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INTRODUCTION

The Value of Great Homepage Design

You never get a second chance to make a first impression. That's why your homepage is undoubtedly one of -- if not *the* most -- important pages on your website.

If your homepage fails to immediately connect with visitors, or those visitors don't know what to do once they arrive on your homepage, their knee-jerk reaction will be to bounce (i.e., navigate away from your site).

From an analytics standpoint, a high bounce rate on your homepage is an indicator that something's wrong, and that it may be time to rethink your homepage's design.

But before you dive into the nitty-gritty of managing a redesign, take the time to research what other companies in your industry -- and beyond your industry -- are doing.

In this guide, we've collected 50 examples of brilliant homepage design that you can draw inspiration from.

Keep in mind that screenshots alone don't always do these homepages justice, so feel free visit them (links are provided) so you can get the full experience.

Two terms you'll hear along the way:

- 1) "Parallax scrolling" or "parallax design." It's when background elements move at different speeds than foreground elements as you scroll down a page, creating a sense of depth.
- 2) "Hover state." It's when a button or other clickable element changes in appearance or behavior when you hover over it with your cursor.

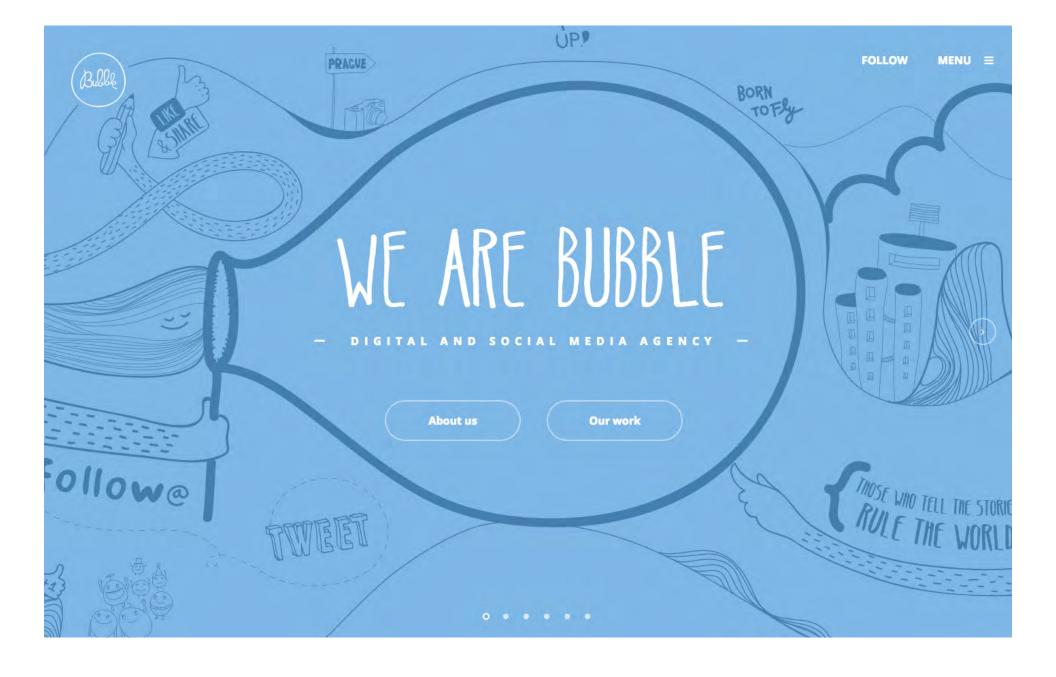
Alright, we've got all our bases covered. Enough with this "reading" nonsense: let's look at some brilliant homepage designs!

AGENCY & STUDIO HOMEPAGE EXAMPLES



HUGE hugeinc.com

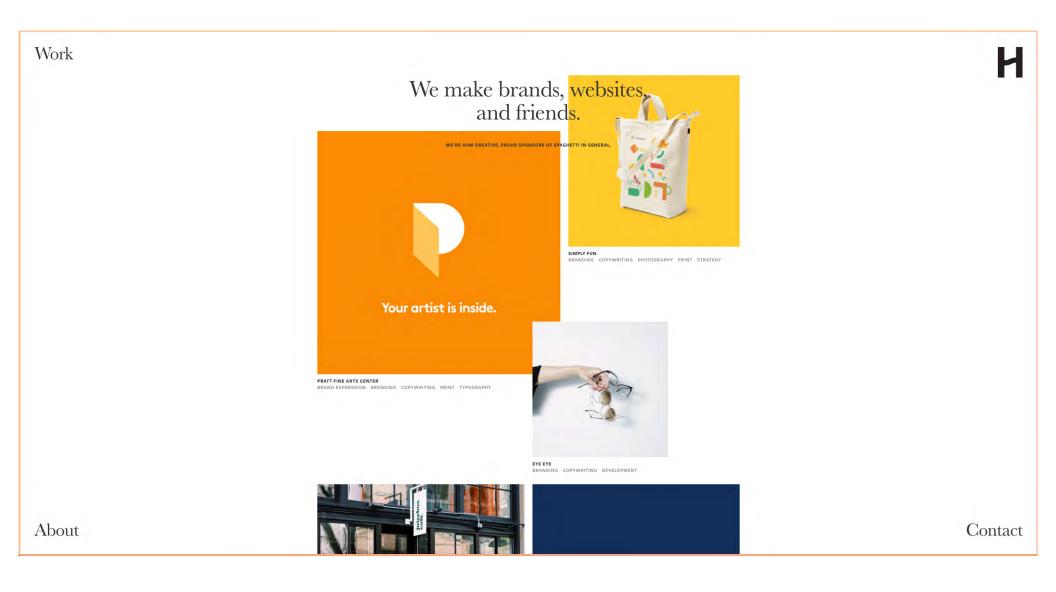
Agencies often have to choose between highlighting their brand and highlighting their work. The HUGE agency found a creative and compelling way to display both: they use elements of their different projects to form their own "H" logo.



Bubble

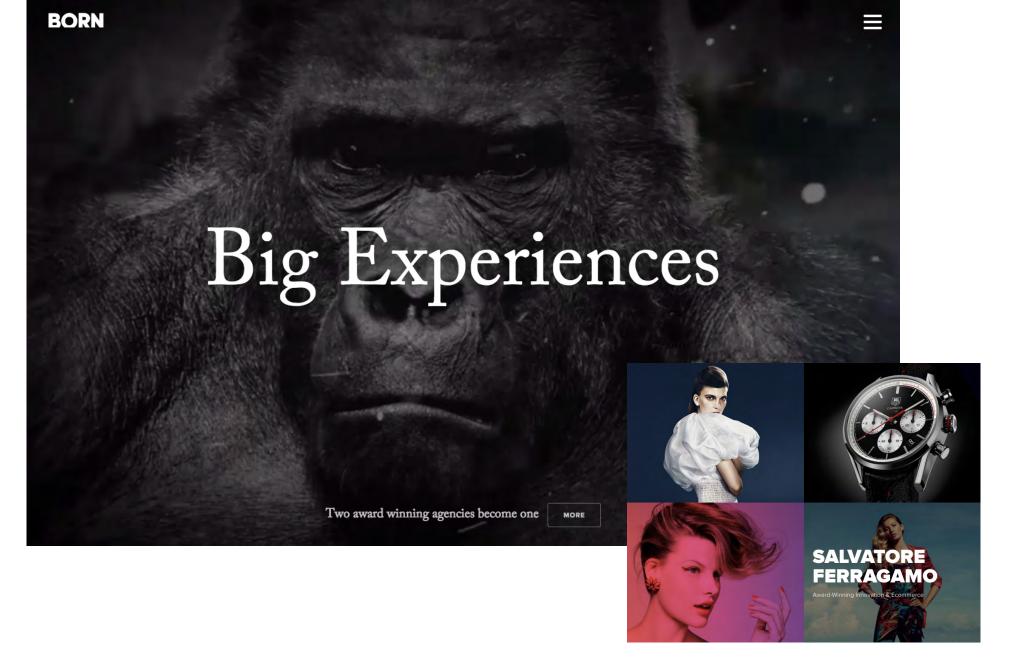
followbubble.com

This Czech Republic-based agency uses a combination of fun illustrations and interesting transition effects to capture your attention. Instead of scrolling down, you move from left to right using the little circles at the bottom of the page, or by clicking and dragging the screen. It creates the illusion of flipping through a book.



Hum humcreative.com

The Hum homepage uses bright photography to tell their studio's story. Instead of relying on a grid format, they stagger the sizes and positions of their photos for greater visual interest. The navigation links in all four corners stay fixed as you scroll, and the brand logo has a mild (but noticable) animation to it. Also note that if you're inactive



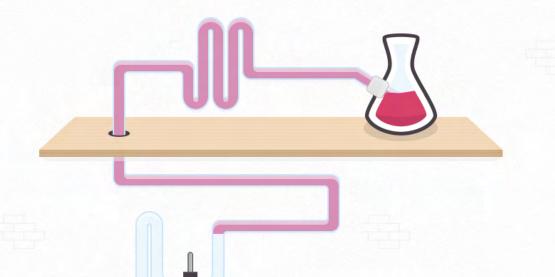
BORN

borngroup.com

The BORN homepage uses a high-definition video in place of a standard header image to immediately command your attention (top-left). Scroll down the page and you'll encounter a "Featured Work" area that is separated into two main categories, each with a captivating image. Clicking these images smoothly transitions you over to pages with client examples in a grid format.

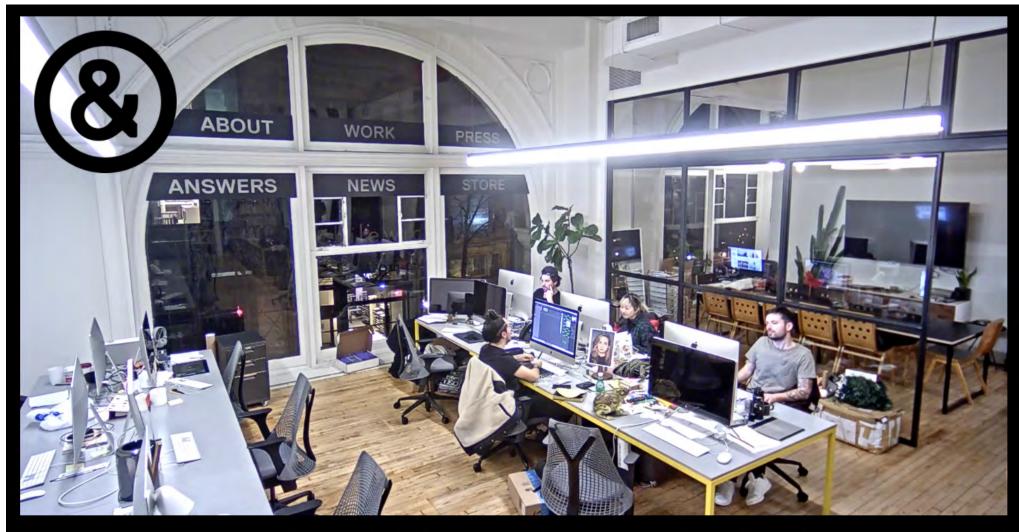
Handmade by humans

Your business deserves more than a flat-pack website, straight out of the box. Your customers are looking for intuitive, engaging digital experiences that function seamlessly. We have worked on complex and creative projects for global companies, so we understand exactly how to design websites and build platforms that inspire trust, encourage loyalty and allow organisations to reach their full potential.



Si digital sidigital.co

This UK-based agency knows how to take a concept (in this case, "digital chemistry") and run with it. As the pink fluid flows out of the beaker and down the tube, it guides you down Si digital's homepage. Along the way, you learn more about the services the agency provides and encounter some fun, interactive elements.



