Creatista WordPress Theme Documentation

Updated on December 29, 2017

Quick start guide

1. Install and activate the Creatista theme.

2. Configure Jetpack plugin that comes with the theme: connect it to wordpress.com or use it in a test mode (mode details under *Installation* section).

3. Turn on all needed Jetpack features via Jetpack → Settings.

4. Set up the front page.

5. Add projects via Jetpack Portfolio.

6. Add your portfolio/individual projects to the front page.

7. Customize website identity (logo, tagline), and menus.

8. Add your projects to inner site pages.

9. Set up the blog.

Installation

To instal the Creatista theme, follow these steps:

1. In your WordPress admin panel, go to *Appearance → Themes* and click the Add New

   button.

2. Click U*pload Theme, Browse and Choose File;* then select the theme's ZIP file. Click

   Install Now.

3. Click *Activate* to use your new theme.

4. Install required plugins (you'll be offered to install them).

5. Configure Jetpack plugin - connect it to wordpress.com via WordPress dashboard.

   Primarily, you'll need this plugin to add and showcase your portfolios. If you don't want to

   connect your site to wordpress.com for some reason, enable [Developer mode](#) by adding

   define('JETPACK_DEV_DEBUG', true); to your config.php file. Alternatively, to use the

   Developer mode, you may install the [Jetpack Dev Mode](#) plugin. You'll be able to use

   portfolios in either mode.

Note: we strongly recommend using child theme *creatista-child* that comes in the theme

package (downloadable files) for your custom modifications. This will help you keep your

content despite main theme updates.

Import sample data

Choose the most suitable option: import sample data from **.sql file** (if it's a fresh installation

without custom content and you just want to make your site look like our demo) or **xml file** (if

you have content on you website that you do not want to lose and you only need to add sample

data of the theme portfolio).

You should be able to find **manual-install** zip archive that comes in the theme package

(downloadable files). You'll be working with it in any of the following cases.

Import sample data from xml file

1. Install WordPress if you have not already done that.

2. Add the theme via FTP or by uploading it via WordPress Dashboard.

3. Activate the theme and install required plugins (Jetpack).

4. Connect Jetpack to WordPress.com (it's free). Activate other Jetpack modules like 'Contact

Form' following this URL your_website_url/wp-admin/admin.php?page=jetpack_modules

(replace your_website_url with your domain name).

6. Navigate to Dashboard → Tools → Import and click on the 'Run Importer' link.

You may need to install WordPress importer first by pressing 'Install Now' under WordPress

label.

7. Click 'Browse' button and select *creatista.wordpress.theme.xml*

8. Click 'Upload file and import'.

9. Select 'Download and import file attachments'.

10. Click 'Submit'.

11. Wait until the import is complete.

12. Navigate to Dashboard → Settings → Reading Settings.

13. Proceed to other theme settings in the documentation.

Import sample data from sql file

1. First, you need to upload media files to your server. For this try to connect to your server

(where WordPress is installed) using any FTP client (e.g. Filezilla, Cyberduck, Transmit) or File

Manager - service on your hosting control panel. Then navigate to your site root

folder/wp-content/ and upload directory from manual_install that is called **/uploads**

2. After that you should find *creatista*.sql file in the package with sample data and open it with

file editor like Notepad++, Coda, Atom, etc. and use **'Search and Replace'** option.

Find: your_website_url_here

Replace with: *https://your-site.com* *(add your website URL address without a trailing slash)*

Click **Replace all** and save changes.

> **Note**: By default WordPress table prefix is wp_. If there is custom table prefix in your database,
> you need to replace it in SQL file, too. You can find your WordPress table prefix in **wp-config.php**
> file at the site root folder on the server. In the example below you can see custom table prefix
> mp_
> **Example:** $table_prefix = 'mp_';
> So once you found your table prefix, copy it and open *creatista*.sql file with file editor and use
> '**Find and Replace'** option again**:**

Find: wp_

Replace with: *custom_table_prefix_* *(note there is underscore _ at the end)*

Click **Replace all**

After that:

