Ben Peake

I'm a keen problem solver and enthusiastic learner with a diverse range of experiences - from progressing a recruitment start-up into an established market leader, working professionally as a graphic designer, to setting up a successful street food venture during the pandemic, and subsequently running all aspects of the business.

As the above may suggest, I enjoy learning new skills, working outside of my comfort zone, solving problems, achieving goals and working in a collaborative environment. These traits paired with a passion for how technology can improve everyday life is why I decided to enrol with iO Academy on their full stack boot camp and I'm now enthusiastically looking for opportunities within software development.

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Projects

I recently studied software development at iO Academy, during which time I worked on a number of curriculum and self initiated projects. Below are a few examples.

Colorator
A self-initiated project to build and design a colour palette builder and manager. I used React for the front-end, Laravel to create an API that manages users saved palettes and an external free API (*thecolorapi*) to fetch information on specific colours. The application allows a user to randomly generate a colour palette, add and remove colour panels to tailor the number of colours within a palette (2-5), move panels to customise the palette composition, lock-in colour panels so they are exempt from the random generator, specify a colour via hex code input, or colour picker, and retrieve a mono-chromed palette based of a specific shade. The colorator API is fully tested using Laravels testing capabilities.
Github | Live version

Collection App
I built a simple collection app that allows a user to maintain and show off their record collection. Created using OOP principles with vanilla PHP and a MySQL database, without a framework in order to gain a deeper understanding of CRUD operations. This was an individual project with pull request reviews required upon the completion of each story and is fully unit tested.
Github | Live version

Experience

Co-Founder, Omaggi - Oct' 20 - Present
Bristol based street food business selling fresh cannoli and specialty coffee.
A passion project I started during lockdown that snowballed into a profitable venture. An all encompassing experience working across all facets of the business that required wearing multiple hats - pastry chef, barista, brand designer, accountant, marketer, etc. Within in the first 12 months the business we went from selling 100, to 1000+ cannoli a week, as well as countless cups of coffee.

Designer + Illustrator - Nov' 21 - Present
ww.mindmadedesign.co.uk | *Clients: Fiasco Design / Circus Journal / The Co-Foundry*
ad hoc freelance brand design and illustration work for a number of creative studios in Bristol.

Consultant / Associate Director, Tomorrow Recruitment - 2013 - 2020
London based recruitment agency recruiting for the creative industry.
Having joined the 2 founders as the first employee, I was able to develop and grow a new area of the business and significantly contribute to the successful growth of the company, as it went from 3, to 15 employees and became established and well regarded within the London creative sector. On a personal level, I gained x4 promotions progressing from a Junior consultant, to Associate Director.