Case Study for myFlix Full-Stack Immersion Project

Overview

myFlix is a web application that was built using the MERN stack (MongoDB, Express, React, Node). Users can retrieve information about movies, directors and genres as well as signing up, updating their profile, adding or removing movies from their favorites list.

Purpose and context

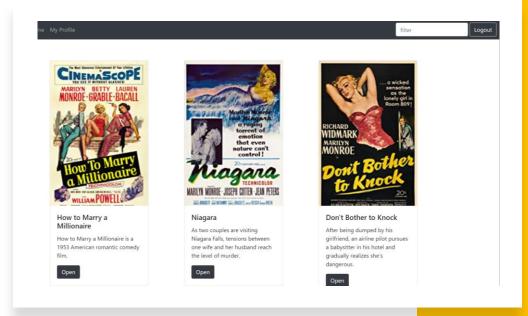
This is a personal project I built during my CareerFoundry Full-Stack Immersion course allowing me to practice the skills I learned in two of my achievements.

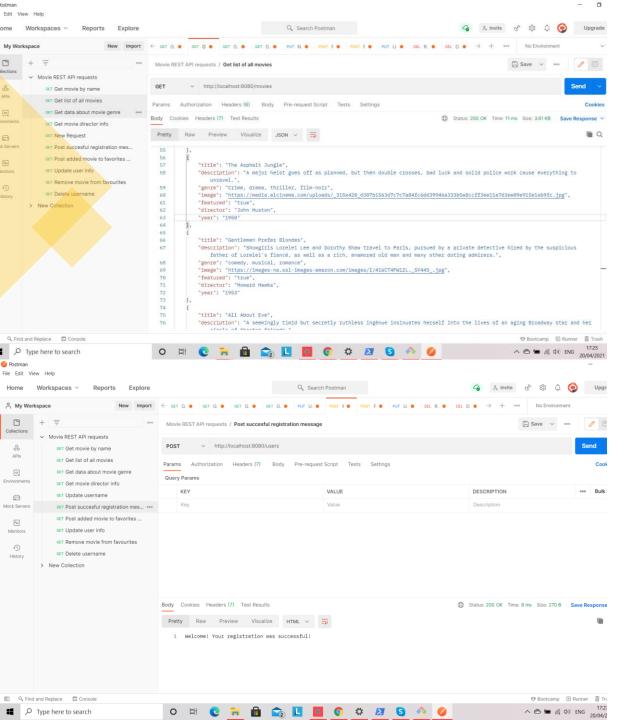
Objective

This project's goal was to successfully build both the client and server-side of the application from scratch to be able to add it to my personal portfolio and provide a pleasant and smooth experience for its users.

Marilyn's top 10

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Process

Server-side

I started by building a RESTful API that interacts with a non-relational (NoSQL) database. I defined my endpoints for the API which can be accessed via HTTP methods such as POST, GET, PUT. The API provides information about the movies in JSON format and in order to retrieve or store data in the database the methods to be used are CRUD.

• In order to test my endpoints I made use of Postman and I also implemented both authentication and authorization using basic HTTP authentication and JWT (token-based) authentication.

Client-side

With my functional API ready, I started building the UI that the users would be interacting with. The app is an SPA (Single Page Application) and it uses state routing to navigate between views. There are several views the user can access: the login view, the registration view, the main view (list of all movies), the profile view (to see and update profile and edit their favorite movies list), the movie view where detailed information about a specific movie is displayed, director view and genre view.

It is written using React library and React Redux as well as Bootstrap as its UI library for styling and responsiveness.

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Duration

This project took around 2 months to develop from scratch. It was the longest time I spent on a single project because I had to build both the server-side and client-side.

Tools

Visual Studio Code

MongoDB

Postman

React Bootstrap

Credits

Role: Lead Developer

Tutor: CareerFoundry provided tutor

Mentor: CareerFoundry provided mentor

Challenges

During this application's development I can say I encountered my first most difficult challenges at CareerFoundry. At first it was hard to learn how to use the terminal given that I was using a new working environment, but it wasn't long before I got used to it. Building the API was a challenge but with the help of my tutor, mentor and other students I was able to understand and learn from my mistakes. When it comes to the client side it took me a while to learn how to work with React's components and methods but again, the support I received helped me learn, grow and become comfortable using these.