

I don't actually keep a CV because it reads like someone else's. However, here are some details:

Born in Zimbabwe, raised in Zambia. Completed high schooling at Helderberg College, Somerset West and graduated from Stellenbosch University in Psychology (Hons.) and Clinical Social Work which I practiced for 11 years.

What I really *wanted* to do was Botany - that is my passion - but didn't (too much first year Mathematics!); what I probably *should* have done was a course in Fine Art or Graphic Design - and didn't, although a main hobby is nevertheless still as a scenic artist having designed and painted over 40 stage sets for both amateur and professional stage productions.

I then worked as Head of the Graphic Services Unit at the National Botanical Institute (Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden) for 17 years and my main responsibilities there included design and production of interpretation materials, horticultural, botanical and corporate publications. Shows and exhibitions were a part of that portfolio which is how I came to be involved in the design and construction of the Kirstenbosch-South Africa exhibit at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show for the last 17 years. The exhibit has been awarded 30 Gold Medals in its 34-year history, as well as a number of special awards, including the Lawrence Medal for the 'best exhibit shown to the Society' in a particular year, and was the first recipient of the 'President's Most Creative Award', introduced in 2008.

I was also responsible for the South African garden at the Royal Flora Expo held in Chiang Mai, Thailand in 2006/07, and was invited to create fantasy gardens for the Singapore Garden Festivals in July 2008 and 2010. I have been working as a free-lance graphic design consultant since October 2000.

David Davidson