

Denise Yu

Full-Stack Developer

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About

I am a full-stack web developer. I have been professionally building web applications in Ruby and JavaScript since February 2015. Previously, I studied everything from happiness to epistemology to Keynesian economics. In my spare time, I like to travel, play cheesy piano music, and go bouldering. I'm open to learning new programming languages and tech stacks, and at the moment, I'm curious about containers, Haskell, and event-driven architecture.

Values

- **Code citizenship:** Good code is predictably structured; classes and methods are intention-revealing for the next person who will be maintaining the project. Clear and concise documentation is part of the “definition of done”.
- **Everyone is DevOps:** Every member of the team should be able to debug a problem in any part of the stack. At a high level, everybody understands logging, metrics, and the deployment pipeline.
- **Make it functional:** Prefer stateless functions and avoid mutability when possible, because pure transformations are easier to reason about.
- **Mutual trust and respect:** Everyone can push to master and deploy to live. Teams have autonomy and genuine ownership over their code, and everyone is equally accountable for the team's successes and setbacks.
- **Diversity:** Our industry needs more women, people of colour, and LGBTQ+ individuals, because a team with more diverse experiences will build software that more meaningfully reflects the vast differences of our end users across the world.

Work

- **Full-stack JavaScript Developer** 09/2015 – 09/2016
The Mergermarket Group, London, UK
 - Use test-driven approach to build financial intelligence publishing applications within service-oriented architecture, primarily with Node.js backend and React frontend, NoSQL data stores
 - Work collaboratively with testers and product owners to write functional end-to-end and integration tests in Cucumber, Capybara, Zombie.js
 - Manage deployment with Jenkins-managed AWS ECS and Docker
 - Shorten feedback loops in technical and human aspects by advocating for continuous delivery with Redis-hosted feature flags and facilitating fortnightly retrospectives
 - Raise MMG's community profile by hosting events for groups including Women Who Code and London Software Craftsmanship Community

- **Ruby on Rails Developer** 02/2015 – 08/2015
Third Space Learning, London, UK
 - Built features in two-week sprints for monolithic Rails application that comprised CMS, booking system, and online learning platform
 - Introduced retrospectives and pull-request-based code reviews
- **Graduate Helper** 12/2014 – 01/2015
Makers Academy, London, UK
 - Organised regular “No Stupid Questions” sessions for students
 - Invented gamified activities to encourage collaboration
- **Legal Assistant & Office Manager** 08/2012 – 04/2013
Hurwitz, Stampur & Roth, New York, NY
- **Environmental Registry Intern** 06/2011 – 08/2011
Markit Group, New York, NY

Education

- **Makers Academy** 09/2014 – 12/2014
Web Development, London, UK
- **The London School of Economics** 09/2013 – 09/2014
MSc with Merit, Social Policy & Planning
Masters dissertation: *The Impacts of Drug Testing Policies on the American Workfare State*
- **Columbia University** 09/2009 – 05/2012
BA, Economics & Philosophy

Community

- codebar.io, London, UK
Organise weekly hands-on programming workshops for underrepresented groups in technology. Lead maintainer of the [open-source event planning application](#). Planned and executed a [monthly talks night](#), an [unconference](#), a [yoga-and-coding workshop](#), a DevOps introduction workshop with Equal Experts, and a careers workshop geared towards aspiring junior developers.
- **ClojureBridge**, London, UK
Coordinate weekend bootcamps for women to learn Clojure
- **London Software Craftsmanship Community**
Assist with talks night, open spaces, and run hands-on sessions

Writing

- [Docker: Predictability vs. Complexity](#)
- [Being “That Girl”](#)
- [On Code Citizenship](#)

Talks

- [Domain Design Deep-Dive](#), /dev/summer, Cambridge, 06/2016
Presented a 90-minute hands-on session on the concept of domain design katas. Participant pairs were asked to model a simple children’s game using pseudocode and domain diagrams.
- [Intro to Functional Reactive Programming](#), Women Who Code, 06/2016
- [Fast and Furious Integration Testing](#), MA Alumni Talks Night, 04/2016
- [How not to Code](#), ft. Taylor Swift, /dev/winter, Cambridge, 01/2016
- [Dysfunctional Programming](#), MA Alumni Talks Night, 01/2016