Find: *_custom_table_prefix* *(note there is underscore _ at the beginning)*

Replace with: _wp

Click **Replace all**
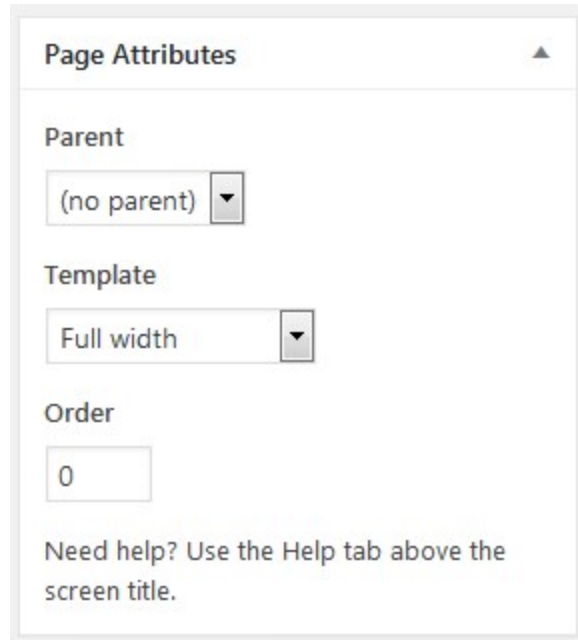
Save the changes and proceed to the next step.

3. Connect to PhpMyAdmin tool - usually it can be found in your hosting account or cPanel.

Once you are in PhpMyAdmin interface, you should click on the database name in the left sidebar and find **Import** tab at the top. Click **Import** and upload the edited *creatista*.sql file. After the message about successful import you can go and check your site.

Set up the front page

Here are the steps to set up your front page:

1. Go to Pages → Add New and add a page.

2. Label it appropriately, e.g. *home page, front page*.

3. In the Page Attributes, select Full width template.

4. Publish your page.

5. Go to Settings → Reading: set "Front page displays" to *Static Page.*

6. In Settings → Reading set Front Page to the one you created during the step #2.

Edit front page

Create projects for portfolio

The front page features your portfolio, powered by the Jetpack plugin. So, you'll need to add

your works and categorize them (by project types and tags.)

At first, make sure that Jetpack plugin is activated and configure its settings first: go to Jetpack