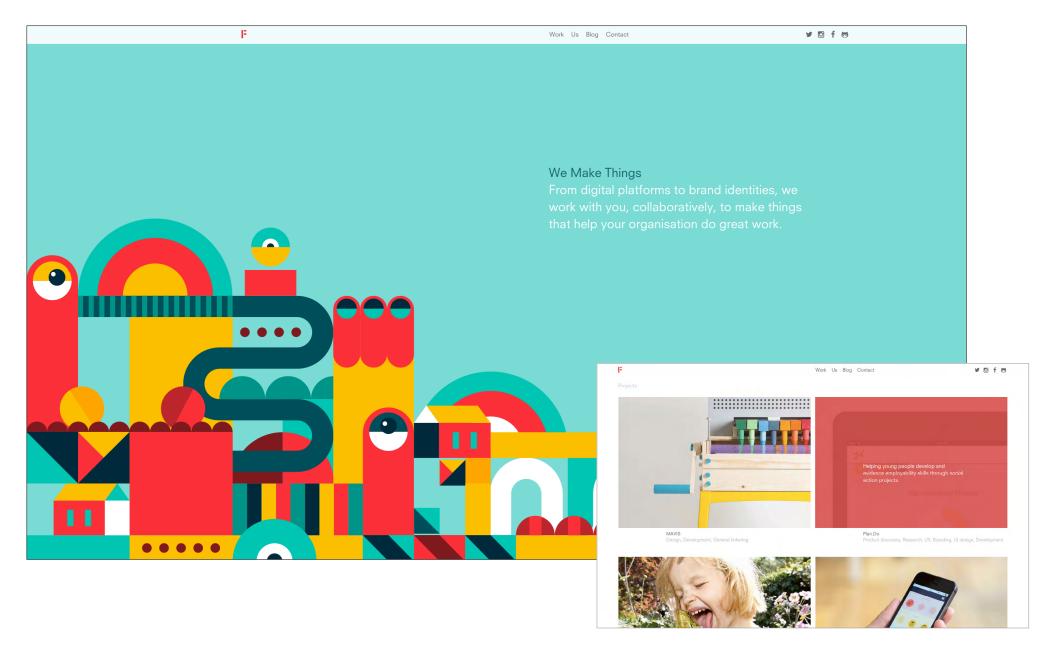
Work About News Press Answers Store Search

SAGMEISTER & WALSH

Sagmeister & Walsh

sagmeisterwalsh.com

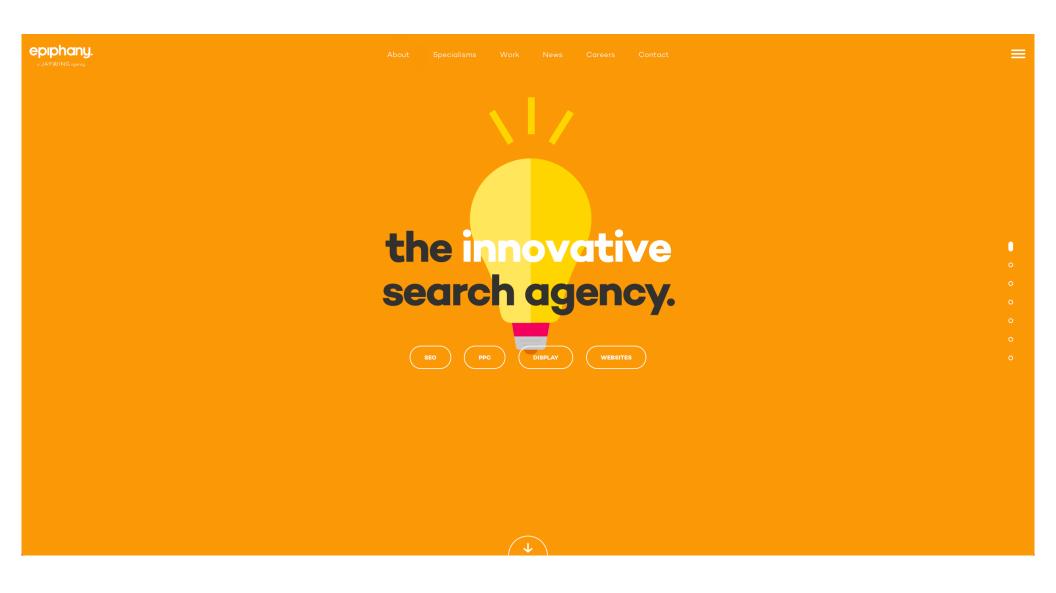
Here's an interesting approach to homepage design: use a live video feed of your office space as the background image, and overlay a clickable navigation in the windows. Clearly, this design firm isn't afraid of showing off its personality or the number of hours their employees put in at their desks.



Fieldwork

madebyfieldwork.com

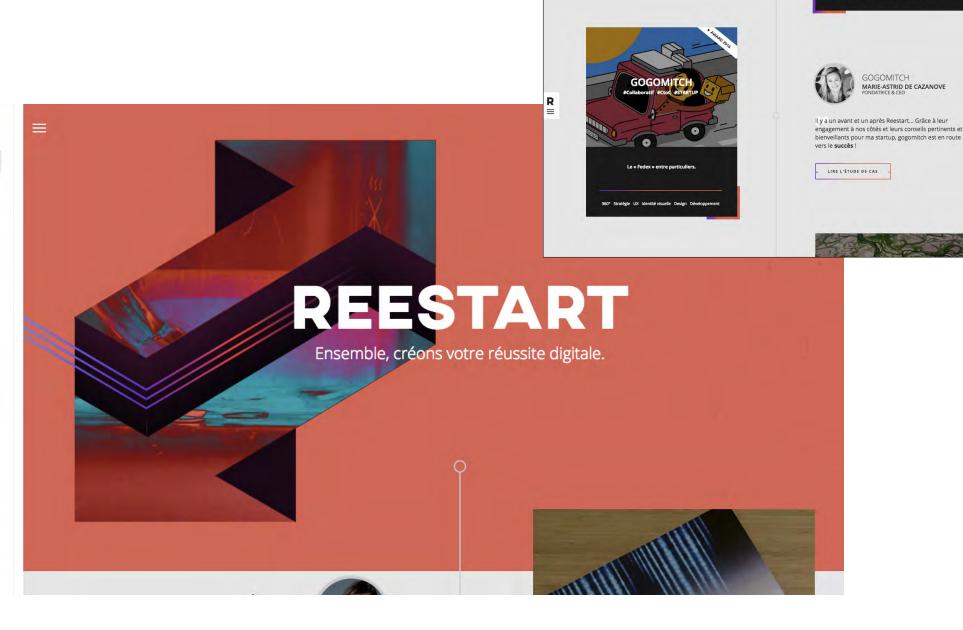
Party above the fold, business below. That's the approach that the UK-based agency Fieldwork took with its homepage design. Above the fold is an interactive animation that resembling an assembly line. Below the fold is a grid displaying recent projects. As was the case with BORN's homepage, there's a nice balance of creativity and legitimacy.



Epiphany

epiphanysearch.co.uk

This UK-based digital marketing agency strikes a nice balance between fun and informative. Their homepage greets you with quirky animations of self-descriptive adjectives paired with imagery (i.e. "innovative" and a lightbulb). They also make it immediately clear what services they provide using those buttons.

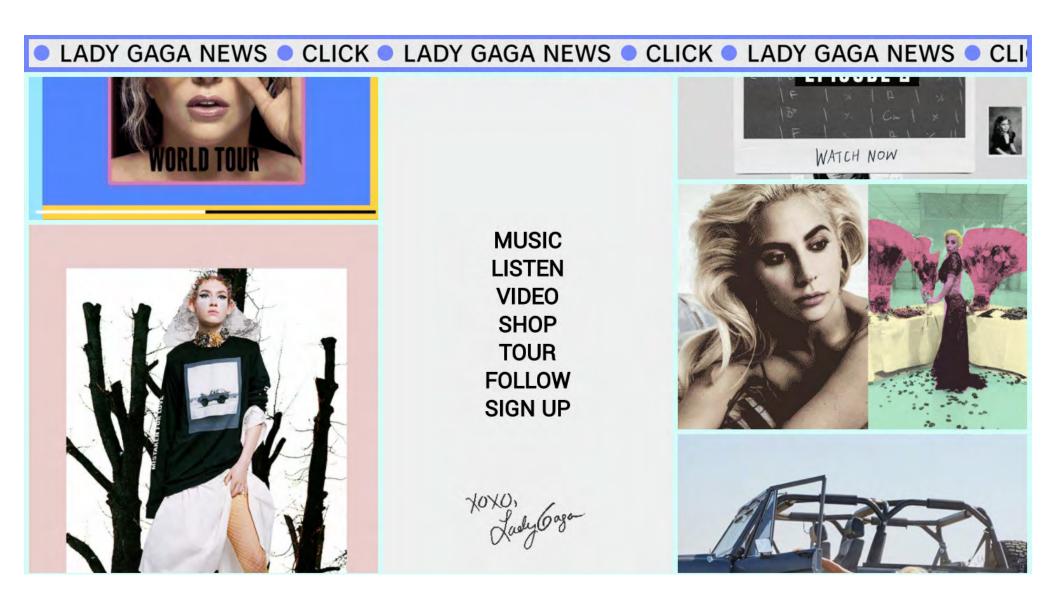


REESTART

reestart.com

This French agency's distinctive homepage all starts with colorful, trippy animations within their logo. As you scroll down the page, client recommendations slide in from both sides and feature the agency's work. Putting faces to each recommendation immediately builds trust and pulls visitors in.

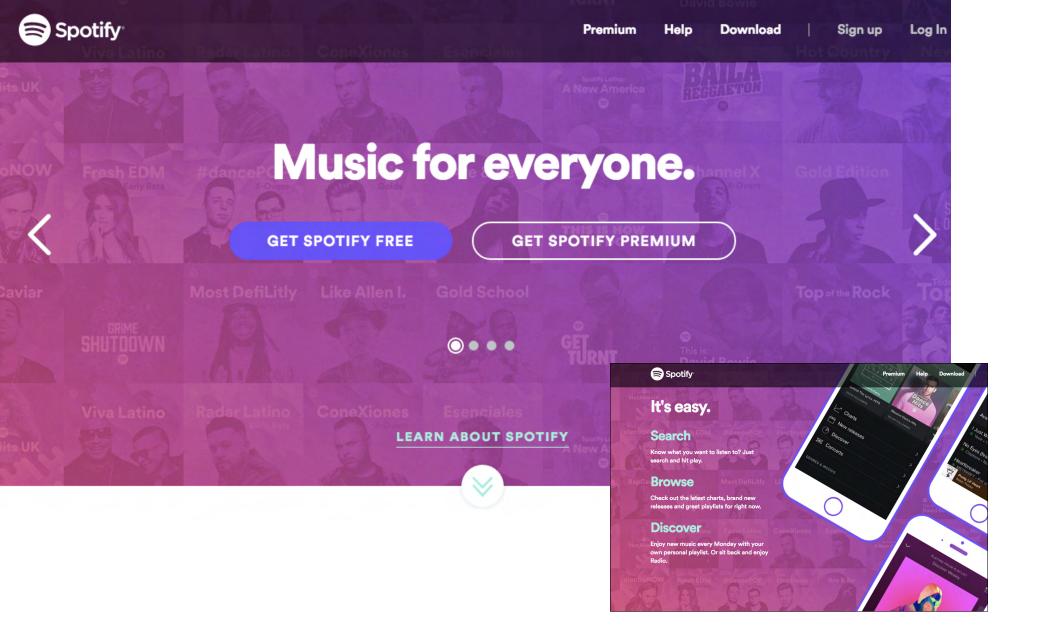
ENTERTAINMENT HOMEPAGE EXAMPLES



Lady Gaga

ladygaga.com

Leave it to a unique artist to have a homepage like this one. Below a clickable ticker tape for news lies a 3-column design. The middle navigation stays fixed while both bordering columns slowly scroll to display various content. This format allows the artist to display a wide range of photographs, GIFs, clickable links to music videos, and more.



