

Ben Hickson

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[Github](#) | [Blog](#) | [Portfolio](#) | [Linkedin](#)

ABOUT ME

Full-stack web developer, experienced with React, Angular, and Rails, and fluent in JavaScript, Ruby, and PHP. Excellent at independent and collaborative work with distributed teams. Background in the media industry, focused on technical mastery, project management, and client relations, with a track record of delivering work on-time, to-spec, and in-budget. Interested in leveraging machine learning in projects that can benefit society in profound ways.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Frameworks: Angular, React, Ruby on Rails, Flask, Express

Languages: JavaScript, Ruby, PHP, TypeScript, Python, SQL

Skills: Application Architecture and Design, Open-source (OSS), Cloud Deployment, Project Planning and Management

Media Skills: Video Editing, 2D Animation, Color Grading, Sound Mixing, File Compression and Delivery Optimization

SELECTED PROJECTS

Go Room - Repos: [App Backend \(Rails\)](#), [Poker Backend \(NodeJS\)](#), [Frontend \(Angular\)](#) | [Portfolio Page](#) | [Live Site](#)

Browser-based group video chat app (nothing to install!), with extensibility at its core. Perfect for social distancing!

- Implemented as an Angular (version 9) application, with components built for efficient memory management.
- Implemented main backend as a Rails API with a MySQL database, handling authentication with JWT
- Built a complete multiplayer poker application, leveraging websockets (socket.io), on a NodeJS / Express backend.
- Multi-backend authentication is handled using federated JWTs.
- Implemented a paradigm of authenticated anonymous users, to increase conversions.

Stock Archive - [GitHub](#) | [Portfolio Page](#) | [Live Site](#) (login credentials available upon request)

Content management system for video teams, surfacing unused footage with team members around the world.

- Envisioned, created, and deployed the application in my company, building it into our processes.
- Implemented automation queues to transcode uploaded assets into multiple resolutions and thumbnails
- Implemented a custom media server to access transcoded assets with a consistent API.
- Built custom tagging and search engine functionality.
- Ensured full security for uploaded assets, and all access is logged for regulatory compliance.
- Integrated Clarifai's AI-powered image recognition technology.

Traversalist - [GitHub](#) | [Portfolio Page](#) | [Live Site](#)

A website featuring articles across different themes, at the intersection of science, philosophy, and society.

- Implemented custom routing functionality, optimizing requests for speed.
- Developed a custom image generation and caching engine with the PHP Imagick module, to optimize images.
- Developed a consistent, easy-to-use API for interacting with the image engine and requesting resources.

PRIOR WORK

Lonelyleap Film | [Website](#)

Director of Photography and Post-production Manager

Camera Operator and Post Generalist

Producer

Brooklyn, NY

01/2018 - 02/2020

04/2016 - 01/2018

02/2013 - 04/2016

- Led the camerawork and visual style on a [wide variety of projects](#) in all corners of the globe.
- Managed the post-production department (equipment and staff), supervised output, and optimized storage processes.
- Worked directly with clients and led production teams on many projects, with budgets ranging from \$50k - \$300k, for a wide variety of clients, including Google, Nokia, and Uber.
- Collaborated with industry pros and governments around the world, ensuring safety and compliance at all stages.
- Created and managed budget, schedule, and process throughout, ensuring all creative and business goals are achieved, managing a project end-to-end, from first client contact through to final delivery.

EDUCATION

Flatiron School

Full Stack Web Development, Ruby on Rails and ReactJS program

Brooklyn, NY

02/2020 - 05/2020

Middle Tennessee State University

BBA, Finance

Murfreesboro, TN

08/2007 - 12/2011