



INGA
BIRKENSTOCK
IALD
Principal
Lead Designer
Project Manager
bio

Inga Birkenstock brings over 30 years of experience in the interior architecture field. She has been the senior designer/ project manager for renowned interior and lighting firms as well as principal in charge at Birkenstock Lighting Design. She has contributed to award winning designs throughout her history of design.

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 work remotely and from the firm's headquarters, located in the Redwoods near the Skywalker Ranch in West Marin. The Birkenstock Lighting Design group is laser-focused on their shared vision to win awards for clients.

Most recently in 2014, BLD has served on the teams to capture two IIDA awards. The first award was for The Battery project, a private luxury member's only club located in San Francisco's historic Jackson Square neighborhood; the second going to the San Francisco's Samsung Design Studio, winning the IIDA Award title "*Against The Odds*" due to the 12 week project schedule from start of design to construction completion.

Possibly the most recognizable award winning project for BLD is the Autodesk Headquarters at One Market in San Francisco, not only for winning an IIDA award in 2013, but receiving much publicity in trade magazines such as Interior Design, SSL and others for the innovative yet sustainable design, achieving LEED Platinum status and providing this all within .5 watts & \$5 per square foot for lighting equipment. Other notable IIDA award winning projects include the Nokia Headquarters and the Guess? Headquarters, both featured in Interior Design Magazine as well.

Inga Birkenstock has been an innovator in sustainable design, serving as lead lighting designer for the REI Boulder Flagship "Store of the future" in Boulder, CO, one of the first working experiments of the USGBC's LEED Retail pilot program, receiving a CI Gold rating. Highly publicized for its innovative use of both natural and electric lighting, the project won the Energy & Environmental Design Award from the Illuminating Engineering Society in 2009.

More recently, BLD was part of the Thornton Thomasetti San Francisco office design team which was a LEED v4 Beta Test program.

Inga's lighting designs span from Corporate (executive, repositioning and TI work), Campus, Cruise Ship, Headquarters, Healthcare, Hospitality, 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
 - Turn-key low-voltage landscape lighting design, product procurement and installation

Linda Cummings Lighting Consultants, Inc. / Houston, TX

- 1999-2001
- Lighting Designer / Project Manager
 - Established project foresight criteria, evaluating document and construction timeline,
 - Wrote proposal agreements
 - Conceptual lighting design thru construction documentation
 - Prepared and presented design concepts and presentations
 - Key contact and project manager throughout construction
 - Constructed custom lighting fixtures and architectural mock-ups
 - Performed project close out focusing & dimming system programming

Past Experience / Interior Design

- 1984- 1999
- 15-year experience in the interior design industry.
 - 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: Degree in Interior Design

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

Publications & Awards

Autodesk / San Francisco, CA

- 2013
- IIDA Award
- 5/2013
- Interior Design Magazine, issue; "All work, some play"

DIFFA Dining By Design / San Francisco, CA

- 2012
- IIDA Award

Nokia Headquarters / Sunnyvale, CA

- 2011
- IIDA Award
- 5/2011
- Interior Design Magazine, issue; "On the Phone"

Guess? Headquarters / Los Angeles, CA

- 2010
- IIDA National Award
- 4/2010
- Interior Design Magazine, issue; "Guess Who's Back in Style?"
- 12/2009-01/2010
- Artravel Magazine, issue; "Maison En Amerique"

Kinkaid Performing Arts Center / Houston Texas

- 2000
- Society of American Registered Architects and Houston AIA / American University & Schools

REI Prototype Store of the Future / Boulder, CO

- 2009
- IES Illumination Award: Energy & Environmental Design;
- 2008
- DDI Magazine; "Portal to the Great Outdoors";
- 2008
- Chain Store Age Magazine February; "Retail Store of the Year: Environmental Sustainability"

Samsung Design Office / San Francisco, CA

- 2014
- IIDA Award "Against the odds"

Suzhou Industrial Park / Suzhou, China

- 2007
- IIDA Award

The Battery/ San Francisco, CA

- 2014
- IIDA Award

Yoshi's Jazz Club / San Francisco

- 2009
- AIA Los Angeles Restaurant Design / Lounge & Nightclub People's Choice Award