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Web Developer

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Who & Why?

Deciding that it was time to strike some items off my bucket list, two years ago I decided to put my art career on hold and set off to teach in South-East Asia. Along the way I decided that a more profound change of direction was what I needed, and on my return to the UK I decided to pursue coding.

While primarily the course at General Assembly taught me how to make web applications, I also learnt *how to learn* programming. I'm sure this will prove to be the greatest asset, as I continue to learn and progress independently.

Professional Experience

Web Development Immersive, General Assembly, London: 01/15 – 04/15

A three-month coding bootcamp where I learnt the following tools and languages: Ruby, Ruby on Rails, CSS3/SASS, HTML5/HAML, SQL, PostgreSQL, Sinatra, JavaScript/jQuery, AJAX, AngularJS, Heroku, TDD, AWS and Github.

The course also provided experience of working in an Agile environment.

Projects

Local Guides: The final project allowed for full autonomy over subject matter. I made an app for backpackers/holiday-makers wanting to get “the local experience”. It allows users to browse and post places, and to contact other users for recommendations and advice.

Tech: Ruby on Rails, Javascript, jQuery, Underscore.js, GoogleMaps API, Geocoding, Carrierwave, RMagick, Devise, Bootstrap, SASS, AWS, Heroku.

local-guides.herokuapp.com

FareShare: An app for organizing bills and group-payments. Allows users to create groups, and issue invoices to members, with customizable payment allocation. I worked on this as a group of three. I was responsible for adding Devise, Google Omniauth, Mandrill mailer, styling with Bootstrap and maintaining and merging the Github master branch.

Tech: Ruby on Rails, Javascript, jQuery, OmniAuth Google, Devise, Mandrill, Bootstrap, HAML, Heroku.

London Price: Project for 24-hour travel-themed hackathon. App that scrapes cost-of-living data from a statistics website, and compares the cost of everyday items to those in the UK. Icons representing the items are dynamically rescaled according to the cost difference.

Tech: Ruby on Rails, Javascript, jQuery, Nokogiri, CSS animation.

Soundflex: A music-sharing platform, where artists can upload their tracks and get feedback from a community of users.

Tech: Ruby on Rails, Carrierwave, RMagick, Devise, Cancan, AWS, Heroku.

soundflex.herokuapp.com

TEFL English Teacher, Bangkok & Loei Province, Thailand: 05/13-10/14

I began this period in the rural northeast, teaching wide-eyed and unruly teens at a local high school. Charged with handling many groups of up to 55 students, it was a cultural and linguistic assault course for all involved, and an experience of great value.

After two months of travelling in the region, I began work in Bangkok at an elite boarding school for boys. While this was a significant change from my previous position, the teenage boys provided me with plenty of opportunity to practice my patience and composure, as well as the other organizational and administrative skills that come with such a position.

Technician, Flowers Gallery, London: 04/09-04/13

The four years spent at Flowers Gallery saw me progress from intern to manager of technical operations; overseeing the installation and logistics of art exhibitions in two London galleries and consignments to the company's American outpost in New York.

My responsibilities required regular interaction with clients, as well as plenty of time working independently in the basement workshop.

I organized the journey of artworks from artists' studios, through the cataloguing/storage process, on to their exhibition and subsequent installation at collectors' houses.

This also included arranging the paperwork and packing of international consignments for clients and exhibitions at other galleries around the world.

While this was by no means an Agile environment, surprise projects and inflexible deadlines were all part of a day's work.

Education

Web Development Immersive, General Assembly, London: 01/15 – 04/15

University of Manchester: 2005-2008

BA (Hons.) History of Modern and Contemporary Art – 2:1

Skills

jQuery	●●●●○	Javascript	●●●○○
Ruby on Rails	●●●○○	Angular JS	●●●○○
HTML/CSS	●●●●○	Tea Making	☕☕☕☕☕☕

A Little Bit More

When I'm not knee-deep in Javascript, you likely find me on my bike or book in hand; though rarely both at once. I'm a big fan of solo travelling, as it's a great way to meet people and I love getting myself into weird and interesting situations in places far from home. I spend a lot of time researching things. I love the process of looking into something, and finding myself a few hours later, deep down a rabbit hole, furnished with a whole pile of new and unexpected knowledge. This interest has been particularly useful in coding. I'm currently enjoying experimenting with various Javascript frameworks such as Meteor and Express.