

FEDIR GONTSA

Cartographic Designer · GIS Specialist

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SUMMARY

Cartographic designer with a background in architecture and visual arts and 20+ years of experience with spatial data, from field research and GIS analysis to presentation-quality printed and interactive maps. Author of maps for books, national media, and international development programs. Focus on cultural heritage, storytelling maps, and data-driven cartography. Available for remote collaboration: maps from client data and improvements to existing cartographic solutions for companies and NGOs; maps, cartographic illustrations, and posters for book publishers, in print and online.

CORE SKILLS

Map Design · Cartography · Web Mapping · Spatial Analysis · Remote Sensing · Data Visualization · Data Management

SELECTED PROJECTS & PUBLICATIONS

Publishers: Ukraïner (2 books, including one on the siege of Mariupol); Borodatyi Tamaryn (about 10 books, including maps for Max Kidruk's *Colony* and *Collapse* from *The New Dark Ages* series, 128,000+ copies combined); Vydavnytstvo (map-based cover art for Ukrainian editions of William Gibson); and others.

NGOs & international organizations: GIZ / U-LEAD with Europe (multi-year collaboration, maps for numerous projects); UNDP Ukraine (Open Mapathon "Digital Cherkasy"); OPORA (interactive map of administrative division and election data); IZOLYATSIA (*Izolyatsia: Must Speak*, a political, information, and art campaign); national parks and other organizations.

Media: Lokalna Istoriya (interactive story maps on Lesya Ukrainka and Oleksandr Bohomazov); Platfor.ma; News Deserts of Ukraine (media research mapping); animated maps for documentaries about the Dnipro River.

Plus numerous maps for companies, non-profits, and private clients, in print and online.

EXPERIENCE

Independent Cartographic Designer

Jun 2017 – Present

Self-employed, remote

- Full-cycle map production for publishers, media, and NGOs: research, data processing, design, print and web.
- Maps for 12+ published books; cadastral, land management, soil, and satellite imagery analysis (QGIS, Python).

Senior Lecturer

Mar 2002 – Present

Department of Fine and Decorative Arts, Bohdan Khmelnytsky National University of Cherkasy

- Author of original courses in 3D modeling, generative graphics, AR, interior design, descriptive geometry, and composition; supervision of diploma projects.

Regional Development Manager (Central Ukraine)

Apr 2010 – Jun 2017

Yandex.Ukraine, remote (*Ukrainian subsidiary; until the 2017 ban*)

- Digital mapping and map quality control; large-scale data projects (decommunization renaming, public transport, POIs); localization and testing of map and web services.

Architect, Landscape Architect

1999 – 2017

Architectural studios; own licensed practice from 2001

Buildings, interiors, and landscape architecture; landscape research and mapping in Central Ukraine.

COMMUNITY & RECOGNITION

- OpenStreetMap contributor since 2010; active member of the Ukrainian OSM community.
- #30DayMapChallenge participant, 7 years in a row.
- Presidential Grant of Ukraine for Talented Youth (2006) for the resource system "Gardens, Parks and Landscape Art of Cherkasy Region" (website, 60 posters, book, DVD).
- Author of scientific publications on landscape heritage, cartography, and art education.
- Speaker at numerous conferences and public events; exhibition participant.

EDUCATION

Postgraduate studies, Theory, History and Synthesis of Arts

2005 – 2012

National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture · postgraduate program completed; dissertation not yet defended

Master of Architecture (Urban Planning)

1993 – 1999

Kyiv National University of Construction and Architecture

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

GIS & analysis: QGIS, GRASS GIS, SAGA GIS, GDAL/OGR, JOSM, PostGIS, PostgreSQL, Python; satellite imagery

Web mapping: MapLibre / Mapbox GL JS, Mapbox Studio, Leaflet, OpenLayers, deck.gl, CARTO; JavaScript

Design & workflow: Inkscape, GIMP, Blender, 3ds Max, Adobe CS, AutoCAD; Linux, Git, Bash, LaTeX, HTML, CSS

Languages: Ukrainian (native), English (B1+; confident in written project communication)