→ Settings → Writing tab → scroll down to Custom Content types → switch on Portfolios.
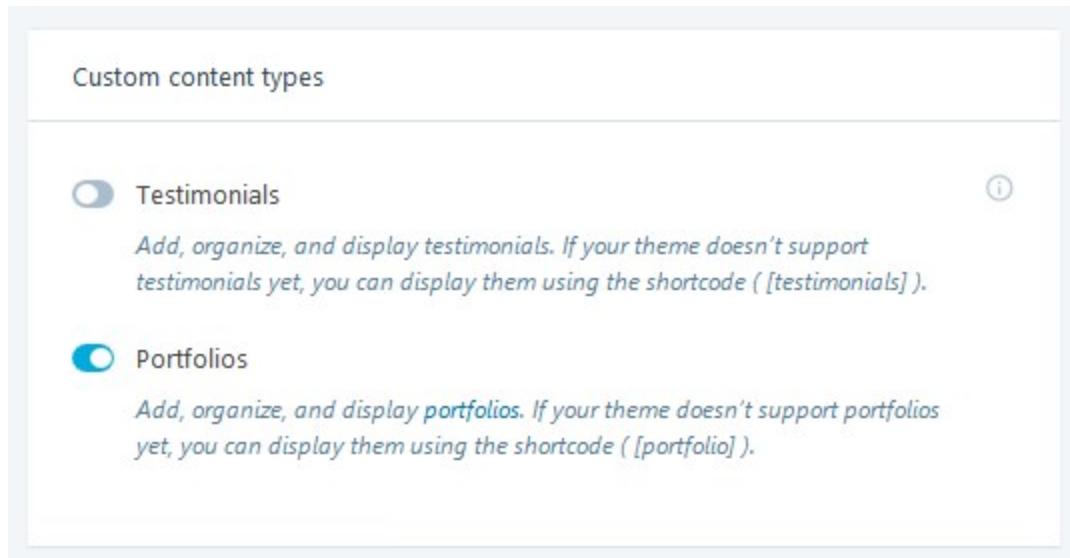
And then go to *Portfolio → Add new* and add all needed projects with the needed tags and categories (you'll use them later to showcase only chosen works.)
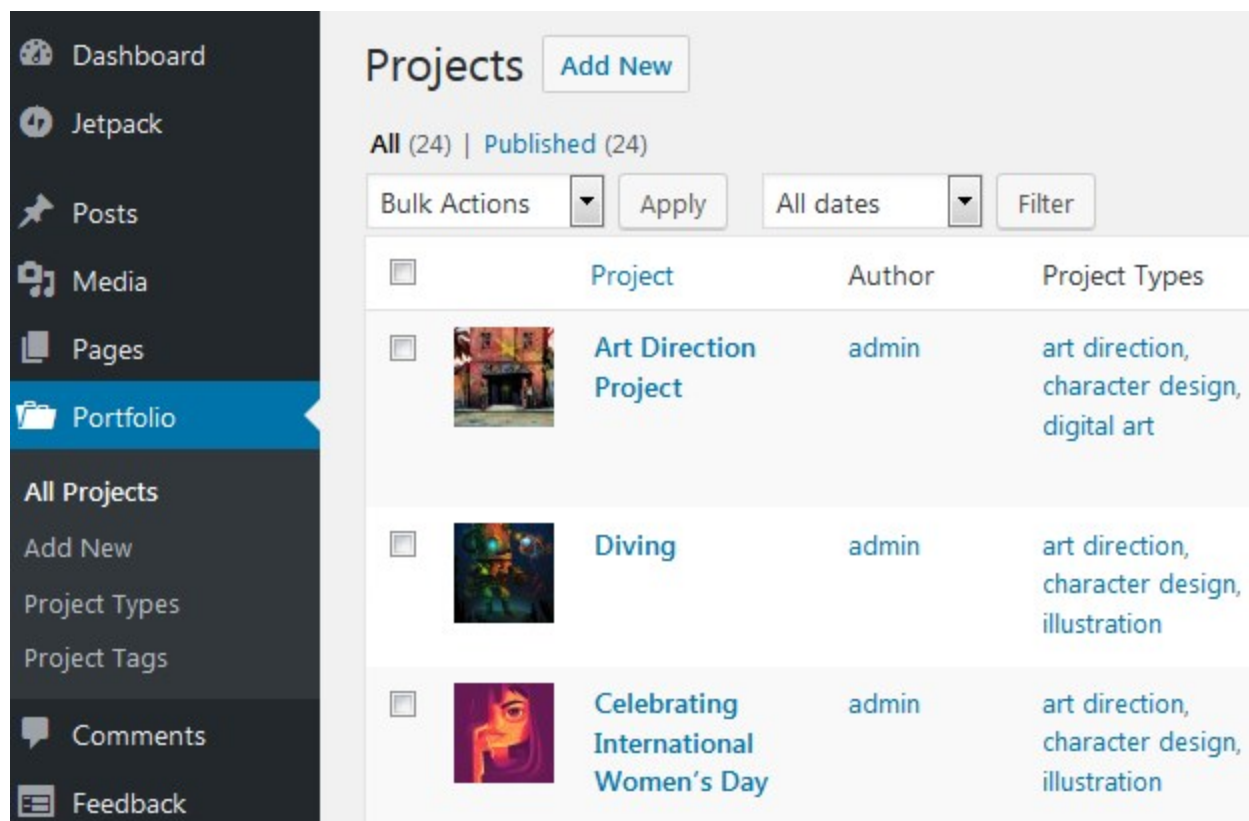
Editing the project, you may add different types of content - image, texts, videos, etc. By default, you may simply add your images one by one (with a space) and they will appear on the live site without spaces. Like this:
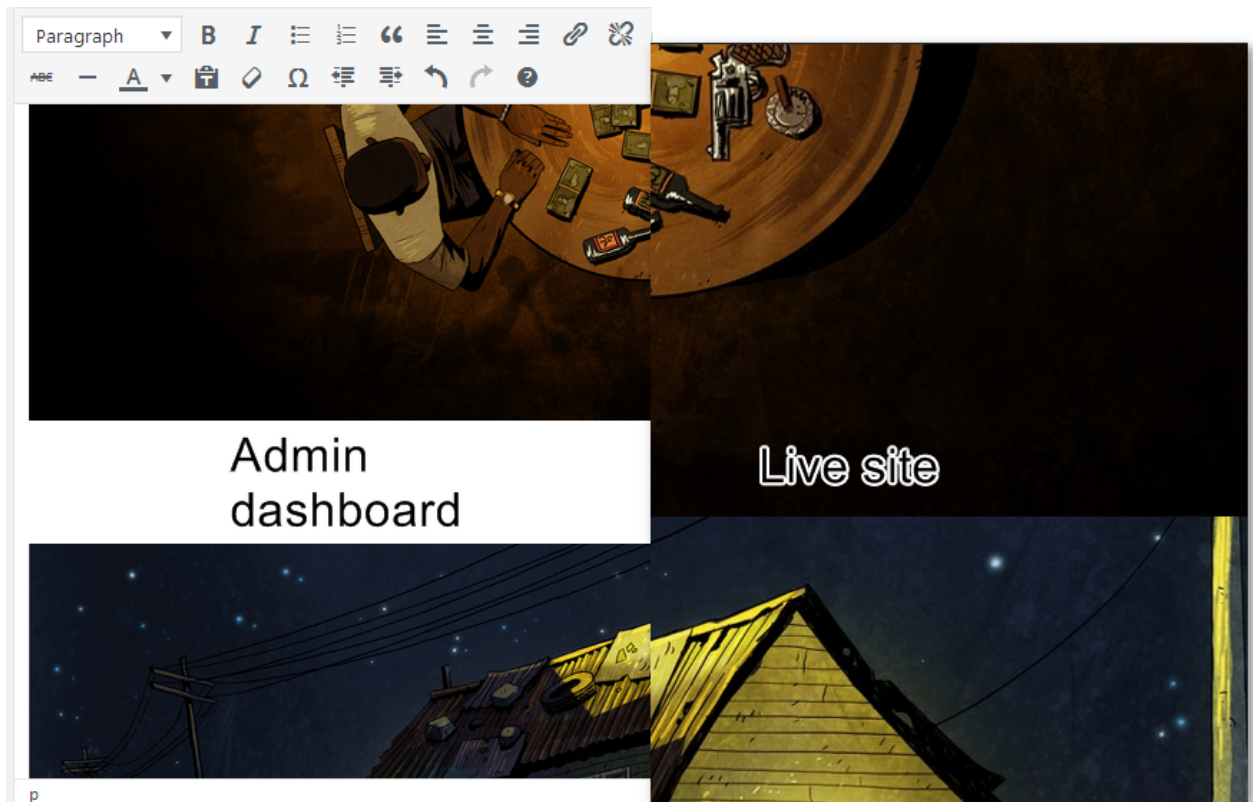
If you want to add spaces between the images, simply use double Enter.