Spotify.com

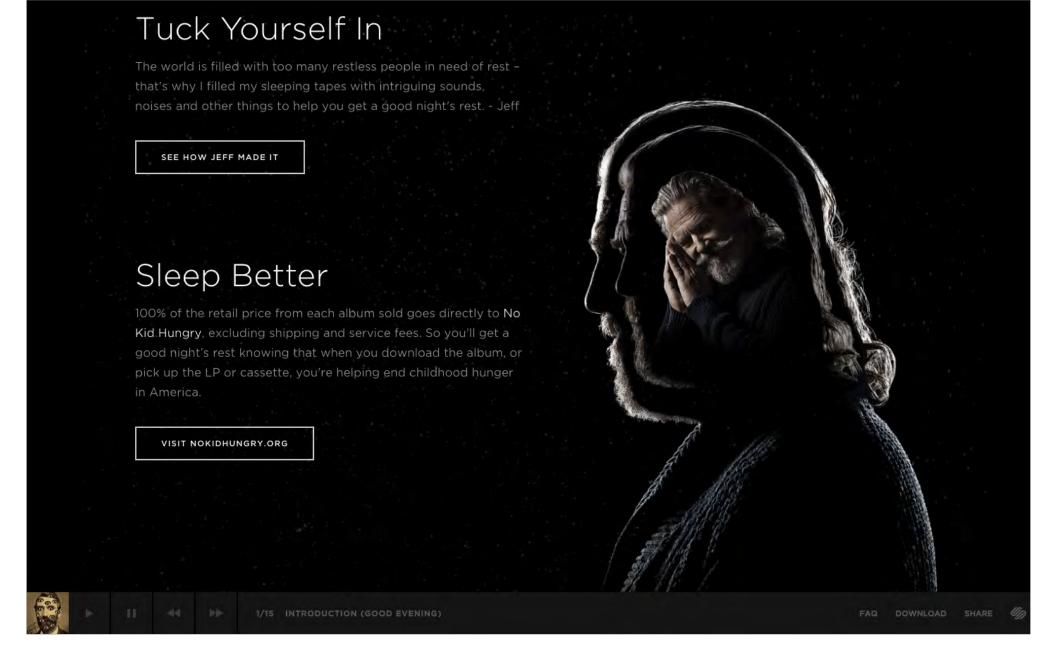
The message is simple: Spotify offers an endless amount of music that can satisfy anyone. Two main buttons are immediately featured over a colorful backdrop of artists, but the page offers much more information below. They prove their value by describing features in basic terms, allowing visitors to preview music by hovering over an artist's image, and showing what to expect from their mobile app.



Şuie Paparude

suiepaparude.ro

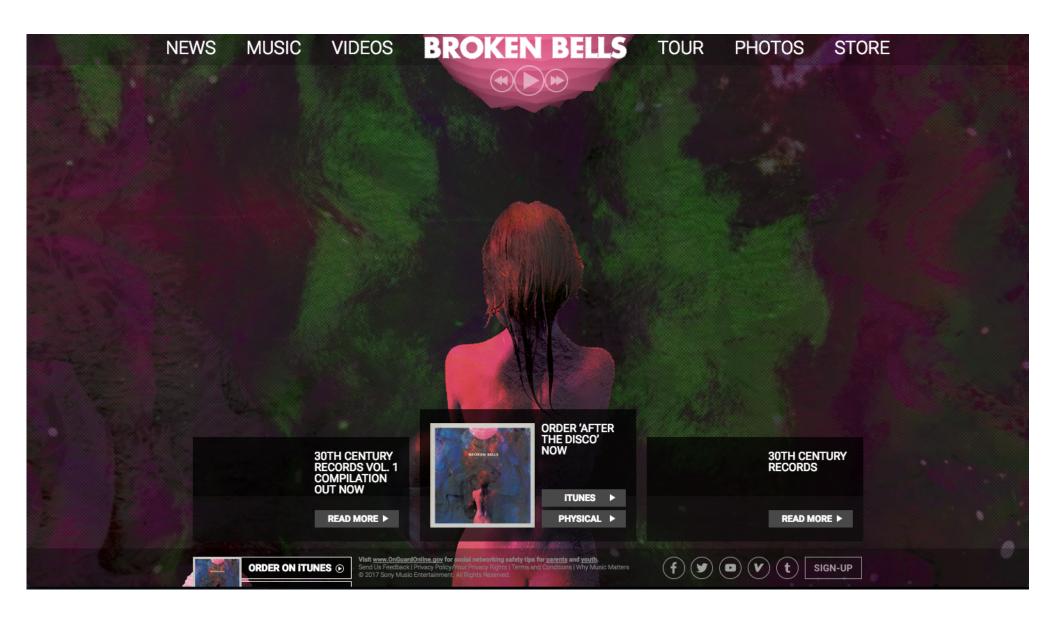
The Romanian band Şuie Paparude's homepage has a creative interface, which allows a lot of information to be surfaced without being overwhelming. Hover over a column to reveal a band member. Scroll down the page and you'll notice that the columns shift at different speeds.



Jeff Bridges Sleeping Tapes

dreamingwithjeff.com

This design is fun and fits the subject matter perfectly (that "subject matter" being Jeff Bridges saying strange sentences and making weird noises to help folks fall asleep). The page uses light text on a dark background, and employs subtle animations to keep things interesting. Despite being inherently unusual, it is clean and easy to navigate.



Broken Bells

brokenbells.com

This homepage is all about the group's most recent album. Without the ability to scroll, visitors are drawn into the groovy background while music begins to play. Broken Bells' site is a great example of taking over and re-branding for a focused effort (in this case, sampling specific songs and providing paths to purchase).



Labyrinth Club

labyrinthclub.be

Here's something you don't see every day: getting welcomed to a site with a game. This Belgian music club's ode to arcade culture is ingrained throughout with its text styling and featured leaderboard. Labyrinth Club displays bold, black and white headshots of upcoming artists that contribute to its retro cool vibe.

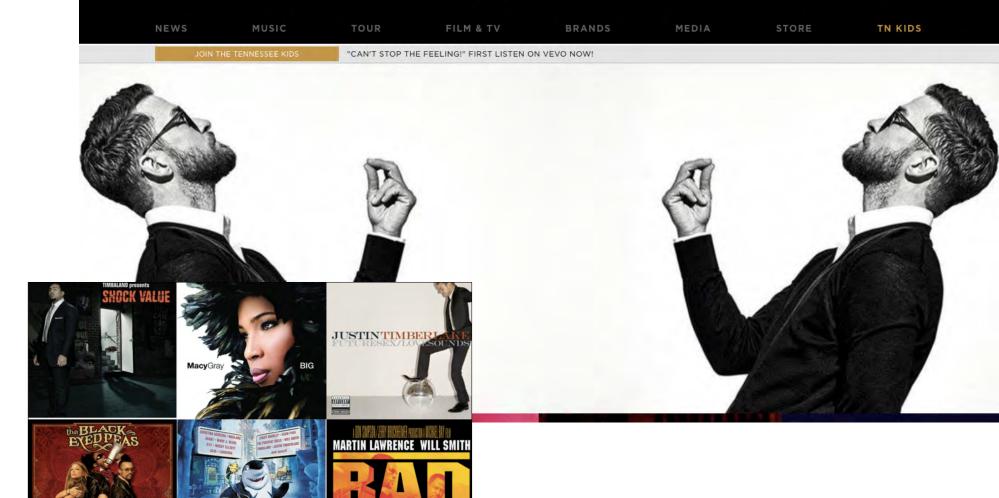
HOME ABOUT ORDER HISTORY STORY CYMBAL TOM CHANGE KIT NAVIGATE ON THE SITE

Beat Box Academy

beatboxacademy.ca

The Beat Box Academy homepage puts its craft -- beat boxing -- front and center. But instead of simply writing about what beat boxing is, the homepage allows visitors to experience it by interacting with virtual drums (which represent the different sounds you make when beat boxing). The combination of visuals and audio creates a truly immersive experience.

JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE

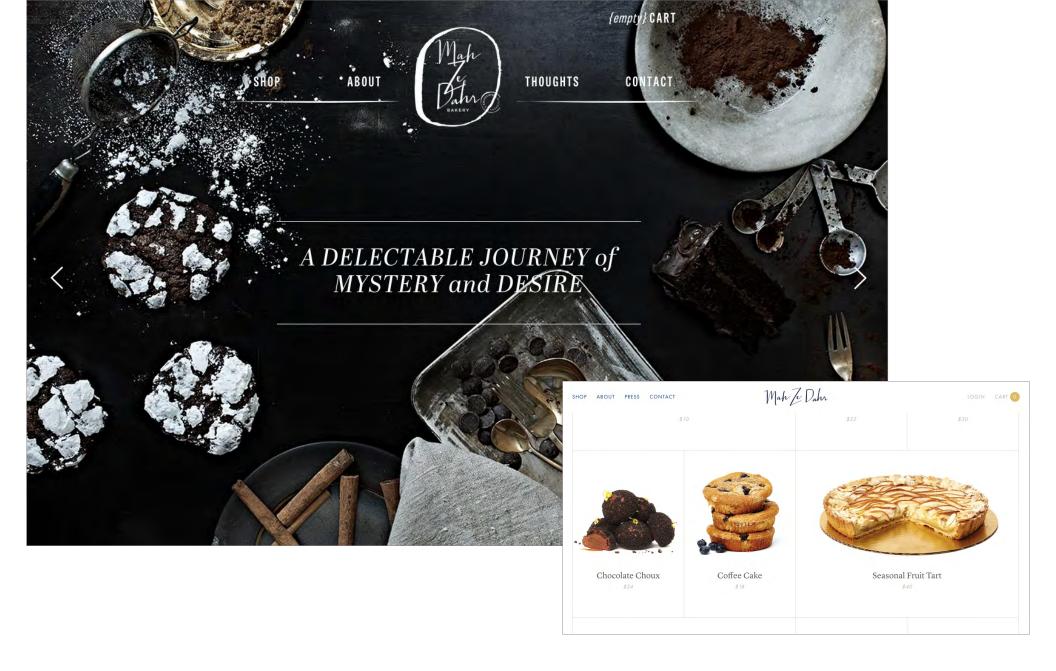


Justin Timberlake

justintimberlake.com

Justin Timberlake's homepage has a clean design that highlights both his previous and upcoming works. The large featured image gets you to follow his eyes towards the slim navigation bar, which directs to pages full of album covers, movie posters, and so on. This site minimizes the number of calls-to-action and focuses instead on nostalgia-inducing imagery.

FOOD & DRINK HOMEPAGE EXAMPLES



Mah Ze Dahr

mahzedahrbakery.com

The Mah Ze Dahr bakery's homepage offers a nice balance of beautiful, full-width photos (above left), cut-out images of individual bakery items (right), and informational text. The centrally positioned logo stays fixed as you scroll down the page, allowing their branding to stand out.

