

Juho Vepsäläinen - SurviveJS

Most interesting things happen at intersections. During my varied career, I've been exposed to different technologies and cultures. Although my strongest skillset is on the development side, I also have experience on marketing and sales due to running my own business and events. I'm also a known, and awarded, author of technical literature.

Education - 2001-2004

2001-2004

Abitur/Technician (electronics), *Jyväskylän Educational Consortium*,
Electronics and general education (English etc.)

2005-2011

Master of Science, *University of Jyväskylä*, Mathematical Information
Technology (final grade 4/5), Mathematics (3/5), Growth Venturing (4/5).
ECTS total 366.

Pre-freelancing Experience - 2005-2011

2005-2009

Volunteer, Maintainer, *Blender*, Wiki maintenance, software development
(C, patch review, design)

2008-2010

3D Modeler, Programmer, Research Assistant, *University of Jyväskylä*, 3D
modeling (Blender) and development (Django, AS2, MediaWiki) for research
purposes

2010-2011

Contractor, *Mixart New Media LLC*, JavaScript and HTML5 Canvas
development

2011 Summer

Software Designer, *Fudeco Oy*. I developed a Django based backend and a frontend (jQuery) related to forums (moderation) for a local media consortium

Freelancing Experience - 2011-2014

I was a freelancer between 2011 and 2015. My first actual case was in 2010-2011. During that I developed a Canvas element based drawing tool for RateMyDrawings.com. Technologically it was based on RequireJS (module system) and RightJS (jQuery clone).

During 2012 and 2013 I participated in the local startup scene and went through a couple of failures. Incidentally a hobby project, <http://jster.net/> (<http://jster.net/>), became the biggest success of this era.

For NDA reasons I cannot disclose details on my work always but the following should give you idea of the type of work I performed during this period:

- Maintenance on healthcare related ASP.NET MVC project
- QR code based discovery portal using Django
- UI based on given PSD using Django for Fudeco, an earlier employer
- Photo editor (JS, jQuery) and scraping (Node.js) for <http://brgen.no/> (<http://brgen.no/>). This includes work with Ruby on Rails too.
- NetDNA (Node.js, Angular, Ionic) - <https://github.com/MaxCDN/iptell> (<https://github.com/MaxCDN/iptell>), <https://github.com/MaxCDN/osscdn> (<https://github.com/MaxCDN/osscdn>), <https://github.com/MaxCDN/ionic-mobile-maxcdn> (<https://github.com/MaxCDN/ionic-mobile-maxcdn>).
- Widget development, including backend, on a significant website platform
- Slideshow editor concept design and prototype - https://github.com/bebraw/template_editor (https://github.com/bebraw/template_editor).
- Scrapers for an iPhone app
- Angular.js consultancy (multiple projects)
- React.js consultancy (single project)

Entrepreneur at SurviveJS - 2015-

Given freelancing wasn't the most fulfilling way for me to live my life, I deduced that I should change my direction. As a result I started authoring technical books related to topics such as React, webpack, and maintenance under the SurviveJS brand. So far I've sold over 5000 books self-published. In addition, I've performed training and consulting related to the topics.

During this I had to develop my technical writing and marketing skills and in short doing this changed everything and eventually led me to moving to Vienna, a new environment.

I was awarded for my efforts in 2017 as I was named as the Finnish Code Ambassador by Blue Arrow Awards.

In 2018, I began to organize technical conferences in Finland with a small group of other developers in a voluntary manner. The first event, React Finland held in April, was a great success. It sold out two months before the conference and had around 300 attendees. The three day conference gave us enough confidence to organize another event in October. GraphQL Finland was smaller in scope and although not sold out, it had over 150 attendees and was well received by the community.

The success on conference side of things might lead to establishing a new event company in Finland to run these kind of things.

On SurviveJS side, I've focused more on consulting since 2017 due to demand. My clients include companies such as Kapsch, eBay, and Kleiner Perkins in addition to a number of smaller companies requiring my specific attention.

I am one of the organizers of React Vienna and support the local community the best I can.

Open Source Experience

My story with open source begins with Blender. Incidentally I came upon the project through a university course during which I needed to perform some 3D modeling. As it happens one thing lead to another and I ended up modifying the codebase and submitting changes as patches. My previous experience with embedded C came in handy. Eventually I became a maintainer of the node section of the application and even visited annual Blender Conference a few times, once a speaker.

Since then I have done plenty of development on my own. Most of my projects are available under my GitHub account (<https://github.com/bebraw>). (<https://github.com/bebraw>). Besides these some reside below the account of a local geek collective, Geek Collision, which I helped to establish (<https://github.com/geekcollision>)_(<https://github.com/geekcollision>)). I've listed a few examples below. Not all of them might be popular but that doesn't mean they aren't useful.

jswiki - <https://github.com/bebraw/jswiki> (<https://github.com/bebraw/jswiki>).

jswiki grew out of an innocent little list of game engines. Details:

<http://royal.pingdom.com/2013/05/22/web-dev-projects/>

(<http://royal.pingdom.com/2013/05/22/web-dev-projects/>). This eventually lead to establishing jster.net, a catalog of JavaScript libraries.

Reactabular - <https://reactabular.js.org/> (<https://reactabular.js.org/>).

Reactabular is a framework for building the React table you need.

colorjoe - <http://bebraw.github.io/colorjoe/> (<http://bebraw.github.io/colorjoe/>).

colorjoe was born out of frustration with existing color pickers. All I could find relied on external images. I decided to take another approach and implement the whole thing in JavaScript and CSS. Based on popularity this wasn't a bad choice.

CDNperf - <http://www.cdnperf.com/> (<http://www.cdnperf.com/>).

I developed this project with a friend of mine in order to monitor performance of JavaScript CDNs. The project was enabled by support from Pingdom.

jsDelivr API - <https://github.com/jsdelivr/api> (<https://github.com/jsdelivr/api>).

I developed this API based on sugarjs tools to provide access to data on JavaScript CDNs. Details: <https://gun.io/blog/jsdeliver-api-experiment-to-success/> (<https://gun.io/blog/jsdeliver-api-experiment-to-success/>).

Elovalo - <https://github.com/elovalo/elovalo> (<https://github.com/elovalo/elovalo>).

Elovalo is a led cube project (AVR). I helped to design and implement its effect system and developed a simulation system based on Blender (<http://hackaday.com/2012/09/03/simulating-led-cubes-in-blender/>). (<http://hackaday.com/2012/09/03/simulating-led-cubes-in-blender/>). In addition I developed a JavaScript based IDE with interactive editing for the project, <https://github.com/elovalo/webide> (<https://github.com/elovalo/webide>).

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In addition, I was a core developer of webpack for many years and helped to establish the project as a mainstream option for bundling. I've developed infrastructure to support my business. This work includes GraphQL APIs, React frontends, websites, and supporting tooling.

Languages

English

Excellent, *High grades (both abitur and university)* and proof in form of success as an author

Finnish

Excellent, *Native*

German

Basic, A2 most likely

Computer Skills

Programming Languages

JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, C

JavaScript frameworks/libraries

React

Tooling

webpack

Version Control

git

Technologies

Node.js, Blender, vim

There's likely a lot more but it's hard to list everything. These days I prefer to see myself rather as an architect. I can design and implement complex systems alone given enough time although it's possible to proceed faster in a good team.

Interests

Art

I enjoy studying and creating art. Especially drawing and painting are my favorites.

Sports

I am a great fan of hiking and cycling. I don't own a car.