If you want the image to be opened in the lightbox (it will allow site visitors to view the image in different sizes and comment under each image), make sure that it's linked to the attachment page (click on the image to edit → 'Link to' set to Attachment page):

Also, for the lightbox to be opened properly, make sure that you turned this option on in the Jetpack settings: *Writing tab → scroll to Media → Turn on 'Display images and galleries in a gorgeous experience'.*

If you don't want to turn on the Lightbox feature, set the *Link page* to *None*.

Quick tips:

1. Setting the featured image of the project, make sure that it doesn't crop inappropriately on the live site. If so, make sure to crop it before setting up to keep the focal point on the needed part of the image. Then, set it as a featured image after that manipulation. Add the original image to the project itself.

2. The *'full size'* of the image should fit most nicely into the page layout of the individual project (*edit the image → Full size*).

3. Use "None" Alignment:
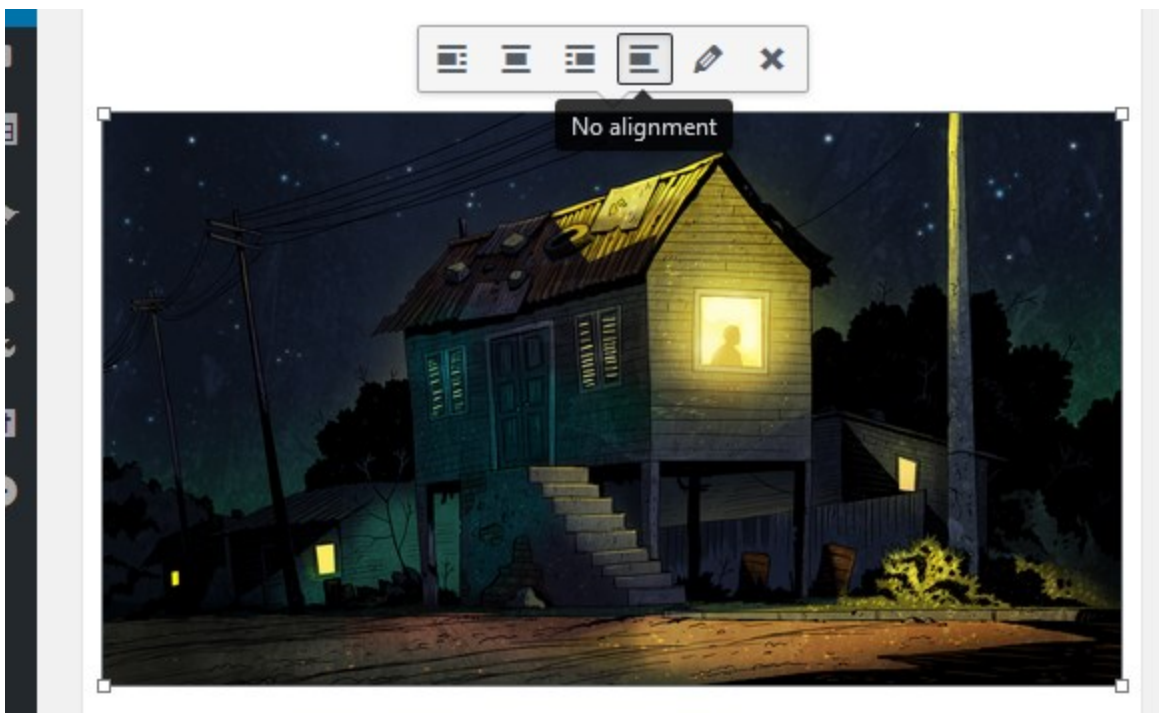
4. For your images to be better indexed by the search engines, don't forget to supply each image with Alt text:

