

MATT BESSEY

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TECH AWS, C, C#, C++, Capistrano,
CoffeeScript, Go, HAML,
Java, JS, MySQL, Nagios,
New Relic, PHP, PostgreSQL
Python, **Rails**, Redis, Rspec,
Ruby, **Sass**, Sidekiq

WHO I AM

I am a Computer Science graduate from Bristol University, currently working at **Caring.com**, a startup in Silicon Valley.

When I'm not telling keyboards who's boss, I can be found listening to the kind of music that makes floors shake. Last year, I was the Vice President of DJ Society, a society I was one of the founding members of, but ended up being the one teaching the lessons.

Like many geeks I also dabble in photography, shooting with a Canon 400D and a recently acquired 50mm f/1.8 and touching up in Lightroom.

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer, Caring Inc San Mateo, California (2013 - Present)

I work on the Caring product team primarily as a Ruby on Rails web developer, although end up touching most of the stack on a daily basis.

Freelance Web Developer Bristol, Avon (2011 - 2013)

When University left time for it, I took on part time web development work. See page 2 for some examples of my work.

Lead Web Developer and Server Administrator, RD Hosts Ramsgate, Kent (2009 - 2011)

I acted as systems administrator for a small company web server, as well as designing and developing several PHP + MySQL based websites, generally from the ground up.

EDUCATION

University of Bristol

CS BSc with 1st class honours

2010 - 2013

1st Year — **69%**

2nd Year — **62%**

3rd Year — **74%**

Sir Roger Manwood's School

2004 - 2010

A Levels

A — Maths

A — Film Studies

B — ICT

SKILLS

I started web development as many did with PHP with MySQL. More recently I have moved to work primarily in Ruby, with a generous splash of Rails where appropriate. I am also familiar with Linux server administration, managing several VPSs on various hosts including EC2, Linode and DigitalOcean has helped me learn the full web development stack and how to maintain it. With these skills I designed and built my own personal website **bessey.io** and first product **sngtrkr.com** (see **Portfolio**).

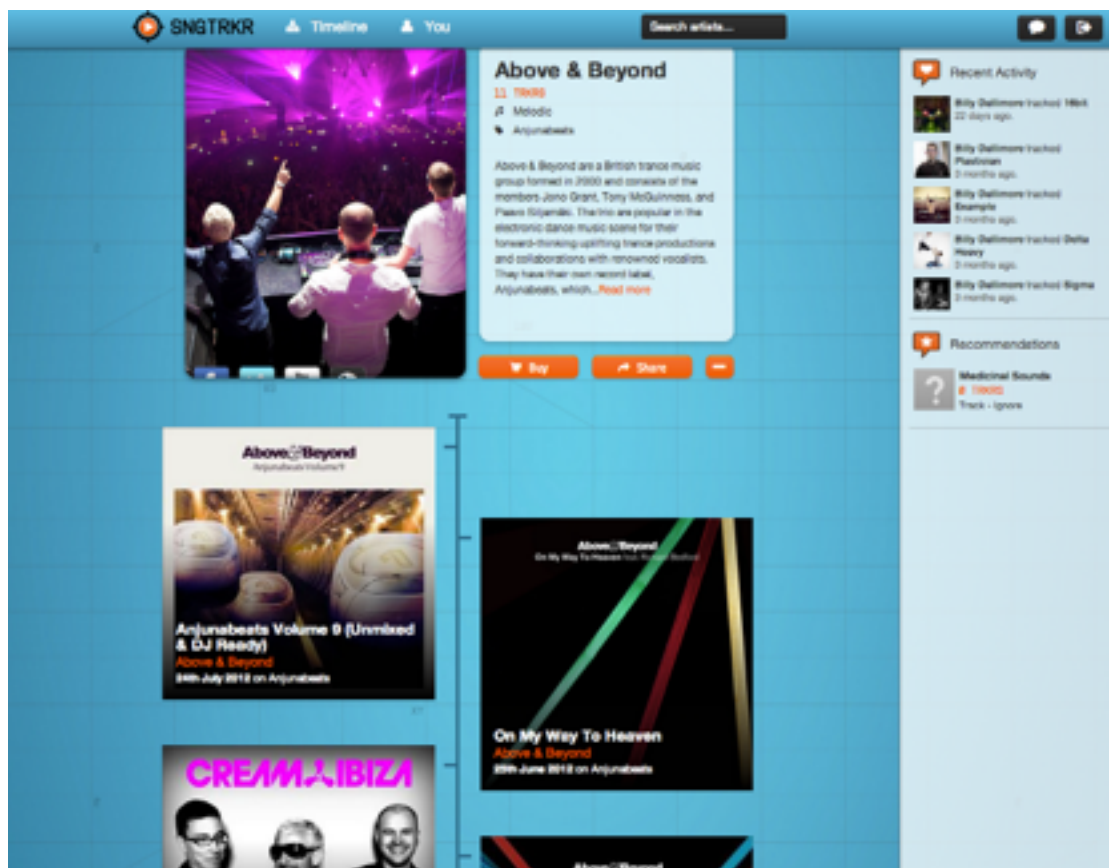
I know my way around Photoshop and Illustrator, having used both regularly for web design as well as CS and DJ Society artwork, though I would say I have more of a passion for design than ability in it.

All of this is supplemented by my on-going degree, in which I have learnt and regularly used Java, C, C++, C# and *not* so regularly, Haskell. I love learning languages and am always keen to learn more, those listed are simply the ones I know best.

As part of the course I've worked on many team projects, which have given me great experience in both leading groups, and following the directions of others. I really enjoy working as part of a team, and having the opportunity to lead is a bonus; I often find myself leading simply because I've wanted the project to meet my expectations!

REFERENCES

Available on request.



SNGTRKR.COM

Built solely by myself and a friend, with me focusing on the development side, SNGTRKR (Song Tracker) was a business idea we developed after seeing an unsolved problem: why can't I get an email when an artist I follow releases a new album?

The site is built on Rails, and makes heavy use of APIs from Last.fm, iTunes, and 7Digital, to notify users automatically when any artists they add to the database has released new content.



BARDOWL

Bardowl is a startup offering unlimited audiobooks streamed direct to your iPhone.

I helped to create a data analytics system, from setting up the web server to designing the front end. The CEO of Bardowl, Chris Brook, said:

“Matt has done some genius work for us at Bardowl.

He took a complex data set and created a web view of the data to allow us to run our business.

He obviously applied his deep knowledge of what is available in existing systems and frameworks to over deliver on requirements quicker than expected. I cannot recommend his work highly enough.”