Lorraine Kim

Product Designer

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Product designer since 2024, after fifteen years in institutional finance, mostly in buy-side trading operations. I research, design and build in code, and test with real users and data.

SELECTED PRODUCT WORK

FXpress · Exchange-rate widget for people who send money abroad — 0→1 · Live · 2026

- Designed and built a widget that shows where today's rate sits in its 30-day range across 18 currency pairs, then links to the sender's own provider.
- Interviewed 4 senders and tested with 5. All 5 completed the send flow; I fixed the button hierarchy and the threshold field where testers got stuck.
- Kept every calculation in code and limited the AI assistant to rewording a sentence the code had written, with a check that rejects advice or a changed meaning.
- Found in live logs that the 30-day comparison read "low" 68 of 75 times during a steady trend, and revised the copy.

ReconLayer · Reconciliation add-on for small middle-office teams — 0→1 · Working prototype · 2026

- Designed and built a Google Sheets add-on that compares internal and broker files, classifies breaks with fixed rules, and drafts counterparty emails for the analyst to review.
- Interviewed 5 practitioners at 4 buy-side firms and tested with 5 operators: 4 finished, rating ease 4.75 of 5.
- Showed missing trades separately from value differences so they don't sink to the bottom of a ranked list.
- Revised the email prompt three times to stop the model guessing at the cause of each break.

DESIGN EXPERIENCE

OOJOO Studios · Product Designer (Independent Studio), San Francisco — 2024 – Present

- 0→1 product design practice: financial workflow tools for expert users across trading operations, reconciliation and FX. Researched, designed and built in code, and tested with practitioners.
- Separately, digital catalogues, artist archives, exhibition experiences, art publications and artist advocacy for diaspora artists: Jamie Namie Kim, Paul Waters and Hwang Yoo-Yup.

INSTITUTIONAL FINANCE (NON-DESIGN ROLES)

Bloomberg · AIM Trading Analyst, San Francisco — 2020 – 2022

- Supported Tier 1 buy-side clients on Bloomberg AIM order management and post-trade operations; worked with Product and Engineering to resolve trade-workflow issues and turn recurring ones into terminal enhancements.

Mizuho Alternative Investments · Assistant Vice President, New York — 2009 – 2020

- Ran middle-office operations for 40+ accounts and $8B in assets: daily trade and position reconciliations, resolving discrepancies with custodians, FCMs and fund administrators.
- Revamped workflows that cut cycle time by 25%, and took part in UAT for system enhancements.

AllianceBernstein · Associate Portfolio Manager, New York — 2007 – 2009

- Co-managed oversight of 150+ institutional equity portfolios; executed FX-derivative hedging and rebalanced against benchmarks.

SKILLS

Product & UX	User research, usability testing, workflow mapping, information architecture, interaction design, prototyping
UI & Systems	Figma, components and variants, variables, design tokens, responsive design
AI & Build	AI interaction patterns, prompt design, Claude API, Gemini API, Google Apps Script, Claude Code, Cursor, Vercel, Netlify

EDUCATION

DesignLab · UX Academy — 2023 – 2024

Christie's Education, New York · Advanced Certificate in Art History and the Art Market

University of California, Berkeley · B.A. Legal Studies