Once your projects are added, you should simply put your Jetpack customized shortcode onto the front page:

To create the front page with your portfolios, follow this way:

1. Go to home page you created earlier.

2. Make sure that the *Full Width* template is selected.

3. Add the Jetpack Portfolio shortcode with your custom settings: set what info to show and what to hide:
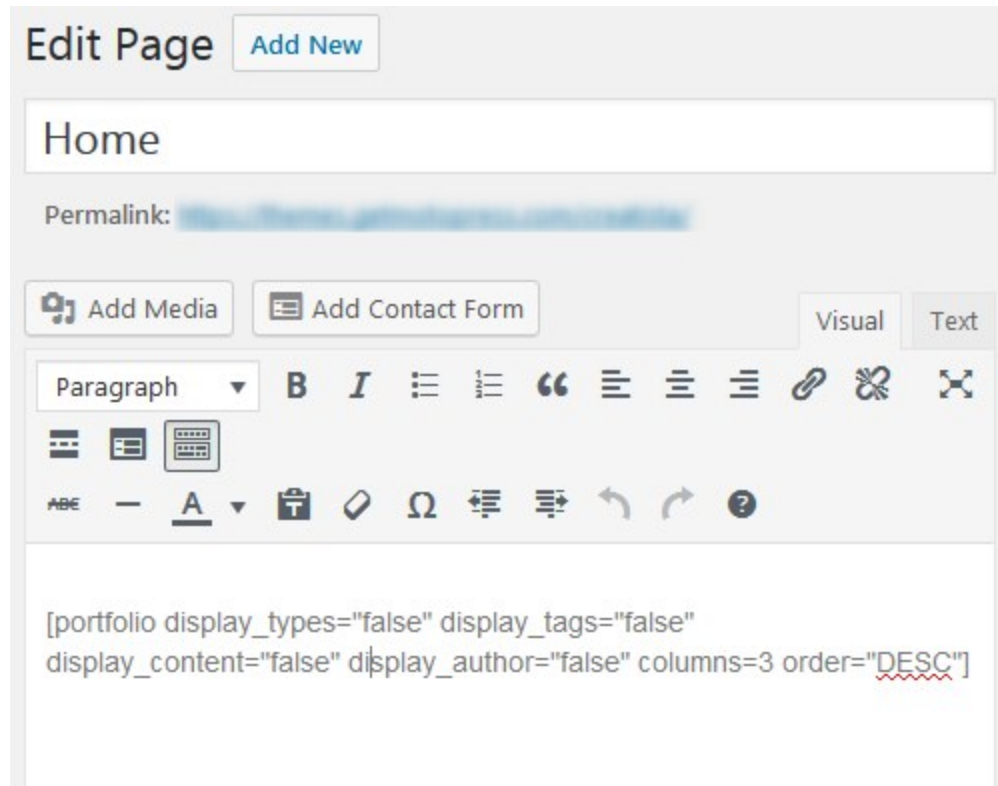
Here are the Jetpack *shortcode attributes* you can use for customizing and showcasing the

portfolios (choose which details to show and which to hide). You may use only the names of

those tags and categories you've created and added to your projects.

- display_types: display Project Types – displayed by default. (true/false)

- display_tags: display Project Tag – displayed by default. (true/false)

- display_content: display project content – displayed by default. (true/false)

- display_author: display project author name – hidden by default. (true/false)

- include_type: display specific Project Types. Defaults to all. (comma-separated list of Project Type slugs)

- include_tag: display specific Project Tags. Defaults to all. (comma-separated list of Project Tag slugs)

- columns: number of columns in shortcode. Defaults to 2. (number, 1-6)

- showposts: number of projects to display. Defaults to all. (number)

- order: display projects in ascending or descending order. Defaults to ASC for sorting in ascending order, but you can reverse the order by using DESC to display projects in descending order instead. (ASC/DESC)

- orderby: sort projects by different criteria, including author name, project title, and even rand to display in a random order. Defaults to sorting by date. (author, date, title, rand)

Site title and logo

To customize other elements of the front page, you may go to the Visual WordPress Customizer via *Appearance → Customize.*

