Alex Saltstein

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Art Blocks, New York, NY   January 2022 - January 2025
Core Software Engineer
- Developed and maintained 5 **Next.js** web applications supporting $60+ million in revenue with **Tailwind** styling and a **Hasura GraphQL** backend.
- Spearheaded project with 5 engineers to rebuild the production website resulting in a user engagement increase of 35%.
- Decreased API requests by 98% by switching to websockets from polling, optimizing a critical data pipeline.
- Reduced weekly design review time by creating a reusable design system in **Figma** and **Tailwind**, in collaboration with a product designer, to enhance cross-functional efficiency.
- Increased SEO site health from 60% to 85%+ according to **Semrush**, improving visibility and search ranking.
- Collaborated with artists to launch sites featuring live auctions and physical product sales using Shopify and the blockchain, driving $648,000+ in total sales.
- Saved the engineering team 4+ hours weekly by designing and implementing an end to end CMS using **Strapi**, enabling business users to post articles, exhibitions, and other content directly to the **Next.js** web app.
- Created internal packages for our **Turborepo** (monorepo) to allow all apps to easily meet our company's design and analytics tracking (mixpanel) standards.

Forkist, Hoboken, NJ   December 2019 - December 2021
Software Engineer
- Led an initiative to improve mobile app performance, reducing image load times by 99% for 500+ users, resulting in a 50% increase in user retention.
- Optimized cloud storage by creating database management scripts in **Node.js** utilizing the Google Storage API, reducing storage size by more than 96% without downtime.
- Worked closely with non-technical founders to launch a mobile app that gained 1,000+ downloads, ensuring technical requirements aligned with both business goals and the founders' vision.
- Developed reusable components in **React** and **React Native**, with a focus on scalability and maintainability to support future feature growth.
- Collaborated with 5 engineers to create a company website with **Node.js**, **Next.js**, **React**, **Redux**, hosted on **GCP**.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

PartyPic, Personal   September 2023
- Partnered with another engineer to design and implement scalable system architectures, utilizing **AWS CDK**.
- Decreased user onboarding time to >30 seconds by implementing deep linking capabilities for 6 digit party code.
- Created **React Native Expo** mobile application with phone login, self hosted **Hasura GraphQL** backend, and multiple **AWS Lambda** API routes all within a monorepo.
- Collaborated with a partner to create a monorepo with automated **CI/CD** pipeline for linting, building, and deploying.

Hudson Happs, Personal   July 2022
- Led a cross-functional team of 4 engineers to design system architecture, aligning with the product designer's vision while optimizing infrastructure and enhancing product scalability.
- Increased user acquisition and engagement 200% by increasing web app performance and SEO presence through rewriting legacy **Javascript React** web app to **Typescript Next.js** with **Tailwind** and **MongoDB** backend.
- Eliminated costs for location tracking by using a geocoding API to store approximate coordinates by address lookup.
- Implemented **Typescript OCR** system to read text from images to prepopulate input forms.
- Utilized on demand route revalidation to instantly refresh data as it was updated, while maintaining **SSG**.

EDUCATION

Stevens Institute of Technology | Hoboken, NJ
Master of Science in Software Engineering | **GPA: 3.97**   December 2021
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with High Honors | **GPA: 3.84**   May 2021
Edwin A. Stevens Scholarship, Dean's List, Computer Science Honor Society, Treasurer Phi Sigma Kappa

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Javascript, Python, Java, Typescript, GraphQL, PostgreSQL, CSS, Swift, Bash, C, C++, Erlang, Ocaml, Scheme, SQL, HTML
Frameworks/Libraries: React, Next.js, React Native, Node.js, Tailwind, Expo, Preact
Tools/Technologies: AWS, Hasura, Figma, Git, MongoDB, Google Cloud, Redis, Semrush, Strapi, Turborepo, Mixpanel