

Balázs Vargha DLA
University Professor
Ferenczy Noémi Award-winning Graphic Designer

Professional CV

As a student at MOME (then known as the Hungarian University of Applied Arts), I first obtained a college-level degree and subsequently a university degree from the institution's Institute for Master's Studies, graduating in 1993. Since then, I have maintained an active professional career as a graphic designer.
Through the design work carried out within Stalker Studio, the design office I founded, I consider my involvement in the development and implementation of corporate identity programs for institutions such as the Hungarian Television, the Hungarian State Opera House, and the Hungarian National Gallery particularly noteworthy. It should be noted that all of these commissions were completed before 2010.
As a designer, I regard my involvement in public life through my ongoing cover design work for the weekly newspaper Magyar Narancs as an important part of my professional engagement. I have been carrying out this work continuously for twenty years.

My professional design work has been recognized with numerous prestigious professional awards, including the Ferenczy Noémi Award, the Hungarian Design Award, and the Golden Drawing Pin Award, which I have received twice.

Throughout my career, I have always placed particular importance on active participation in professional public life. In addition to being a member of several organizations, I have willingly undertaken numerous roles on boards of trustees, judging panels, and advisory committees.

I joined the teaching staff of MOME's Department of Graphic Design in 2008. From 2015, I served as Head of the Department, and subsequently, from 2021 to 2025, as Director of the Institute of Media, where I was able to take on broader responsibilities in the development of the university. I also served as a member of the Senate from 2018 to 2025. I have played an active role in the development and reform of several educational programs, including the BA and MA programs in Graphic Design, the launch of the Illustration program, and the development of the basic concept for the Future University program. I am a thesis supervisor and topic advisor at the MOME Doctoral School, and since 2023 I have been a core member of the multimedia arts domain. Since 2020, I have contributed to the work of the Arts Committee of the Hungarian Accreditation Committee (MAB) as an expert, and served as a permanent member from 2023 to 2024.

Over the past decade, my teaching activities have also expanded internationally. I have been invited on numerous occasions to deliver workshops and lectures at the University of South-Eastern Norway, and have taught several times in Israel and the United States.

Over the course of my university career, my interests have gradually shifted towards the strategic dimensions of current and long-term issues in higher art education. This was

one of the reasons I decided to present my vision in the form of an application for the position of Rector in 2023.

The program outlined in my application received the support of the MOME Senate, which elected me as its candidate for Rector. However, the Board of Trustees of the foundation overruled this decision and opted to nominate another candidate.

As I considered the Board of Trustees' decision to be both unlawful and a serious infringement of the university's institutional autonomy, I sought legal redress with the support of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee. From that point onward, the legal and moral dimensions of academic freedom in teaching and university autonomy, their protection, and a commitment to democratic principles became my foremost priorities.

Education

2014–2025 **Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Doctoral School –** DLA in Multimedia
1991–1993 **Hungarian College of Applied Arts, Institute of Master's Studies –** University Degree
1987–1991 **Hungarian College of Applied Arts –** College Degree

Academic Degree

2025 **Doctoral Degree,** Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Doctoral School
2023 **University Professor,** Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Institute of Media
2021 **Habilitation,** Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Doctoral School
2020 **Associate Professor,** Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Institute of Media
2008 **Assistant Professor,** Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Institute of Media

Academic Activities

2023– **Core Faculty Member,** MOME Doctoral School, Multimedia Arts Domain
2021–2025 **Director,** MOME Institute of Media
2020–2021 **Program Director,** MOME Institute of Media – BA and MA Graphic Design Programs
2018–2025 **Member of the Senate,** MOME Senate
2015–2020 **Head of the Department of Graphic Design,** MOME Institute of Media
2008– **Lecturer,** MOME Institute of Media, Department of Graphic Design

International Teaching Experience

2025,2018 **HIT (Holon Institute of Technology), Tel-Aviv, Israel**
2017–2018 **MICA (Maryland Institute College of Art), Baltimore, USA**
2013–2019 **USN (University of South-Eastern Norway), Rauland, Norway**

Other Professional Activities

2020–21 **Member of the Arts Committee, Hungarian Accreditation Committee (MAB)**
2007–22 **Hungarian Design Award – Jury Member**
2022 **Hungarian Academy of Sciences – Visual Identity Development Program**

2020–21 **Design Management Award – Jury Member**

2020 **Budapest Visual Identity Development Competition – Chair of the Jury**

2019–21 **RGB Creative Design Award – Chair of the Jury**

2009–12 **Moholy-Nagy Design Scholarship – Member of the Board of Trustees**

2009 **Hungarian–Spanish–Belgian EU Presidencies Visual Identity Competition – Jury Member**

Professional Awards and Distinctions

2002,2024 **Golden Drawing Pin Award**

2012,14,17 **Beautiful Hungarian Book Award**

2012 **Hungarian Design Award**

2008 **Ferenczy Noémi Award**

2006 **Art Directors Club Award**

2000 **Kamera Hungária Award**