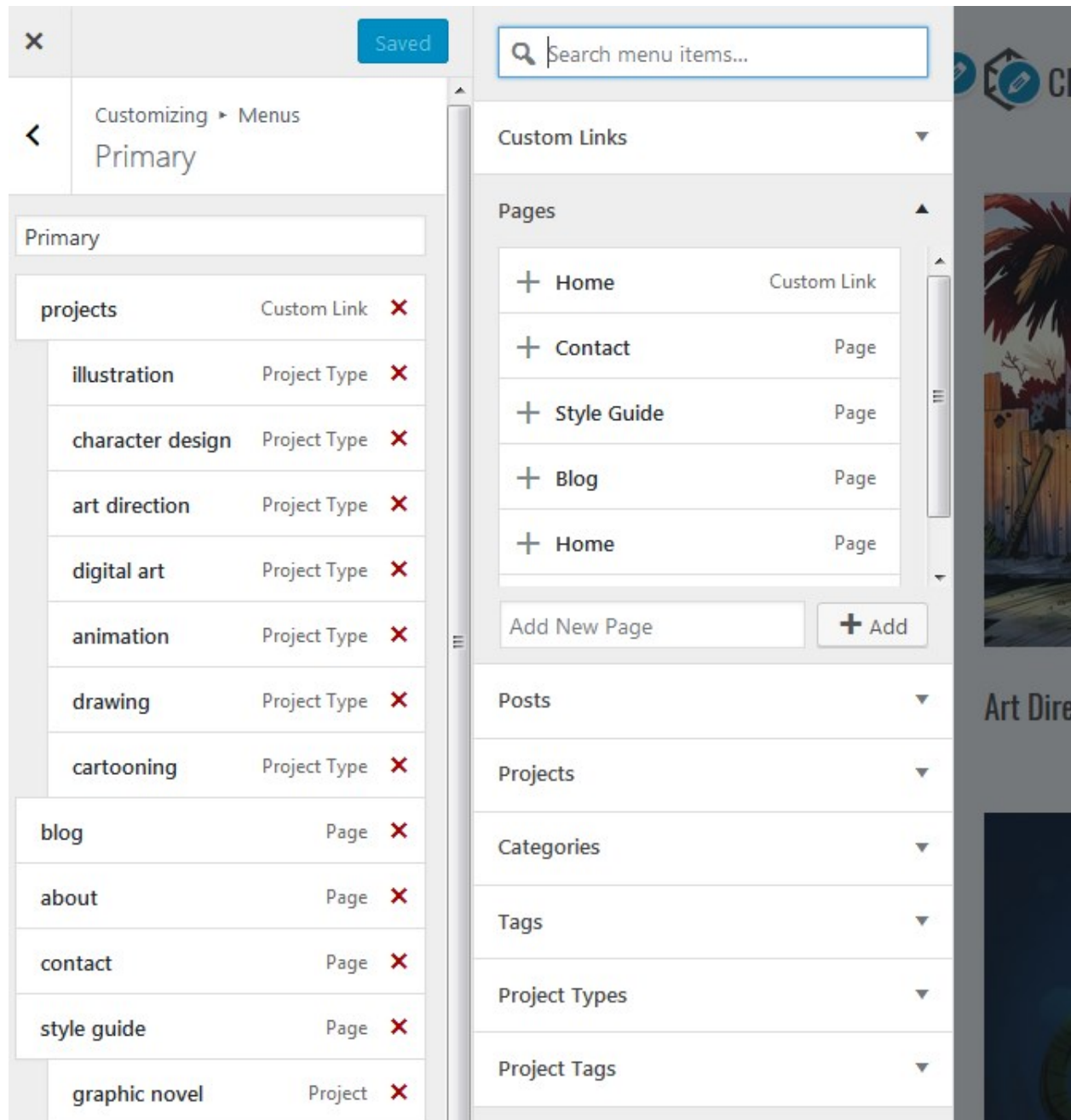There you are free to edit the site identity like *logo, site title, tagline, and favicon (site icon):*
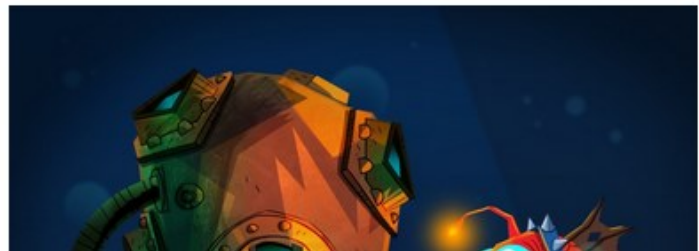
Menus

In the *Menus,* choose what menus to display and what info exactly to display in those menus:

Primarily, Social and Footer. By clicking "Add item" in any of those menus, you may choose

