Curriculum Vitae

Ivan Franco

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PROFILE

10+ years of research, development and strategic management of interactive products and technologies. Clients and partners such as Microsoft, Dell, ESA and Philips. Recognized thought-leader in new media art, human-computer interaction and XR.

EXPERTISE

- R&D manager for award-winning company YDreams.
- Technical, functional and strategic management.
- Intellectual property, licensing and partnerships.
- Team management through Agile principles.
- Worked across teams with Production, Sales, Marketing and VPs.
- Co-inventor of several patents.
- Excellent communicator and consultant.
- Skills in audio, HCI, UX, user-centered design, programming, electronics, product design and rapid prototyping.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- PhD in Music Technology.
- Peer-reviewed publishing and co-author of several patents.
- Business development in Silicon Valley with partners and clients like Dell, HP and IBM.
- Development of AR experiences for Canesta and Primesense, later acquired by Microsoft to create the Kinect controller.
- Winner of Best Tech Demo at Augmented Reality Expo 2010 (ARE 2010).
- Guest Speaker at ISE DOOH Business Conference, TEDx, EComm, OFFF, SXSW, ARE, Screenmedia Expo, Berklee College of Music, IBM Research, 6 Sight, NIME, Merging

2011, Pecha Kucha, Future Places, GEAR, Upgrade!, Art Futura, Zeppelin Festival and many universities.
- Participation in IPO operations for YDreams' spin-offs.
- Promotor of the Fab Lab initiative in Portugal, together with Neil Gershenfeld (MIT).
- Winner of several awards and scholarships, including the 2010 Personality of the Year Award by the Portuguese Association for the Promotion of Multimedia and Digital Society.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2020 - Present / Associate Researcher / McGill University
- Research and development of digital musical instruments using embedded computing.

2014 - 2019 / PhD Researcher and Lecturer / McGill University
- Research and development of digital musical instruments using embedded computing.
- Developer of the Prynth framework.
- New Media Production lecturer.

2004 - 2013 / R&D Director / YDreams
- Management of 25+ researchers and project managers.
- Technical and strategic management of R&D portfolio.
- Intellectual property, licensing and partnerships.
- Financial management of yearly R&D budget of around 1M€.
- Follow-up to product design.

2002 - 2004 / Media Researcher / YDreams
- Design and production of audiovisual interactive systems and user interfaces with emphasis on physical computing and realtime processing.
- Creative and strategic consulting.

2001 - 2002 / Researcher and Lecturer / Pompeu Fabra University
- Development of interactive music systems.
- Tutorship in composition and sound production.

1997 - 1999 / Researcher / New University of Lisbon
- 3D and VR systems applied to GIS and model simulation.

EDUCATION

2014 - 2019 / PhD in Music Technology / McGill University

1999 - 2001 / Master in Digital Arts / Pompeu Fabra University

1993 - 1998 / BSc in Environmental Engineering / New University of Lisbon