On The Menu

Pricing

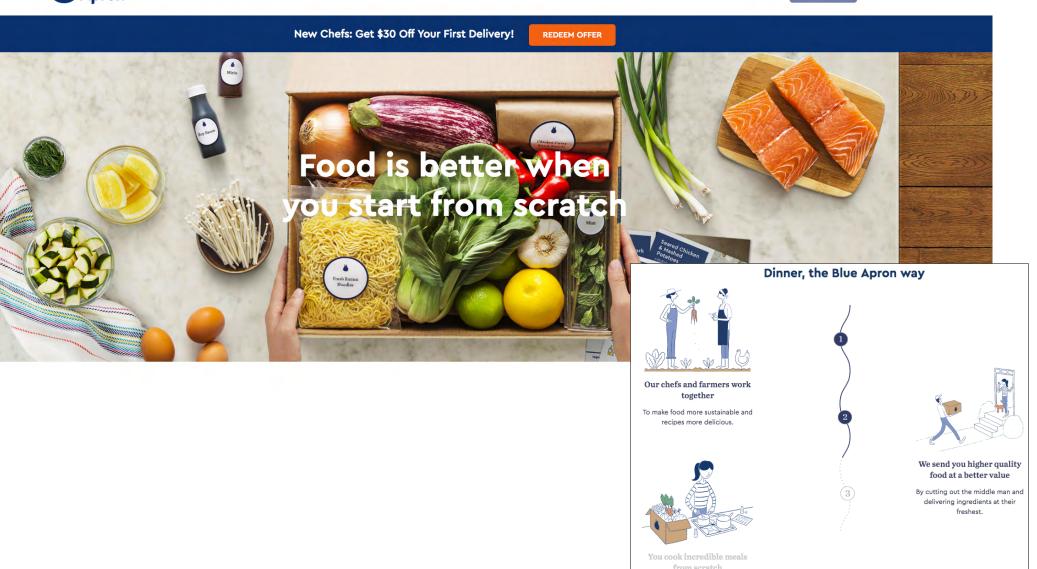
Our Vision

Wine

Market



Sign Up



Blue Apron blueapron.com

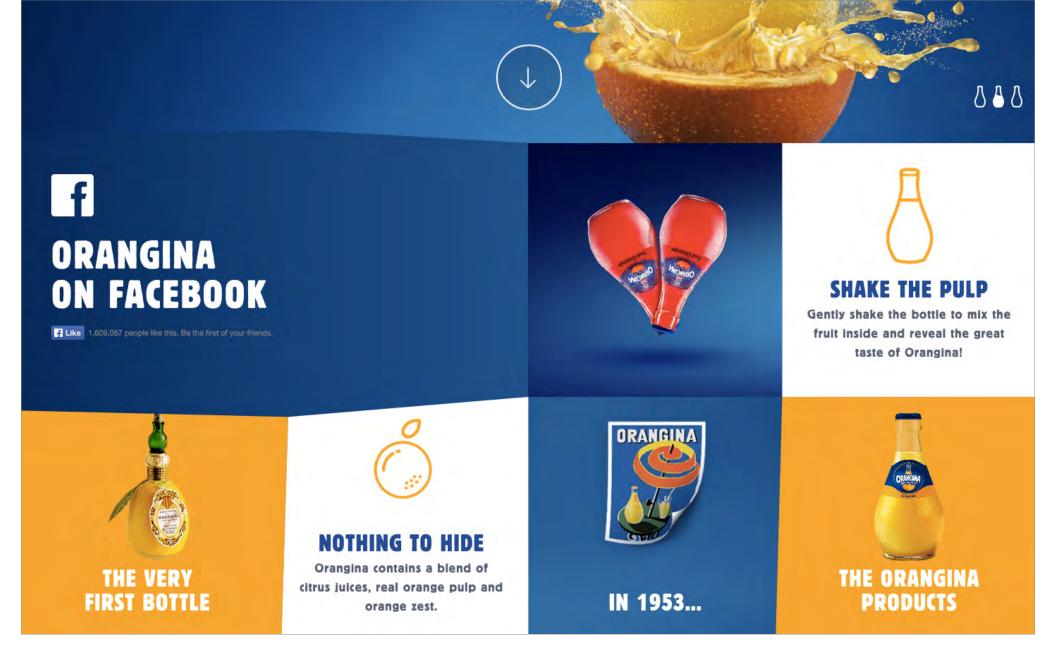
The food delivery service's homepage begins by placing you in the first-person view of a happy customer. Visitors to Blue Apron's site get a glimpse into what it would be like to receive their fresh, weekly ingredients. Below this photo is an animated explanation of their value proposition, which expands as you scroll down.



Lobagola

lobagola.com

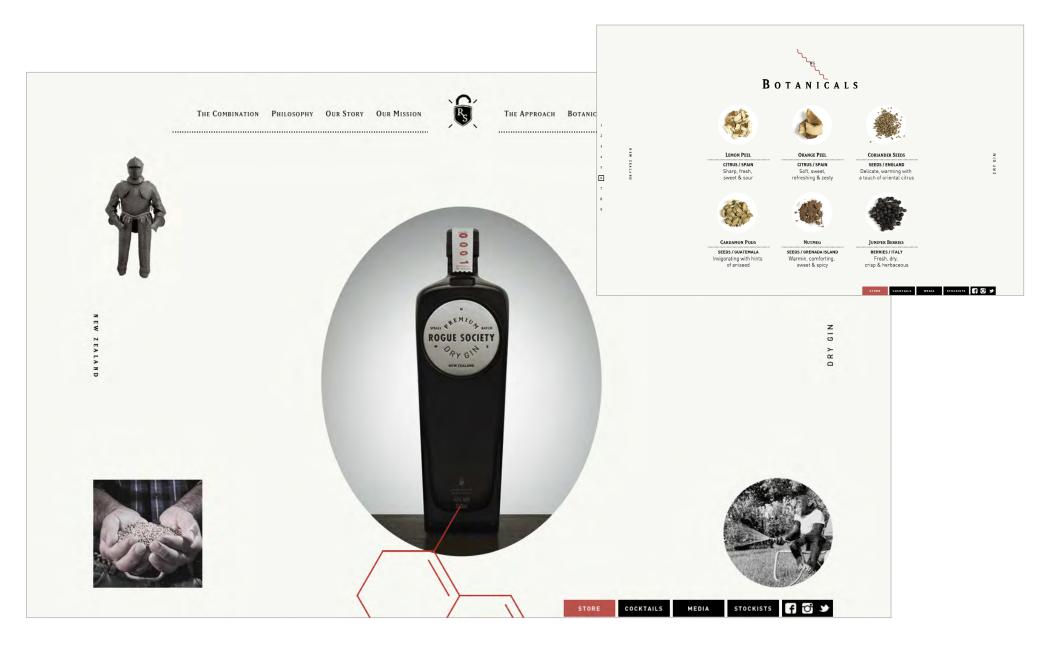
This Croatian bed & breakfast has earned a five-star homepage. By combining big, bold typography with beautiful, purposeful photography, Lobagola provides a unique (and appetizing) experience. You'll definitely want to see the cool transition effect that occurs when the background photos change.



Orangina

orangina.eu

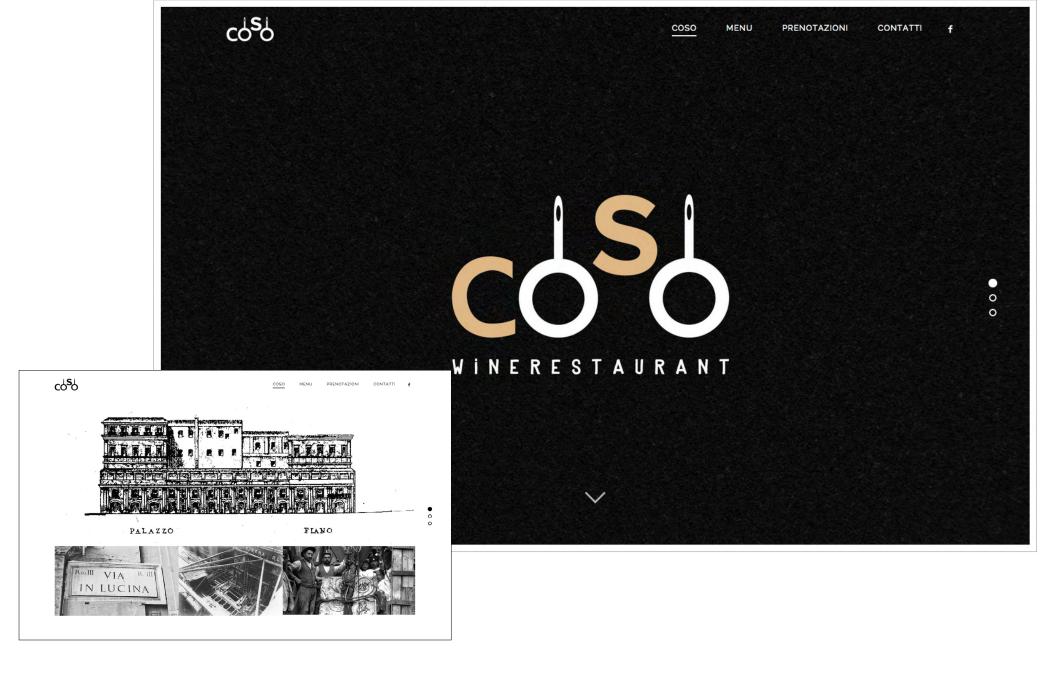
After greeting you with some high-quality product photos, the Orangina homepage guides you down to an interactive content grid. When you hover over a particular square in the grid, the structure of the container has a morphing effect. The end result is a well-organized, well-branded homepage that provides a fun user experience.



Rouge Society

roguesocietygin.com

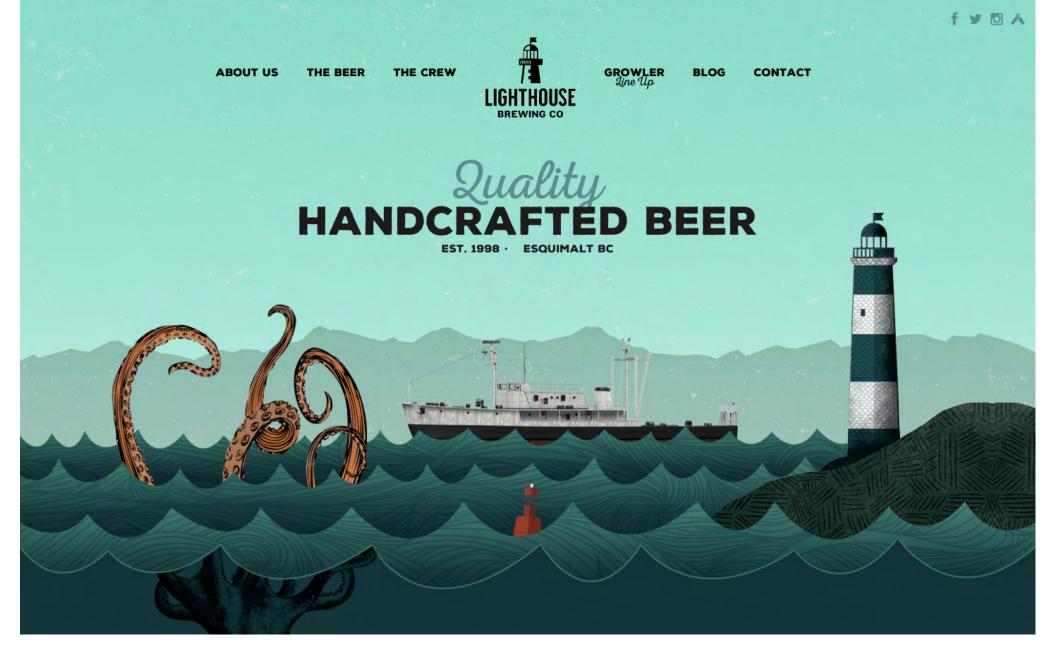
This New Zealand gin-maker's homepage is an incredible example of what can happen when illustration, photography, parallax design, and a brand's identity all come together to tell a cohesive story. Each section of content presents a new part of the story (accompanied by enticing visuals), and a numbered nav on the left-hand side that lets you monitor your progress.



COSO

cosowinerestaurant.com

Here's a tasty Italian homepage from the wine restaurant COSO. An arrow makes it clear what your first interaction on the homepage should be, while a vertical nav on the right-hand side allows you to monitor your progress. The page uses a mix of black and white and color visuals to keep things interesting.



Lighthouse Brewing Co

<u>lighthousebrewing.com</u>

The Lighthouse Brewing Co's homepage immediately grabs your attention with its beautifully illustrated ocean scene, complete with animated waves (and other elements) that move gently up and down. As you scroll down into the depths, all of the content is neatly aligned, and there's a nice balance of information and visuals.



Tío Luchín

tioluchin.com

Tîo Luchín is a catering service dishing out Peruvian food with a lively homepage. A range of parallax scrolling effects guide you through five sections, each with a visual or audible component. Near the end, there is a simple questionaire with form fields (top right) that makes it easy and fun to start a quote.