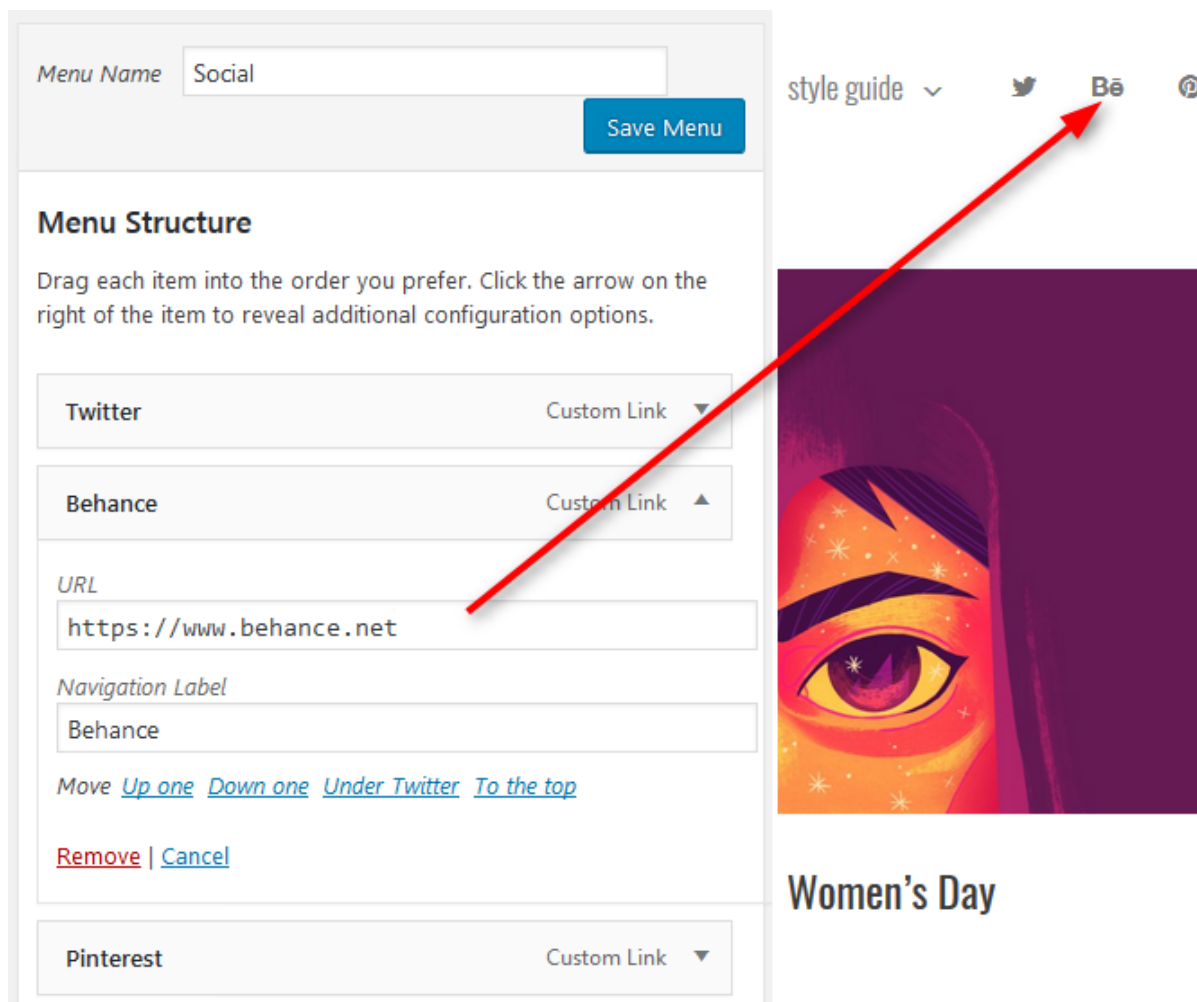what item to add to the menu (you can also add chosen individual projects to the primarily

menu):

Social icons

To add social icons to Footer or Header menu, navigate to *WordPress Customizer → Menus →*

Add Menu → Add Custom links with the appropriate names (e.g. Twitter) and links to your social

media accounts.

In the *Display Location* menu choose the Social menu.

