

Jason Kuhrt // Resume

Logistics

Based in Montreal

+1 (438) 402-1036

jasonkuhrt@me.com

[site](#) / [Github](#)

[Twitter](#) / [Behance](#)

Synopsis

I am a design-minded self-taught functionally-oriented software engineer with over five years experience creating web apps and backend systems. Recently I helped lead development of the realtime distributed cloud system at littleBits that powers the cloudBit. I earned a BFA majoring in design at Concordia University where systems, theory, and society were foundational. I can get a computer to do the right thing, yet I am adept at ideation, interdisciplinary collaboration, design thinking, research, and synthesis.

Education

BFA, Design @ Concordia University

2005-10

Employment

Lead Platform Architect @ [littlebits](#)

2013-16 3Y

- * Founding Member
- * Designed + Built micro-service cloud platform
- * Designed + Built APIs to interact with cloudBit, sought community feedback
- * Built Cloud Control: end-user app for cloudBit setup/intro
- * Built internal tools (cloudBit simulators, API CLIs etc.)
- * Designed custom protocol atop TLS with firmware team
- * DevOps + maintained platform availability
- * Wrote software specifications for other software engineers
- * Core collaborator on cloudBit product development
- * Researched + presented whitepapers on future platform directions
- * Prototyped + presented on technologies (Kubernetes, Terraform, RethinkDB, etc.)
- * Helped grow the team

I built of the realtime distributed cloud system at littleBits that powers the cloudBit. The cloudBit was an "Internet of Things" (IoT) product realized as a prized module in the littleBits library. It bridged communication between a user's circuit and the internet. The internet became a physical building block. For a medium otherwise invisible to the senses this bore a potent feeling that we could revolutionize people's relation to connectivity.

To realize this platform I built a number of backend services including a TLS

Server, an HTTPS API and a Web Socket API, both secured by OAuth 2. Tools used included Redis and RethinkDB for data/messaging, Elastic Search for log analysis, AWS/GCP for infrastructure, docker/kubernetes for deployment. I also built the control app where users setup, managed, and interacted with their cloudBit. Furthermore I helped grow the team, researched advanced platform features, made internal CLI tools, weighed in on product decisions, contributed leadership, and more.

Art Director / Frontend Engineer @ Artfox

2011-12 1Y

- * Designed + Built UI Views, brand touch points, brainstormed platform features

UI/X Designer / Fullstack Engineer (intern) @ [Icograda](#)

2009 2M

- * Designed + Built Icograda's Biennial Review

The Biennial Review was an up-to-then printed booklet produced for each World Design Congress that cataloged the organization's global efforts to improve the status of design and its role in the betterment of our world.

I had the privilege of reimagining both design and implementation of this publication as a digital platform. It was very well received by the board of directors and supported the 2009 world congress.

Graphic Designer (intern) @ [Icograda](#)

2007 2M

- * Designed poster for the World Design Congress

Freelance

Senior Frontend Engineer @ Kenzan 2013 3M

- * Developed modular UI components, implemented hardest UI views
- * Mentored team members, jumped into hot-zones

We implemented a 300 page wireframe webapp for Optimum, a Long Island telcom. I guided development of a scalable CSS architecture

(including ideas from BEM), UI component library, and thorny UI views demanding special intervention.

Senior Frontend Engineer @ Presstube 2012-13 5M

- * Architected a frontend stack for a large team of developers

I guided the assembly of a massively scalable modern stack for frontend development. At that time this meant Grunt for build, LESS for CSS, Angular for client MVC, and Karma for testing. Our custom build

process made development a relative breeze. Importantly streamlined building arbitrary components (widget to page scale) composed of colocated style structure and logic.

Graphic Designer @ Kenneth Dean (Prof., McGill University) 2010-11 4M

- * Designed poster/website/jewel-case for film Bored in Heaven

Bored in Heaven is a documentary exploring an area of south-east China that is experiencing a renaissance in ritualistic tradition. Their festivals and lore have

unique orbits of cultural and political power which this film considers in the context of a rapidly changing China.

UI Designer / Frontend Engineer @ TANK 2010-11 3M

UI/X Designer / Frontend Engineer @ Bluesponge 2010 2M

- * Designed + Built microsite prototype for CCA Journeys

CCA Journeys was the digital experience accompanying the exhibition and publication of research conducted by several scholars

debating issues raised by increased global movement.