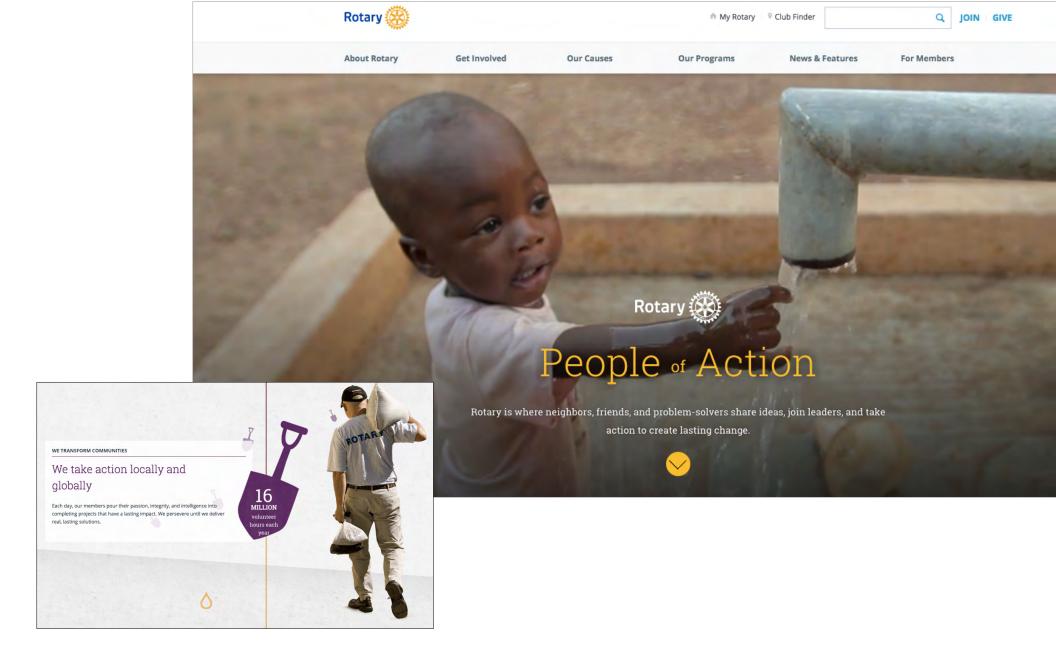


Chickenbot

chickenbot.it

This Italian chicken delivery service's homepage offers a great example of using parallax design to tell a story. As you scroll down the page, delicious images slide toward the center of the screen. Keep going and some stats automatically appear. Every little movement and interaction compels you to keep learning more.

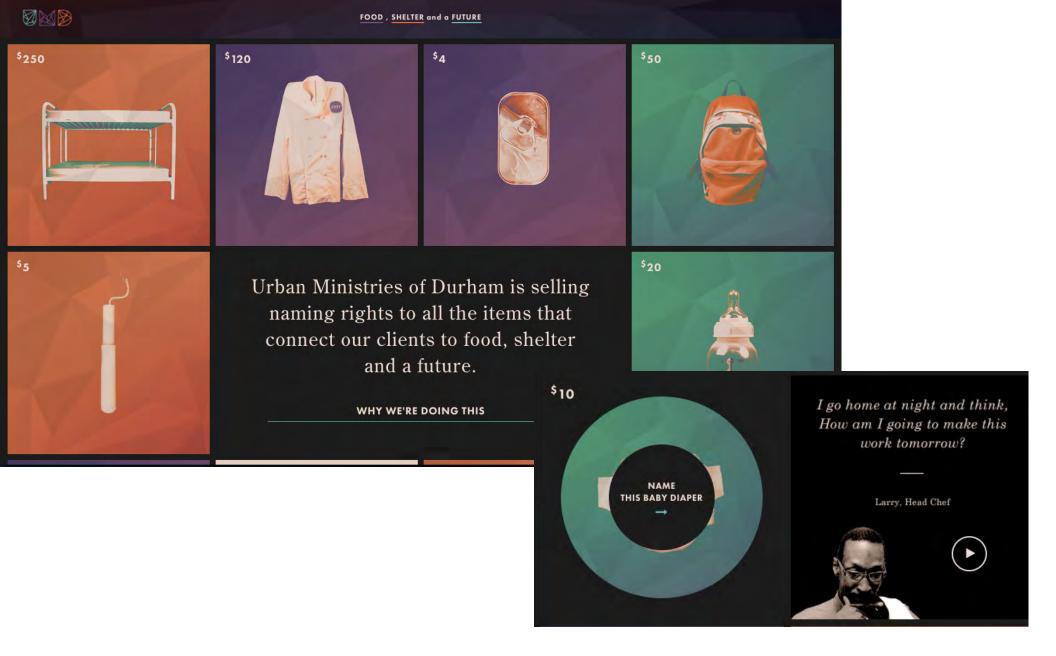
NONPROFIT HOMEPAGE EXAMPLES



Rotary

rotary.org

Rotary's homepage begins with windows into their missions, utilizing brief video moments to display causes like providing clean water around the world. Next, a series of animated features are tied together while scrolling which build a story of their long-term successes. Rotary's use of color and imagery not only differentiates each success, but also entices the visitor to continue their learning journey.



Names For Change

namesforchange.org

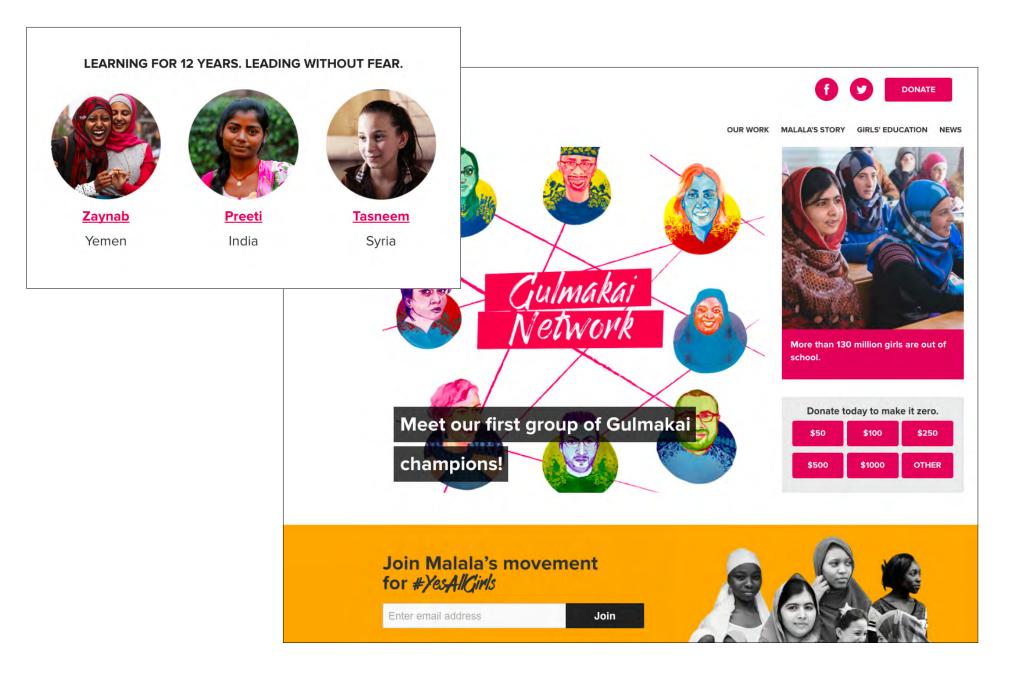
The Names for Change initiative has a short intro before taking visitors to their homepage. Masterfully cutting to the point, they lay out a grid of everyday items that people need to live comfortably. By showing baby diapers, a hot breakfast meal and more, they touch a nerve that reminds those who are fortunate that not everyone has what they believe to be commonplace. Hovering over each item describes its purpose as well as the associated value to donate.



Vintage Hope

<u>vintagehope.co.uk</u>

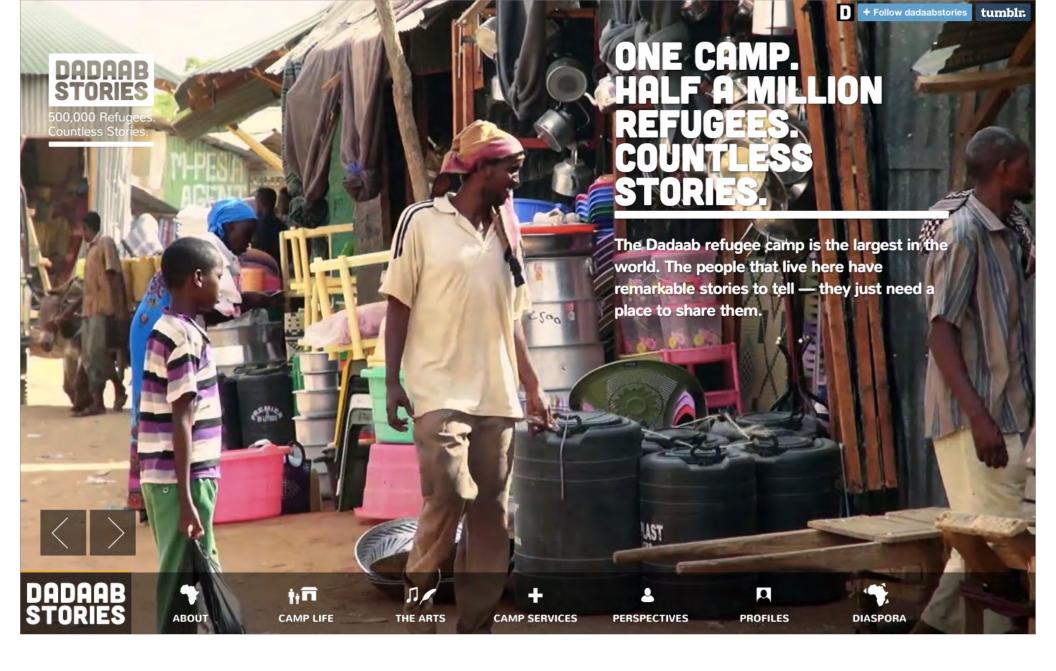
The Vintage Hope homepage has a hand-crafted and vintage style that still manages to feel modern and professional from a user experience standpoint. While the brush strokes and rough edges give the homepage a distinctively organic feel, the precise gridwork and organized layout keeps the homepage from being messy or overly complicated.



Malala Fund

malala.org

Vibrant shades of pink and yellow demand the attention of those visiting Malala's homepage. Even though she is a global role model and champion for education and perseverance, the messages are focused on those participating in and benefitting from the fund rather than Malala herself. Featured success stories (top left) are highlighted mid-page and provide a real emotional core.



Dadaab Stories

dadaabstories.org

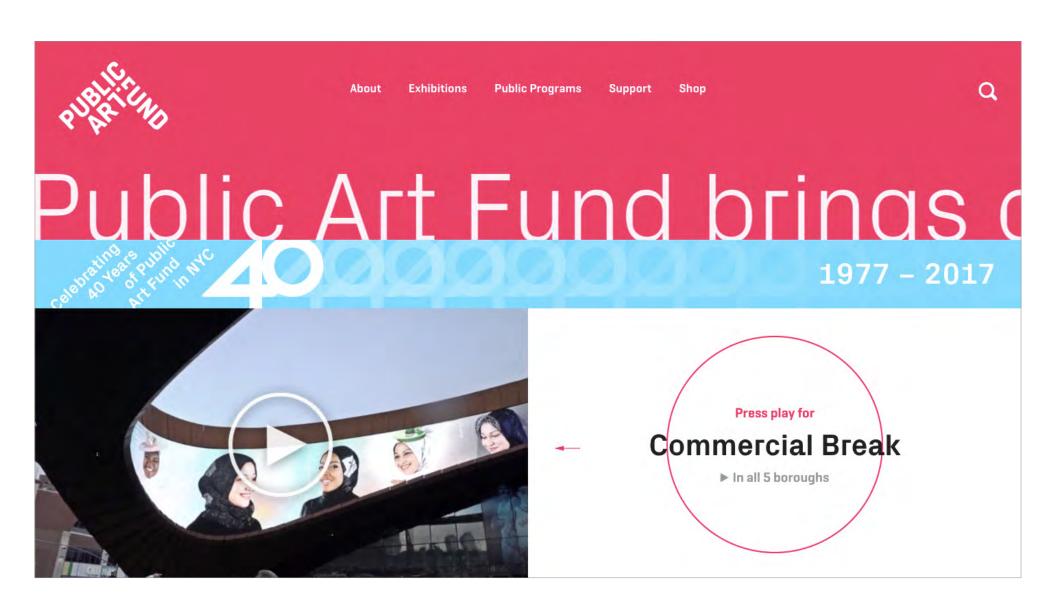
The Dadaab Stories homepage does an excellent job of overlaying text onto a video background. As a result, Dadaab Stories is able to communicate its story using both text and video. You're not just reading about their cause, you're seeing a tiny glimpse into the life of the humans in this refugee camp.



