Joseph Z. Khan

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Portfolio: https://josephzkhan.github.io

I am due to graduate this May with predicted First Class BSc(Hons.) in Games Technology; I aim to build my career in game design and programming. I took 2 years out from my studies to gain superb industry experience, employed full-time for Bristol BAFTA nominated games studio Ground Shatter; I was Gameplay Programmer for their recently launched 3D Unity game, published by Raw Fury. I have created, designed, programmed and released other games. As a young creative excited by the artistic potential of games, I am ambitious to find my place in this industry and contribute positively to it.

SKILLS

- A desire to learn and grow as a designer and programmer
- Substantial experience using Unity and C# to a professional standard
- Familiarity with custom editor scripting in Unity
- Narrative development for Unity using Inkle plugin
- Familiar with using Git and Plastic SCM as repository software for group projects
- Deep appreciation for sophisticated 2D and 3D level design, with experience developing design pillars
- Keen to strengthen capabilities in 3D development for Unity
- Experience with Unreal Engine 4 and 5 for Blueprint scripting and 3D level building
- Basic understanding of Godot and GDScript programming
- Capable of using C++ and Python
- Basic understanding and experience of HLSL
- Diligence with task management software such as Trello, Slack and Clickup
- Capable of modelling and keyframe animation in Blender and Maya
- Proficient in 2D art and asset creation using Aseprite
- Strong foundation of mathematical knowledge studied Maths to A Level
- Appreciation for high quality writing and narratives in games
- Friendly, efficient communicator with strong people skills and capability for confident speaking. Very capable in giving presentations and enjoy partaking in discussions
- Able to create clear and concise spreadsheets
- Excellent documentation skills
- Strong work ethic, extremely self-motivated and take initiative to solve a problem
- A passion for seeing the future of the games industry

EXPERIENCE

Gameplay Programmer for Knights in Tight Spaces

Released on Steam 4th March 2025 Built in Unity with studio totalling 15 people Published by Raw Fury

Ground Shatter

August 2022 - July 2024 full-time

- Junior member of programming team of 3 on roguelike deck builder with turn-based combat and RPG story elements
- Created the procedurally generated world map + questing systems
- Large hand in changing/building upon gameplay systems to support new actions for the many in-game abilities and status effects
- Implemented several UI screens, including a modular options menu, and added gamepad support to other screens that I didn't build
- Used editor scripting to work on custom displays for key game asset definitions (e.g. abilities, levels, quests)
- Used Slack and Clickup as communication/task management software
- Attended Develop Conference, Brighton 2023 & 2024 as part of Ground Shatter team.

INDEPENDENTLY CREATED GAMES

Enfrosted (University Project 2024-2025 ongoing)

- Lead Design, Management, Programming, Writing
- Emulated professional dev environment with regular scrums, establishing design pillars, iterative design based on extensive user feedback
- 3D platformer built in Unreal 5 for final year of study in team of 9

Enter Planet Bubbulon (Global Game Jam 2025)

 Solo project, Lead Art, Design, Programming, Writing for Unity game

The King's Belly (Global Game Jam 2024)

 Lead Programming for narrative-based Unity game using Inkle

Summoner's Torment XI: 2 (GMTK Jam 2024)

• Design, Programming, Writing for Godot game

Warden's Teddy (Global Game Jam 2021)

• 2D Art and Design for Unity game

Orbital Detachment (FuseJam 2019)

• 2D Art, Sound Design, Character Design for Unity game

Work Experience

Ndemic Creations

March 2019

- Worked with team and directly with CEO on rapid prototype developments using agile development workflow.
- Spent time shadowing departments for Programming, Art, QA and Community Management.

EDUCATION

University of West of England

Games Technology BSc(Hons.)