Graphic Designer @ Concordia University 2008 2M

- * Designed + Built poster/microsite for event Portfolio Day in Montreal

Portfolio Day in Montreal was hosted by Concordia university with participation from: Nova Scotia College of Art & Design, The Alberta College of Art + Design, The

Emily Carr Institute. Prospective students presented their portfolios to faculty where they could receive feedback in preparation for their applications.

Graphic Designer @ thievish FILMS 2007-13 ~

- * Designed + Built poster/microsite for film At the Bottom of the Hill
- * Designed + Built website for film maker Vanya Rose
- * Designed poster/package for film Woman in Car
- * Designed poster for film Montreal Stories 1944

Tech

worked with + ♥

<u>Haskell</u>	<u>GCP</u>	static	<u>npm</u>	<u>webpack</u>
<u>fp</u>	<u>rethinkDB</u>	typing	<u>node.js</u>	*nix
JavaScript	<u>Docker</u>	procedural	<u>ramda.js</u>	<u>git</u>
<u>react.js</u>	<u>Terraform</u>	<u>HTTP/S</u>	<u>most.js</u>	<u>github</u>
Kubernetes	<u>Redux</u>	<u>http-sse</u>	<u>promises</u>	<u>async</u>
<u>Redis</u>	<u>TCP / TLS</u>	<u>webSocket</u>	<u>babeljs</u>	<u>Flexbox</u>

worked with - ♥

PHP	RoR	OOP	wordpress	AWS
Ruby	MySQL	angular	jQuery	callbacks

would ♥ to try

<u>Clojure</u>	<u>Swift</u>	<u>Nim</u>	<u>CoAP</u>	<u>HTTP 2.x</u>
<u>PureScript</u>	graph DBs	<u>time series DBs</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>gRPC</u>
<u>Elm</u>	<u>Datomic</u>	<u>dependent types</u>	<u>Rust</u>	<u>Horizon</u>
<u>GraphQL</u>	<u>Elixir</u>	<u>MQTT</u>	<u>Go</u>	

Interests

Sociology	Semantics	Architecture	Wilderness
Philosophy	Governance	Math	Graphic Art
Cog Sci	Comp Sci	Design	Geometry

Honours / Awards

2015	<u>Canadian Art and Surveillance database</u> includes Sousveillance.	2006-7	President, Concordia Design Students.
2013	Founding Member, littleBits.	2007	Council Member, Fine Arts, Concordia Student Union.
2012	Behance features Sousveillance	2008	Semi-finalist, Adobe Design Achievement Awards
2011	Justseeds includes Wall.	2008	Concordia Co-op Entrepreneur Award.
2011	WebDesignServed features Icograda 2009 Biennial Review.	2008	Concordia Co-op Student Showcase.
2010	Scholastic Excellence: Golden Key Honour Society Member.	2005	Poem published in a Canadian anthology.
2007-8	Exchange to Bremen, Germany at Master-level studies.		

Recommendations

- > Jason is one of the sharpest, most thoughtful people I have ever worked with. A rare mix of visionary design and technical whiz, he makes technical design seem like an art, and visual design a science.

I've seen him tackle technology that he was supposedly not very familiar with and make super complex, robust software that is at the same time very sensible and maintainable. I've also seen him go far out into bleeding edge R&D and come back with very actionable ideas about what is possible in a given space.

He's diligent, loyal, deeply engaged, and most of all cares about the products of his creativity and the people who use them. Also he's a sweet guy. Which helps.

– 2016, Colin Vernon
VP Software Engineering
@ littlebits

- > I have had the pleasure of working with Jason on several large and highly demanding projects, and would strongly recommend him to anyone. Jason is one of those people who spends all day coding, then cozies up by the fire with a book on functional JavaScript in the evening. Programming is obviously more than a job to Mr.Kuhrt and it shows. Top notch talent!

– 2013, James Paterson
Founder @ Presstube

- > Jason's design work for the Icograda World Design Congress 2007 in La Habana resulted in unique imagery showcasing Cuba to our international design audience. It's memorability and Jason's work ethic led to us developing an ongoing relationship that continues today.

– 2010, Brenda Sanderson
Managing Director @ Icograda