The Pushpa Project

pushpaproject.com

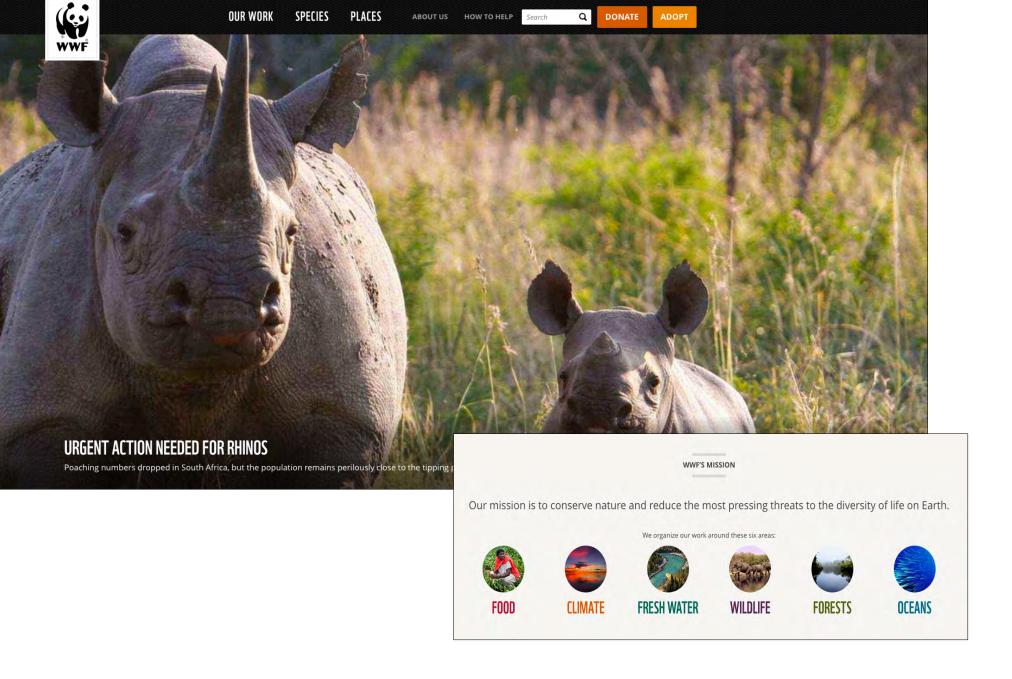
The Pushpa Project homepage provides a nice balance of photos, illustrations, and bold colors. The fixed navigation on the left-hand side allows visitors to track their progress as they consume the page's content. Also worth noting: the "Donate" tab stays fixed along the left-hand side as well.



Public Art Fund

publicartfund.org

The Public Art Fund homepage provides a great example of using a bold, attention-grabbing color as a branding element. While the photos of artwork displayed on the homepage contribute a variety of different colors to the design, the pink nav bar, pink container borders, and pink header type tie everything together.

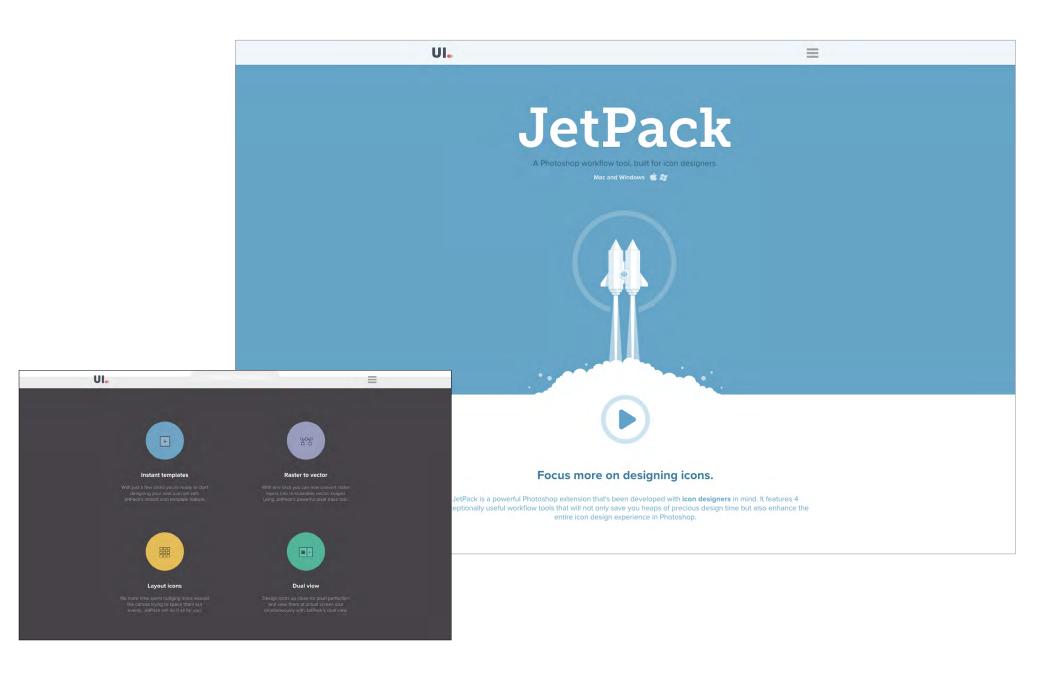


World Wildlife Fund

worldwildlife.org

Leading with a featured story, the WWF's use of large, full-width enivornmental imagery sets the stage for their homepage. Contrasting the black and white with high-quality photographs and simple colors attracts eyes to donation buttons and specific areas of work. The six categories that make up their mission (bottom right) are cleanly organized and differentiated by some of these simple colors.

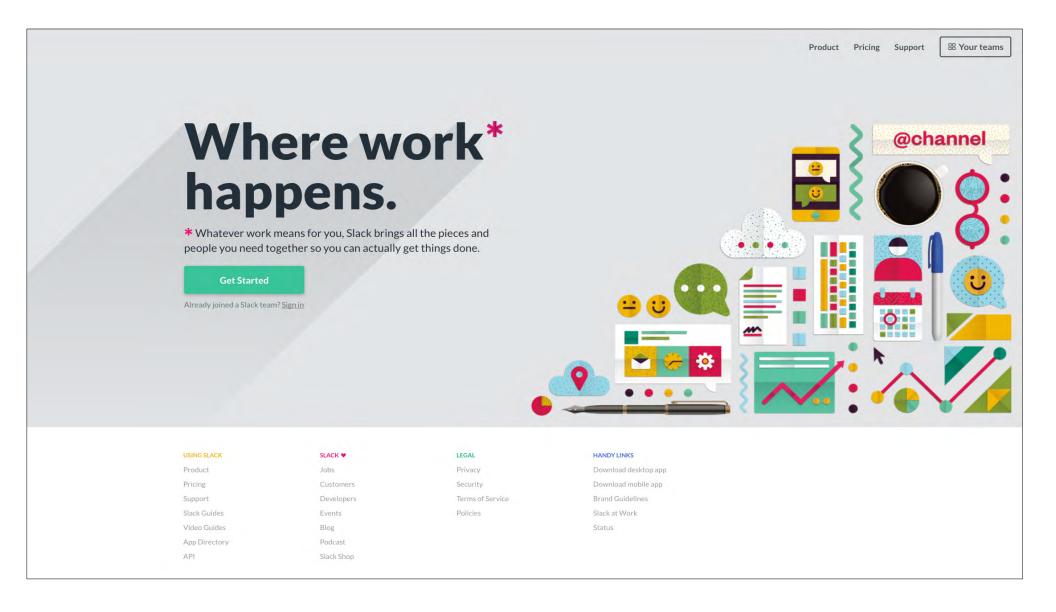
SOFTWARE & TECH HOMEPAGE EXAMPLES



JetPack

jetpack.uistore.io

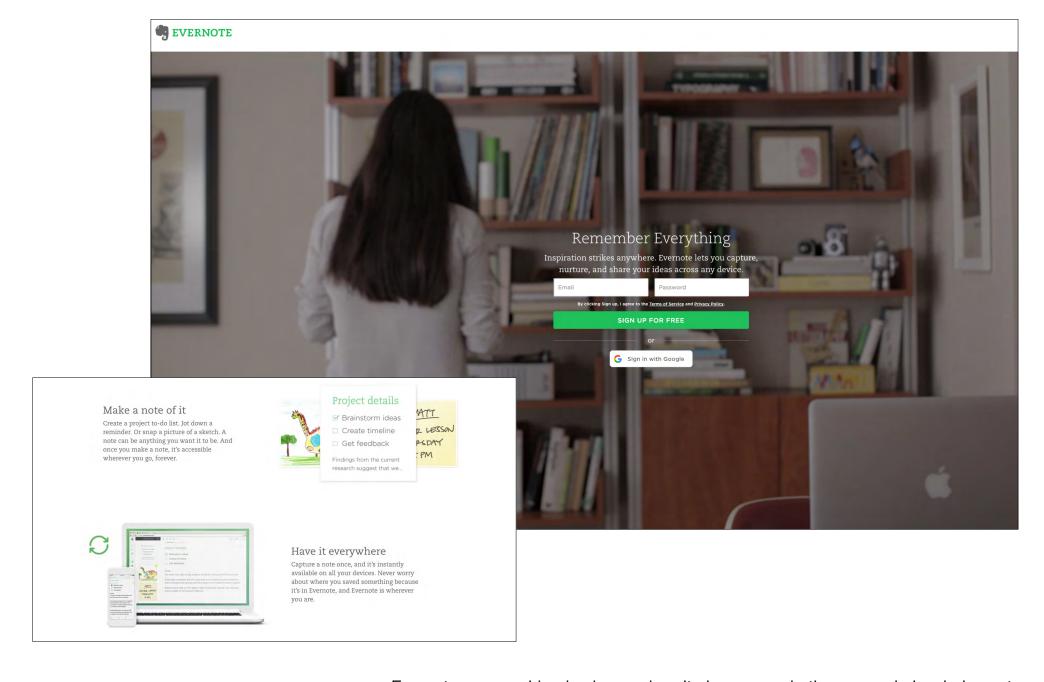
The JetPack homepage uses subtle animations and a clean, organized layout to surface the most important information and keep clutter and copy to a minimum. The color scheme is simple, the iconography and illustrations are beautiful, and the end result is a trustworthy and easy-to-navigate homepage.



Slack

slack.com

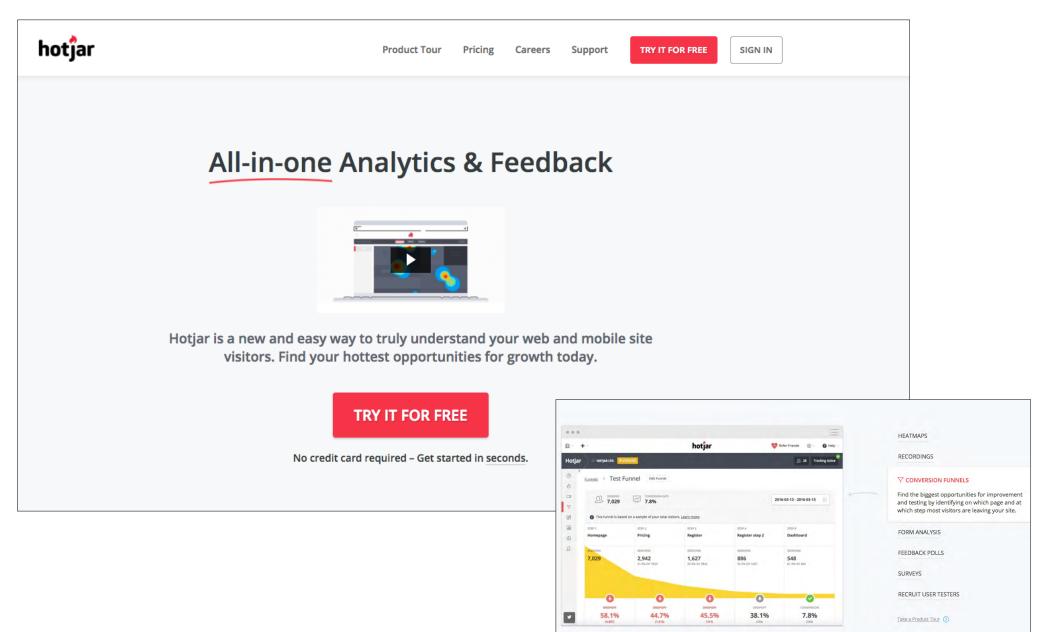
Slack's homepage opts for a simple design with one call-to-action ("Get Started"). An uncomplicated trio of links across the top-right of the page lead to the most common questions that visitors could have, but a packed footer offers more paths to learning, such as video guides and a branded podcast page.



