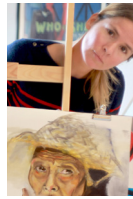




SONIA STEWART
DOB 21/10/1973
FRENCH FROM PARIS
MARRIED
TWO CHILDREN



EDUCATION

1992 Paris

Baccalaureat in languages and philosophy - Move to NYC as an au pair

1993 New York

Bass guitar lessons at the 'New School'

International Economics and Politics classes at the NYU ('New York University')

1993 - 1995 Paris

Sorbonne Nouvelle University degree in applied foreign languages: Spanish and English linguistics and civilisation

1996 - 1998 Paris

Degree in corporate and advertising communications at Paris School of Advertising

2001 - 2005 London

Account manager/ and director in London agencies, presenting skills certificate

2011 - 2015 Biot (Cannes France)

Art classes in the heart of where all the biggest impressionists resided

2020 Sydney

TAFE design fundamentals

LIFE AND WORK EXPERIENCE

1987

My dad gives me his Olympus reflex camera

1988 - 1992

One week internship at a photographer's studio, followed by years of learning how to photograph my city Paris and portraits of my friends. Days and nights spent in the high school dark room. Having a go at pencil drawing, animals, cars, portraits.

1991 - 1993

I discover music bands produced by 4AD, the English music production label and Vaughan Oliver, their designer. He produced all their imagery including CD covers, inside sleeves, flyers, concert posters, artists books. He has since never stopped inspiring me and represents the epitome of asymmetric beauty. I buy myself a bass guitar and learn by myself listening to my friends in bands, and copying the bass lines of my favourite bands.





1992

Moving to NY at the age of 18 as an au pair, I spend my free time replicating Vaughan Oliver's style composing, making collages, putting together my own photographs with whatever material I find, typographies, faces, pictures, cut outs from magazines (Ray Gun, the VillageVoice etc). I go to concerts in inspiring venues such as the limelight (old church). I write miles of journal pages and letters. I relentlessly take picture of this exhilarating city and portraits of the children I look after.

1993

Back to Paris on time for the first term of Uni, to learn a safe subject that will continue to open my perspectives in the world: languages.

1994 - 2005

I start working as a copy writer and translator in parallel to studying for my communications degree. I then move on to pursue my career in London in 2001 to bigger ad agencies making it up to account director at Publicis in 2004. I always watched and learnt from my creative colleagues using Quark Xpress and photoshop to understand graphics, light and layout for my own satisfaction, while doing intense reading and writing of an unpublished fiction and poems in my own time.

2004 and 2007 London and Paris

I meet my Australian husband in London and settle down in Paris to focus on motherhood and our two gorgeous sons.

2005 - 2010

Living between Paris and London. My husband gives me my first digital camera before our first son's birth. I immediately fall in love with the digital opportunities and say goodbye to film. I join the on-line Redbubble Australian art community and learn how to use Photoshop and textures on my mood photography.

2010

After moving back to France, I start my own photography business (Portraits, kids, political campaign, and community) I also produce merchandising with my photographs and sell them to private fairs and markets. I meet Miri, my German artist friend who lives in our village Biot, in the South of France. She puts a brush in my hand and makes me paint "against my will" as I can't draw to save my life. I commit to her classes and exhibit in local galleries.

2015 Sydney

Our family moves to Australia

2016 - today

Official photographer for my children's schools, for sports, arts and excursions. In charge of the design and production of yearbooks and newsletters.