September 2020 - Present day

- Selected in top 3 students 2022 to attend Develop Conference Brighton
- Lead Designer & Programmer, Writer of final year group team of 9 project
- Programming using C#, C++, HLSL, Ink, Unreal, Blueprints, Unity and Python, Godot GDScript
- Proficient in Blender, Maya and animating 2D assets using Aseprite
- Worked on games both within course and externally
- Member of Big Band, Jazz Ensemble & Film Society

Pate's Grammar School - Sixth Form

A Levels, along with an EPQ Extended Project Qualification

September 2018 - May 2020

- 3 A Levels in the subjects of Computer Science, Biology and Maths, graded AAB 2020
- EPQ Extended Project Qualification in researching the history of Computer/Video Games, graded A 2020
- Studied Chemistry to AS Level 2019
- Learned how to programme using Python
- Member of Pate's Jazz Orchestra
- Elected member of the Year Book Committee producing the Sixth Form leavers book of memories
- Member of World Heritage Society and Film Society
- 12 GCSEs at very high grades
 Including top grade 9*Distinction for English Language
 and 5 GCSEs graded at 8 (A* equivalent) 2018

REFEREES

James Parker

Ground Shatter - Director and Founder

james@groundshatter.com Employer, Director & Mentor 2023-2025

Owen Davies

Ground Shatter - Lead Coder

Phone - 07894089819

Work colleague, whom I worked under 2023-2025

James Vaughan

Ndemic Creations - CEO and Founder

email - james@ndemiccreations.com Mentor for work experience, 2019

Lloyd Savickas

Programme Leader for Games Technology, University of the West of England

Lloyd.Savickas@uwe.ac.uk Senior Degree Tutor and Lecturer for my degree

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Attended Develop Conference, Brighton 2023 & 2024 with Ground Shatter. And selected in top 3 course students to represent uni at Develop Conference 2022
- Digital Pixel Artist @8bitalbumcovers Instagram 2020 present day. Using Aseprite to create demakes of album covers. T shirts of designs produced and sold
- Play saxophone with Bristol's Ambling Band performing regularly around Bristol. Performed at festival in Clonakilty, Ireland - July 2024
- Member of University Jazz Ensemble and Big Band playing Alto Sax - performed with Ronnie Scott's All Stars Band at Bristol Beacon in 2023. Attended National Concert Band Festival at Royal Northern College of Music - 2021 & 2022. Winners of Platinum award - 2021
- Employee at Shakeaway, Bristol. Part time Shakette 2020-2022
- Quarter-Finalist in STAGE 32 TV Comedy Screenwriting Contest, with 'The Trueloves' - pilot for TV Series - August 2021
- Finalist, in Screenwriters Network, International Screenwriting Contest, TV Pilot category, with comedy series 'The Trueloves' - March 2021
- Collaborator working on The Voyage project by Gorillaz fans, featuring original animations and songs inspired by Gorillaz - 2022
- Alto Saxophone graded exams up to Grade 8 Distinction lune 2021
- Worked as part of game design/programming team Starforge Interactive (previously Top Lads) to release game on Itch.io - Wardens Teddy - using Unity - 2020
- Performed at Cheltenham Jazz Festival
- Employed as Scare Actor at Frightmare, Gloucester, August - October 2019
- NCS National Citizen Service 2018
- Assisted a team of surgeon's on 9 day trip to Lahore, Pakistan - 2018
- Won The top solo act prize at the annual Marling Grammar School, Whole School Music Competition with a singing act - July 2017
- Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Volunteered and trained as a Young Leader with Cub Scout group/Minchinhampton; member of Scouting movement for the previous 10 years
- Acted in a lead role in Marling Grammar School Christmas Musical -2016
- Ecole Du Ski Francais (E.S.F.) All ski awards over a number of years, passed up to Gold Star level which was achieved in 2014
- Music Theory Grade 5
- Electric guitar graded exams up to grade 4
- Jazz Piano graded exam grade 1
- Black Belt in Tae-Kwon-Do
- Graduate of NASA Space Camp 2015