Evernote

evernote.com

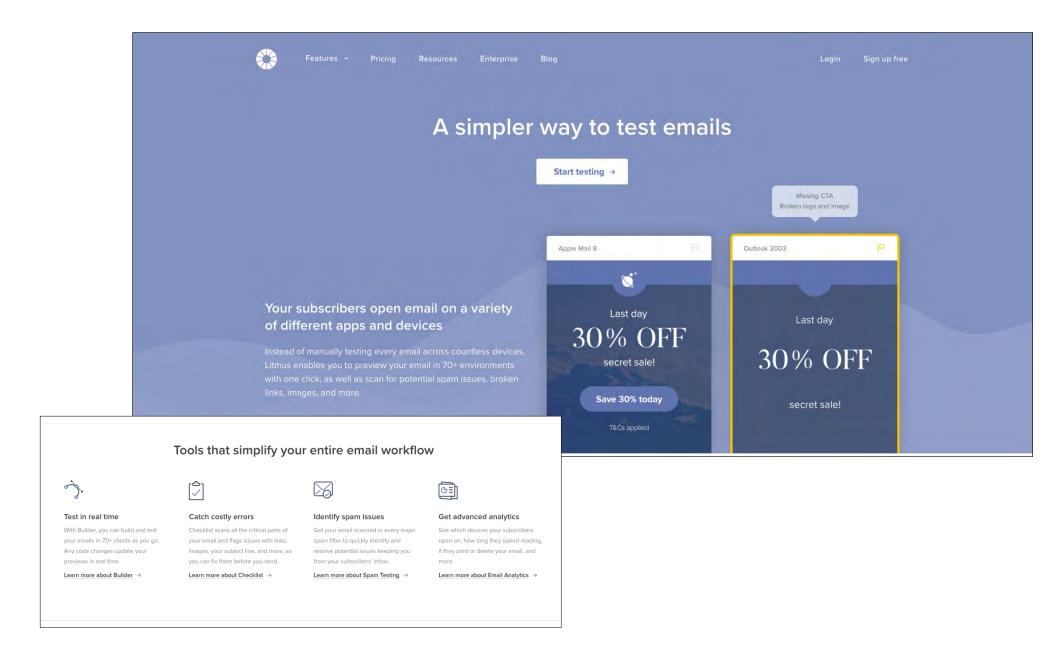
Evernote uses a video background on its homepage both as a cool visual element and as a way to show its product in action. The person in the screenshot above is presumably using Evernote on the go, which aligns perfectly with the messaging in the text overlay. Beyond the header, tidy graphics continue to explain each benefit.



Hotjar

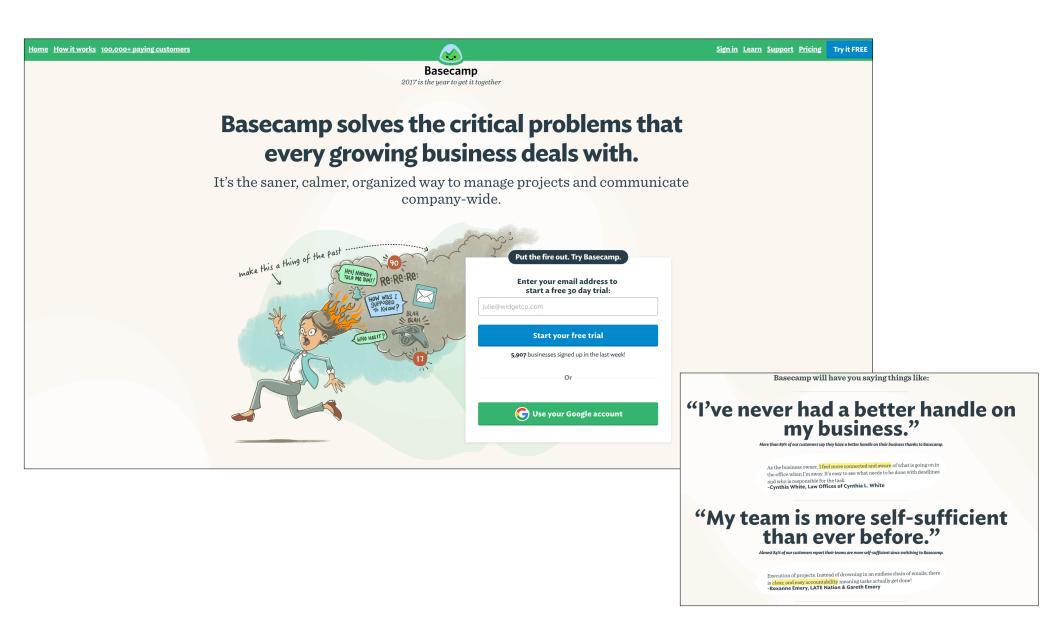
hotjar.com

Hotjar's homepage leads with a one-minute video that explains what they do, and is followed by a red call-to-action that matches their branding and demands your attention (especially by including "free"). Below this, Hotjar continues with a show and tell by allowing visitors to choose through seven features that all have supporting product screenshots and succinct descriptions.





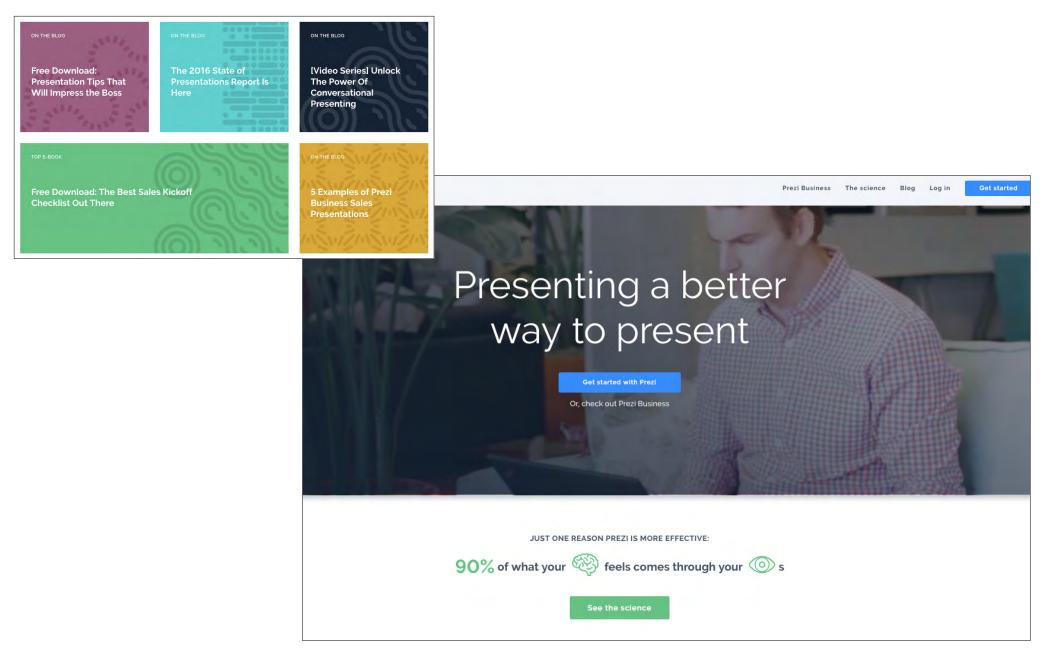
Offering tools that solve email marketing woes, Litmus brings a calming shade of lavender to its homepage. A common issue with email design is showcased and reveals the ease in which their product can deliver for customers. A row of four icons then highlight tools and features, and allow the homepage to stay brief but pack a punch.



Basecamp

basecamp.com

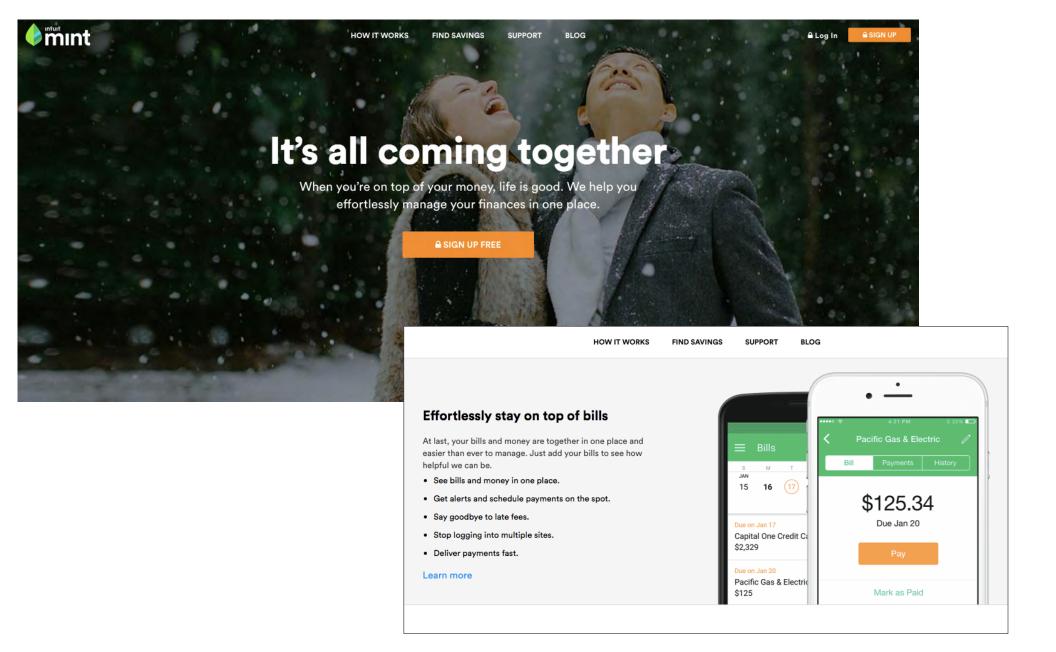
A cartoon drawing on Basecamp's homepage puts a humorous visual to what they promise to solve. There is minimal friction to starting a free trial by providing an email address field as well as a Google account sign-in option. The remaining bulk of the page is dedicated to large testimonials before ending with a button that brings you to a recorded demo video.



Prezi

prezi.com

Prezi's homepage starts similarly to Evernote's, but one difference that stands out is that they splice in shots of the product in action. This representation feels more natural than a recorded demo video and, best of all, is all above the fold. Rather than show screenshots, Prezi opts for enticing content like studies and blog posts, some of which are gated.

