# CJ Nowacek

# Technical Artist & Pipeline Developer



## **Professional Summary**

Technical Artist specializing in workflow optimization, asset pipelines, and automation for AAA development. Proven efficiency gains through Python, MaxScript, and Maya API tooling; strong collaboration across Animation, Design, and Engineering; and a consistent focus on reliability, usability, and scale.

#### Core Skills

Programming

Python (Maya API, PyQt), MaxScript, MEL, Bash, Git, Perforce

DCC/Engines Maya, 3ds Max, Unreal Engine 5, Unity, Substance Painter

Focus Character rigging, pipeline development, batch tooling, workflow automation

#### Professional Experience

Mar-Apr 2025

Technical Artist (Contract), Anuttacon via GoDemic, Remote

- Developed automated asset tools with iterative feedback integration (Python/MEL)
- O Designed optimized asset development pipelines enhancing throughput and reliability

Nov 2024–Mar 2025 Technical Animator (Contract), Hi-Rez Studios, Alpharetta, GA

- O Ported and reworked characters for Smite 2 in Unreal Engine 5
- Developed Python/MaxScript tools for automatic asset setup within UE5 pipelines
- O Collaborated across Animation, Design, QA to ensure milestone delivery

Aug 2023–Oct 2024

Associate Rigging Artist, Hi-Rez Studios, Alpharetta, GA

- $\,\circ\,$  Ported characters/cosmetics from UE3 to UE5 for Smite 2 production
- Authored MaxScript batch tools, reducing asset processing time by 25%
- O Rigged new playable characters and debugged complex rig/skin issues

Aug 2022–May

2023

Rigging Intern, Hi-Rez Studios, Alpharetta, GA

- Weight painted cosmetic assets to production standards under tight schedules
- O Built small optimization scripts for frequent rigging tasks

## Technical Projects & Achievements

**Process Automation & Error Reduction**, Hi-Rez Studios

O Automated conversion pipelines, reducing manual work by 50% and asset-related bugs by 25%

GUI Tooling for Repeatable Processes, Internal Development

Designed GUI-driven tools that made complex workflows accessible to non-technical users

#### Education

May 2023

BFA, Animation and Game Design, Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH

Senior Project: Cinematic story driven game