Nigel Bautista

Senior SDET / Software Engineer in Test

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in LinkedIn Profile
🔗 GitHub Profile

🎖 Professional Profile

Accomplished Senior SDET with 12+ years of expertise transforming software delivery through shift-left quality engineering. I specialise in revolutionising development workflows by embedding quality gates directly into the CI/CD pipeline, ensuring no code reaches production without passing rigorous automated validation.

My approach centres on pre-merge quality enforcement: every pull request must rebase against the latest master branch and pass comprehensive test suites (unit, integration, and end-to-end) before merge approval. This methodology eliminates the traditional "test after development" bottleneck, catching defects at the earliest and cheapest point in the lifecycle. By mandating green builds as a merge prerequisite, I've helped organisations achieve near-zero production defects while accelerating release velocity.

I architect robust testing frameworks using Playwright/TypeScript and Cypress/JavaScript, integrating them seamlessly with GitHub Actions, Jenkins, and GitLab CI. My frameworks are designed for developer adoption—enabling engineers to write and run tests locally before pushing, fostering a culture where quality is everyone's responsibility.

⟨⟩ Technical Skills

UI & Automation
- ✓ Playwright & TypeScript
- ✓ Cypress & JavaScript
- ✓ WebdriverIO
- ✓ Appium

CI/CD & DevOps
- ✓ GitHub Actions
- ✓ Jenkins
- ✓ GitLab CI
- ✓ Docker

Cloud & Backend
- ✓ AWS EC2/S3/Lambda
- ✓ Node.js
- ✓ Linux Servers

Testing Methods
- ✓ BDD & TDD
- ✓ API Testing
- ✓ E2E Testing
- ✓ Exploratory Testing

💼 Professional Experience

Companies House
Senior Software Engineer in Test (SDET)

Aug 2024 - Present

- Architecting a next-generation Playwright TypeScript framework from the ground up, establishing coding standards and best practices adopted across the organisation
- Leading a team of 5 engineers in migrating 500+ legacy Java Cucumber tests to modern Playwright TS, reducing test execution time by 60%
- Implementing mandatory pre-merge gates requiring all PRs to rebase against master and achieve 100% green test suites before approval

At Last (Part-time Contractor)
Founding SDET

2024 - Present

- Architected the complete test automation infrastructure for a multi-carrier logistics platform, designing scalable TypeScript/Playwright frameworks from scratch
- Engineered end-to-end, integration, and API test suites for Albert AI, implementing pre-merge validation pipelines that enforce green builds before any code merges to master
- Built CI/CD workflows with GitHub Actions, configuring branch protection rules, automated test runners, and rebase-before-merge enforcement across all repositories

Natter
Principal Software Engineer in Test (SDET)

Jan 2024 - Aug 2024

- Promoted to Principal role to lead and mentor a team of 2 SDETs, establishing quality standards from sprint planning through deployment
- Designed and implemented a Playwright/TypeScript framework that reduced regression testing time from 4 hours to 45 minutes
- Transformed CI/CD pipeline with GitHub Actions, enforcing branch protection rules that mandate rebasing and green builds before any merge to master

Endeavor Streaming
Senior Software Engineer in Test (SDET)

Feb 2022 - Jan 2024

- Pioneered shift-left transformation, embedding SDETs in product teams from day one of feature development, reducing production defects by 80%
- Built proprietary E2E testing framework with Playwright/TypeScript, achieving 95% test coverage across critical user journeys
- Eliminated 3 staging environments by implementing rigorous pre-merge validation—all tests must pass against rebased master before merge approval
- Reduced release cycle from 2 weeks to continuous deployment through automated quality gates

Hopin
Senior Software Engineer in Test (SDET)

Aug 2020 - Jan 2022

- Scaled testing infrastructure during explosive hyper-growth (50 to 1,000+ employees), maintaining quality while shipping daily
- Architected end-to-end automation suite with strict green-build requirements—no PR merged without passing all test layers
- Collaborated with 20+ engineering squads to integrate React Testing Library, increasing unit test coverage from 40% to 85%

Automation Hero
Software Engineer in Test (SDET)

Jan 2020 - Aug 2020

- Built Cypress + Jenkins automation framework, enabling 10x faster front-end regression testing
- Developed JavaScript/Supertest API testing framework integrated into CI pipeline, catching 90% of integration issues pre-merge

Arcadia
Software Engineer in Test (SDET)

Mar 2018 - Jan 2020

- Delivered full-stack testing coverage across web, mobile (iOS/Android), and backend services in Agile CI/CD environment
- Ensured seamless shopping experience for millions of global customers across TopShop, Burton, and Dorothy Perkins brands

Earlier Career

ECS Digital - SDET	Sep 2017 - Feb 2018
HAPARA - SDET	Feb 2016 - Aug 2017
SPARK - SDET	Feb 2015 - Jan 2016
DATACOM - Junior SDET	Mar 2013 - Jan 2015

🎓 Education

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
Informatics International College, Quezon City, Philippines | 2007-2010

High School Diploma
Penn Foster High School, Pennsylvania, USA | 2007