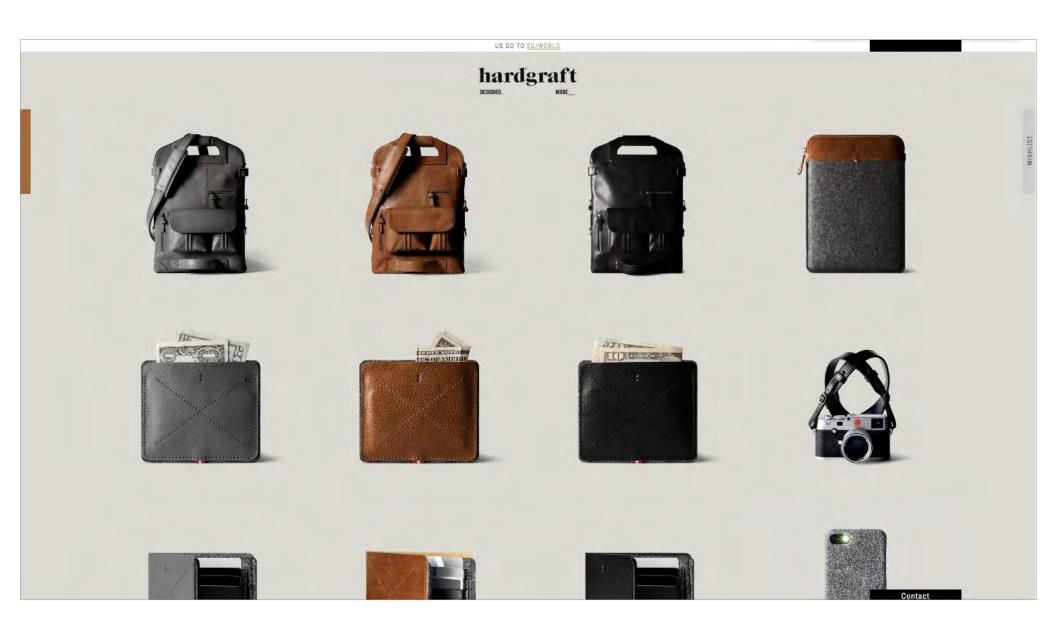


Mint

mint.com

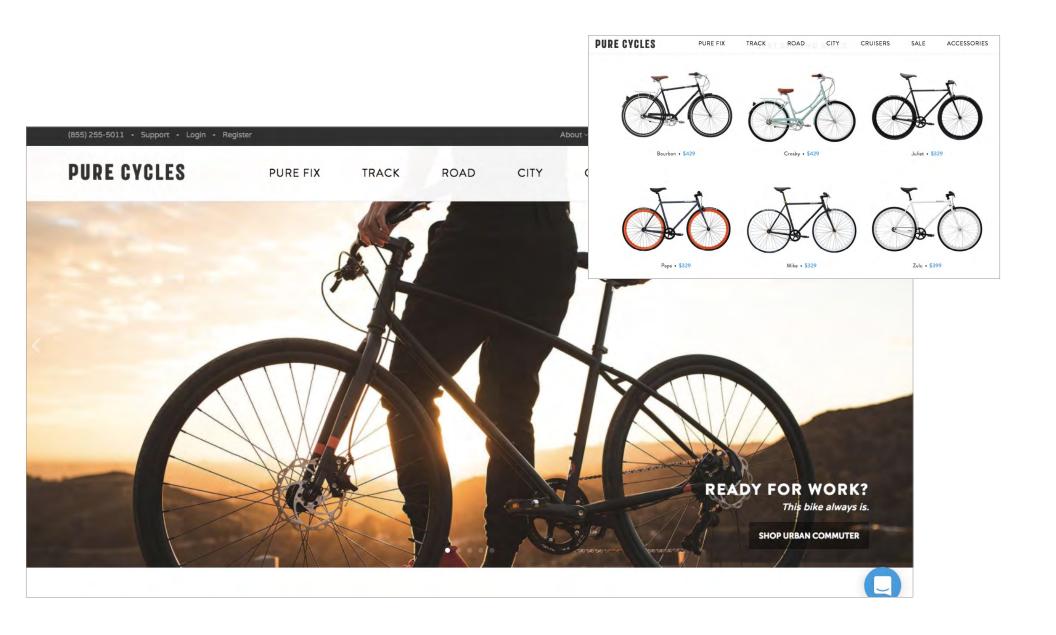
Mint leads with putting the focus on creating feelings of happiness and security rather than its product. Orange calls-to-action stand out, and feature a lock icon that makes you want to gain access to whatever they are offering. The product features that follow lay out themes of convenience and trust, but with a focus on mobile and tablet usage.

ECOMMERCE & RETAIL HOMEPAGE EXAMPLES



Hard Graft hardgraft.com

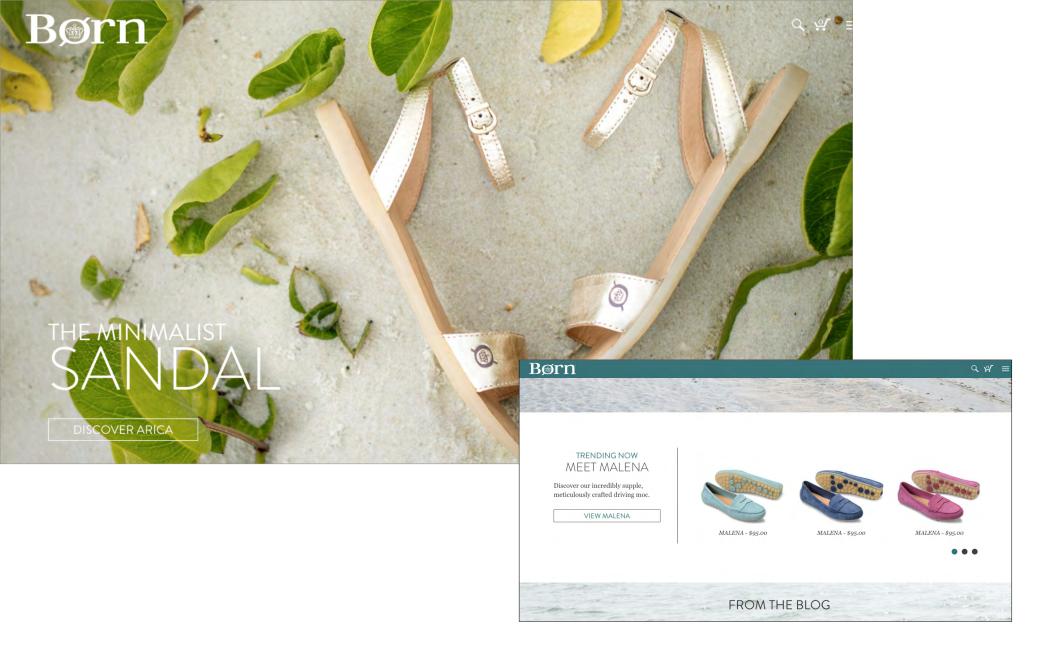
Hard Graft takes an innovative approach to displaying products on its homepage. As you scroll down the page, the Hard Graft logo stays fixed, while beautiful, cutout photos of its products pass by. The end result: the products feel like design elements, and contribute to the homepage's attractiveness.



Pure Fix

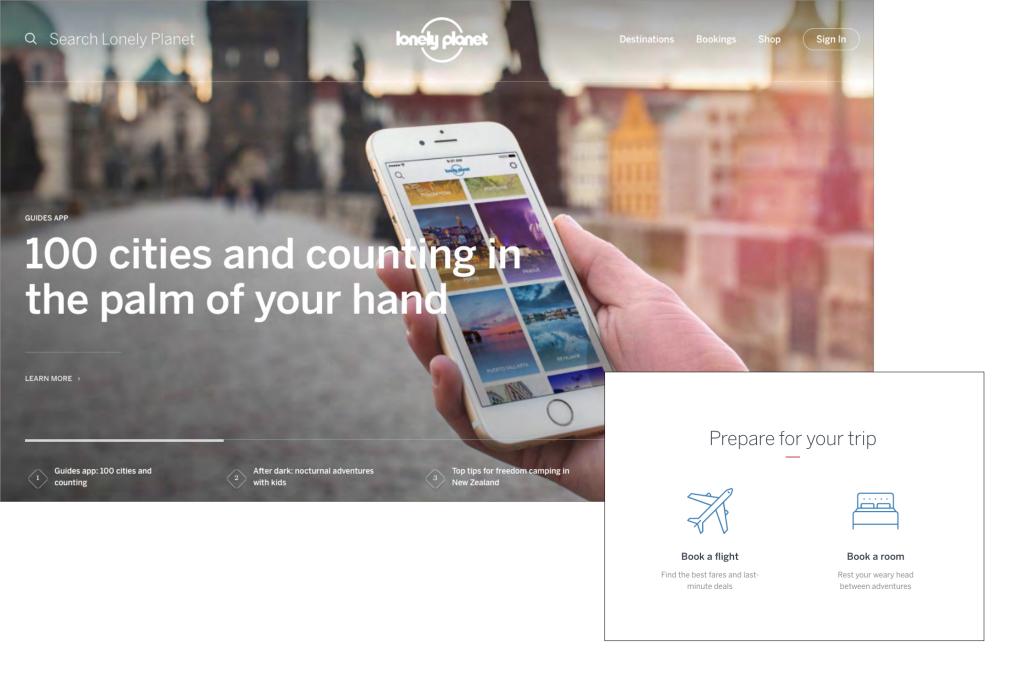
purefixcycles.com

Here's a great example of letting product images do the talking on your homepage. Instead of bogging visitors down with details (e.g., construction specifications, etc.), Pure Fix simply shows you their bikes -- no backgrounds -- in a well-organized grid. It's clean. It's pure. It fits their brand.



Born bornshoes.com

The Born homepage uses three distinct styles of photo to show off its footwear: high-quality closeups (left), high-quality environment shots (top/right), and -- if you scroll down their homepage -- customer photos from Instagram. Some subtle scrolling and hover effects add to the homepage's visual appeal.



Lonely Planet

lonelyplanet.com

Lonely Planet's homepage does not immediately strike you as a place to spend money, which is why it stands out amongst its many competitors in the travel market. Instead, they provide huge amounts of free value with guides and inspiration regarding any destination. There are hints to preparing for a trip, which lead to more indirect paths to purchases that are less transactional.

OUR RESTAURANT Q SEARCH LOGIN | CART (0)

Sanctuary T[™] Shop

OUR TEAS / BYOT / TEA ACCESSORIES / BLOG / WHY T?



Sanctuary T Shop

shopsanctuaryt.com

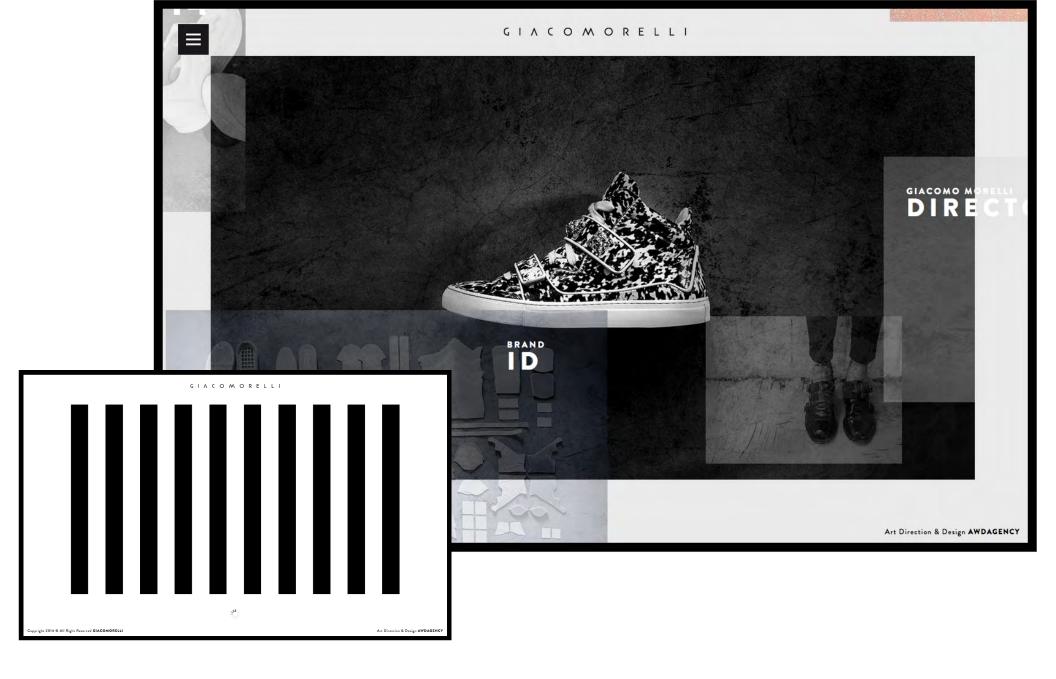
The Sanctuary T Shop's homepage uses beautiful photography to tell a story that's not only about what their products are, but where their products come from. The end result strikes a pleasant balance between organic/natural and clean/modern.



PRESS

pressworksonpaper.com

Quickly cycling through large images from within book stores, the homepage for PRESS conveys their appreciation for photography, design, and the tactile response from holding a book. With such a niche product (a monthly subscription to books that feature unique and out-of-print photos), this homepage delivers authenticity and shows that they can provide counter-culture art



Giacomorelli

giacomorelli.com

The Giacomorelli homepage first captures your attention with its dramatic loading screen (left), and it then presents you with an extremely innovative user experience. Instead of clicking on nav items, you move your cursor around, causing different rectangles of content to dynamically shift in and out of focus.



Frederique Constant

frederiqueconstant.com

This high-end smartwatch brand creates depth and impact with a bright white background. An array of smooth transitional effects and a progress bar along the left margin compel you to view the entire page and engage with things like buttons that display pop-up features. Frederique Constant's design fuses the physical and virtual, much like a smartwatch does itself.