although awards make some clients very happy with publicity, Inga is best known for pleasing clients by listening to their needs. Each project brings a more unusual challenge! Whether it is a tight budget, fast turnarounds, or unusual contracts, Inga is determined to meet the challenge!

Inga's lighting talent spans from Corporate (executive, repositioning and TI work), Campus, Cruise Ship, Headquarters, Healthcare, Hospitality, IT, Residential, Retail, Theatrical, and Transportation facility lighting design.

Inga's accomplished professional experience gives her a unique combination of good business practices and a passion for exceptional design. She is a hands-on leader and designer who enjoys working collaboratively with all members of the design and construction team.

Past Experience / Lighting Design

Architecture & Light / San Francisco, CA

- 2005-2010
- Senior Lighting Designer for commercial, hospitality, residential, health care projects
 - Senior Project Manager charged with marketing & acquiring new business, estimating & writing proposals, negotiating and tracking fees
 - Leader of in-house design team, responsible for creating breakdown of project duties and their distribution amongst staff, assisted team with time management
 - Teacher of lighting design techniques, technology, and specification to both architectural as well as lighting staff, mentoring junior designers within the company
 - Key energy compliance liaison for projects spanning the country

JS Nolan + Associates / San Francisco, CA

- 2004-2005
- Lighting Designer / Project Manager
 - Involvement in writing proposal agreements,
 - Provided conceptual lighting design through complete construction documentation
 - Reviewed submittals and shop drawings
 - Key contact / project manager throughout construction
 - Fixture specification
 - Lighting calculations
 - Dimming system specification

Light Sight / Houston, TX

- 2002-2004
- Self-employed, independent lighting consultant
 - Specializations in residential, light commercial, landscape & yacht lighting design

Linda Cummings Lighting Consultants, Inc. / Houston, TX

- 1999-2001
- Lighting Designer / Project Manager

Past Experience / Interior Design

- 1984- 1999
- 15-year experience as an Interior Designer.
 - Companies included: Plan-It-Space, San Diego CA; Interfacs, San Diego, CA; Gerald Luss + Assoc., NYC NY; Marilyn Druckman + Assoc., Philadelphia, PA.

- Education
- Art Institute of Philadelphia: Bachelors of Science in Interior Design

- Memberships
- International Association of Lighting Designers, Professional Member
 - Illuminating Engineering Society of North America
 - International Interior Design Association, Associate Member