

FAMOUS FREETHINKERS/COOL CRITICAL THINKERS

Stats:

Cas Holam - Toy Maker



Image credit: https://casholman.com/

Lived: 1974-present

Why are they famous:

Chief Accomplishment:

American toy designer. She is known for designing toys that emphasize creativity through unstructured play.

Cas is the founder and principal designer of the toy company Heroes Will Rise. Her Holman's Rigamajig line of collaborative playsets has been included in schools and museum play areas internationally.

Freethought and Critical Thinking:

Cas Holman has spent the last 18 years designing for play, education, and imagination. Through her company, Heroes Will Rise, she designs and manufactures tools for the imagination. These materials are manipulable parts and pieces that inspire constructive play, imaginative forms, and cooperative interactions between people.

From her website: "Through her company Heroes Will Rise, she designs and manufactures tools for the imagination. These materials are manipulable parts and pieces which inspire constructive play, imaginative forms, and cooperative interactions between people. Abstract in their identity, these tool/toys inspire children and adults to imagine the origin and story of the toy as well as how to use it. "What is it?" and "What does it do?" are answered in intuitive details, play prompts, and semiotic clues, making the instructions implicit in the tool/toy."

"Heroes Will Rise is an independent toy company focusing on products designed in the spirit of invention and creativity. The soul of these products is idealistic, optimistic and rooted in the belief that imagination is an essential part of childhood. Our toys are never gender specific, and encourage an exploratory, unstructured play."

Fun Facts:

Holman is the subject of an episode of the Netflix series Abstract: The Art of Design titled "Cas Holman: Design for Play," focusing on her design philosophies.

Check out her cool projects here and learn more here: https://casholman.com/