Showcase projects on individual site pages

If you want to create any inner page and showcase all projects s of just one Portfolio type

(category) or projects under one tag, you may do that through the menu: go to *Appearance →*

Menus. Choose the needed projects, drop them from the left menu to the right one, edit the

menu labels, etc.
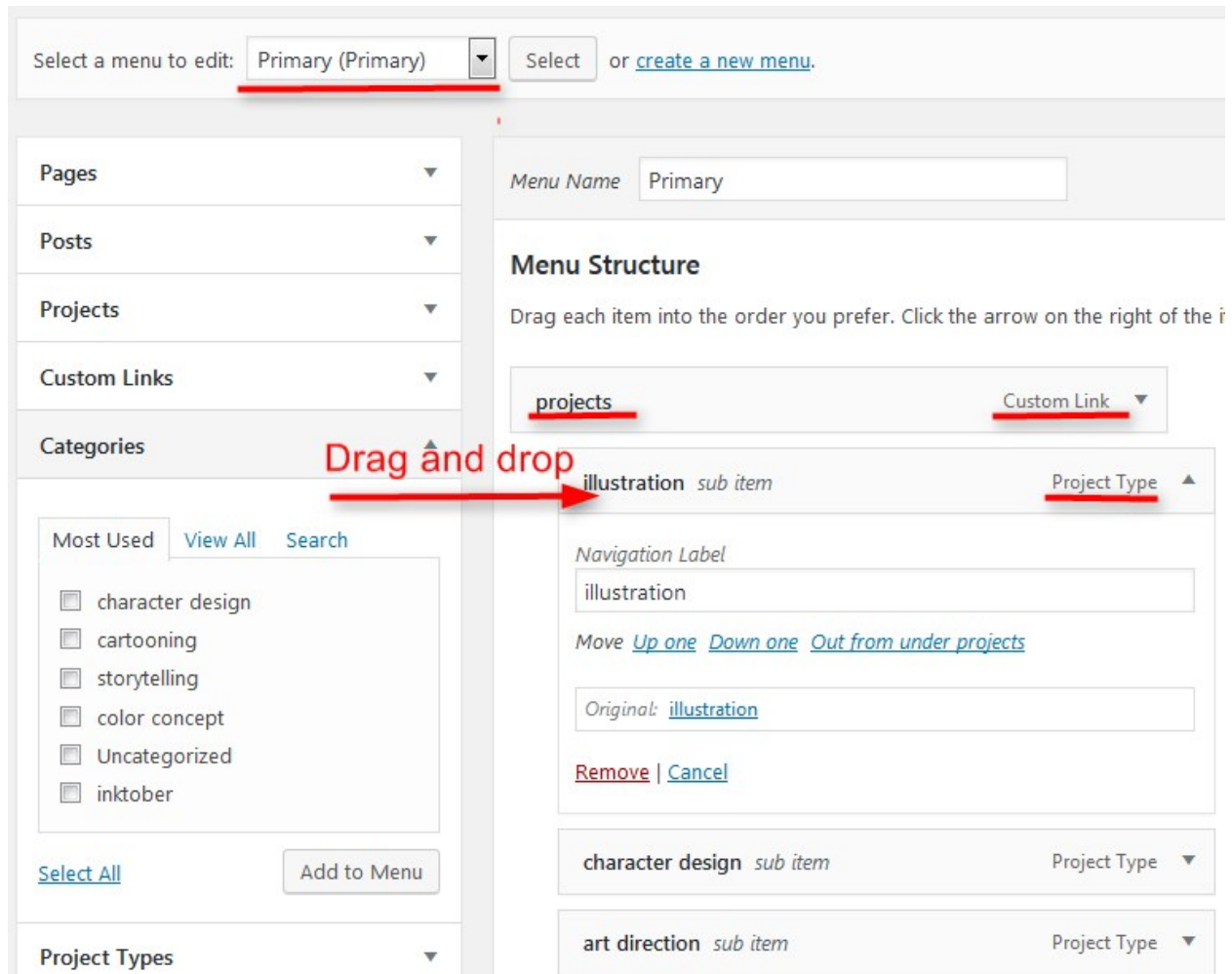
Page templates

There are several page layouts you can work with:

1. Full width

2. Fixed width

3. Default template (with sidebar)

Blog

Follow the steps below to display blog posts on your website instead of a static front page (the one with your custom content blocks):

1. Create new page and name it accordingly (*blog, news,* etc.).

2. In *Settings → Reading* set "Posts page" to *blog, news,* etc. you just created.

3. Scroll down and Save changes.

4. If you want your front page to show latest posts instead of portfolios, Navigate to *Appearance → Customize → Static Front page →* set to show "*Blog*".

Note: you may customize the look of your sidebar widget: go to *Blog page → click Customize on the upper admin bar to open the WordPress Customizer → go to Widgets → Sidebar → add, remove or customize sidebar elements or add another widget*.

Add widgets here.

Search

Keywords

Tag Cloud

project types

Categories

animation (6)   art direction (11)

Recent Comments

cartooning (2)   character design

Recent Posts

digital art (9)   drawing (3)

illustration (22)

Blog Subscriptions: Subscribe to ...

Reorder   ✚ Add a Widget

categories

cartooning (5)

character design (5)