

# Joe Yates: Curriculum vitae

## Personal

Name	Joe Yates
Location	Florence, Italy

## Contact

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## Online

- Blog: <http://joeyates.info>
- Open Source projects on GitHub: <https://github.com/joeyates>

## Personal Summary

### Areas of Experience

- Desktop applications,
- Web APIs,
- Web applications,
- Video and image processing,
- High availability,
- Cloud computing, DevOps,
- Social media integration.

I have more than 15 years' experience as a programmer and project manager.

I have worked in many domains from the Arts to commerce to system drivers.

I am a proponent of Agile software development, the use of testing, sustainable refactoring via microservices and contribution to the world of Open Source.

I am passionate about learning new and upcoming programming languages and systems, in order to have the right tool for the job. Recent acquisitions have been: Elixir, Erlang, Clojure and Node.js.

I have deep experience of the Amazon cloud platform and its uses for elastic scaling and high availability.

I am a proponent of the DevOps approach to system configuration and maintenance, and use Chef to manage cloud instances and dedicated servers.

I am bilingual (English/Italian) and have strong communication skills; I am able to explain technical issues to non-technical people and handle in-house training of fellow programmers. I write a blog on programming and am involved in Open Source development.

## **Work/Employment History**

### **Contractor**

Dates: 2010-present

#### **Projects**

##### **Bookrepublic (New Site)**

I developed the "catalogue" microservice that supplies information about available books. I used the emerging JSON-Schema standard to implement and document the API.

I refactored the site to be more maintainable via the use of Redux as the Flux data store.

##### **Bookrepublic Reader**

A web-based ebook reader. I built the reader front end and the API.

##### **Chorally**

I was lead developer for the startup of this customer engagement system. I integrated its use of the Google Prediction API to interpret customer messages.

##### **OPA (Florence Cathedral and associated museums)**

I managed the migration of data and search engine listing from the old site.

### **Senior Developer**

Organisation: Ticketsolve, Dublin

Dates: 2010-2012

## Projects

### [Ticketsolve](#)

Ticketsolve is a SaaS ticketing solution for theatres, concert venues and sports arenas. It is written in Ruby on Rails with a Flex administration UI. I implemented a large number of functionalities of the site.

### **node-queue**

We developed and deployed a queuing system, written in node.JS designed to handle situations of extreme demand. The system is placed in front of a web application and allows access to a pre-defined number of users. The system has been shown to handle at least 25,000 requests per second.

## Director of Development

Organisation: Max Mile Software House, Florence, Italy

Dates: 2003-2010

I led a small team producing mostly Ruby on Rails applications. I dealt with project management, specification and planning but I was also deeply involved in program development.

## Project examples

### **Pratico**

*Pratico* is a system which coordinates supplementary health insurance. It is currently in use at Coopersalute, which handles 50,000 employees of 170 companies in the food distribution business. Our system receives monthly updates of employee status, calculates insurance coverage, transmits coverage variations to the insurers and processes reimbursement claims. The management interface was written in Ruby on Rails, the claim input system in C++/wxWidgets.

### **Unicoop Firenze ([www.coopfirenze.it](http://www.coopfirenze.it))**

We created the public-facing and administration systems of the web site for Tuscany's biggest supermarket chain: Unicoop Firenze. The site integrates with the desktop publishing system for, and publishes the online version of, the magazine *Informatore*.

## Developer/Project coordinator

Organisation: Space (Culture and Innovation), Prato, Italy

Dates: 2001-2003

## Project examples

### OpenDrama

A proof of concept project, funded by the European Union, which aimed to make lyric opera accessible and interesting to the online user. Alongside System Simulation (London), the University of Glasgow, Europe Online and Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona) and others, my company developed a multimedia player with video, synced to plot visualization, libretto and a mixer, allowing karaoke functionality.

### Archiview

A European project for a web-based system for city archives. It allowed the local public to combine their personal knowledge with the city's data and media to add to an online treasury of information about the city. The system was installed at the Florence city archive. I presented the project at the international conference "CULTURE: from INFORMATION to KNOWLEDGE" in Moscow in 2003.

## Director of programming

Organisation: Softtiter Inc., Florence offices

Dates: 1996-2001

Softtiter produces subtitles in 14 European and 3 Far-eastern languages for DVDs by Sony, Warner, etc. I developed, and coordinated the creation of, a suite of editing, viewing and correcting systems for DVD subtitles. The various components provided spotting (live indication of the timing of subtitles), timing correction (drag and drop on a sound wave plus video), subtitle editing, correctness analysis (comparison of all translations and highlighting of apparent anomalies, based on a per-language rule system), final quality control (simulation of final viewer experience) and static subtitle rendering for production.

## Publications

[Instant Sinatra Starter](#) (PacktPub, 2014)

## Technologies

### Main Current Programming Languages

- Ruby (since 2004)
- Python (since 2003)

- Javascript/ECMAScript (since 1999)
- SQL (since 1995)

## Secondary Programming Languages

- c (since 1994)
- c++ (since 1996)
- Erlang (since 2009)
- Elixir (since 2015)

## Previous

Clojure, Objective-C, Lisp, Assembler

## Frameworks

- Ruby:
  - Ruby on Rails (since 2005)
  - Sinatra (since 2009)
- C++:
  - QT (since 1998)
- Python:
  - Django (since 2011)

## Database

- PostgreSQL (since 1998)
- MySQL (since 2001)
- SQLite (since 2003)

## DevOps

- chef
- vagrant

## Cloud

- Amazon: AWS, EBS, ELB
- Heroku
- RightScale: management, CLI management (right\_stuff)

## Web

- HTML5
- React/Redux
- AngularJS
- CSS/SASS
- Nginx/Apache
- Node.JS
- haproxy

## NoSQL

- redis
- memcached

## Testing

- Ruby and Ruby on Rails: RSpec, Test::Unit, cucumber, factory\_girl
- Python: unittest, mock
- Web: Selenium
- C++: googletest
- CI: Travis CI, TeamCity

## Open Source

I organized the central-Italian [Software Freedom Day](#) on 15/9/2007.  
My projects are hosted on GitHub (see above).