

Mani Nilchiani

Experienced & creative fullstack engineer passionate about creating exceptional digital products and beautifully crafted software systems.

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Experience

IDEO — Software Design Lead, January 2019 - Current, New York, NY

- Closely collaborated with multidisciplinary designers and stakeholders to prototype, test and build well-designed fullstack software solutions.
- Coordinated work streams & priorities on tight timelines across multiple locations and timezones, ensuring high quality and timely software delivery.
- Rapidly prototyped software concepts for quantitative and qualitative user testing.
- Co-developed feature sets with client product & engineering teams. Led knowledge transfer, documentation and hand-off efforts.
- Proposed and developed internal software tools to streamline workflow and knowledge management at IDEO.
- Successfully contributed to IDEO & IDEO.org projects spanning public sector, non-profit and industry consultancy work beyond software development: interaction design, sound design, music composition and design research.

Pioneer Works — Technology Resident, 2018, New York, NY

- Co-designed, Prototyped, built and exhibited an interactive Virtual Reality film titled Dark Patterns which examines a speculative future where privacy is traded as currency.
- Developed a working knowledge of Unity and C# targetting Oculus Rift with no prior experience.
- Worked closely in collaboration with a co-creator and writer, learned and used novel volumetric imaging techniques

Architizer — Technical Lead, July 2017 - July 2018, New York, NY

- Created a detailed proposal for gradual migration of obsolete front-end technology through an RFC process, presented to stakeholders and led its successful planning, execution and roll out.
- Wrote and shipped modular and well-tested isomorphic React code.
- Worked closely with product managers and designers to plan and execute agile sprints.
- Led knowledge sharing and learning initiative for React, empowering the entire engineering team to productively contribute to the front-end.
- Hosted talks by external engineering leaders and local JavaScript meetups in office to promote a dynamic learning culture in the product organization.

Yieldmo — Frontend Engineer, 2015 - 2017, New York NY

- Built, shipped and maintained internal A/B testing, reporting and user management software in close collaboration with product designers, product managers and back-end developers with a focus on exceptional user experience.
- Maintained and contributed to gradual improvement of legacy business software written in Angular.js 1.x, Backbone and CoffeeScript.

Education

MFA Design & Technology
Parsons The New School for Design, New York, NY - 2013

BFA Print Media
Tehran University of Art
Tehran, Iran - 2009

Skills

Proficient in:

Isomorphic React, State management, GraphQL, TDD, Tooling, Immersive development (Data Visualization, Audio, WebGL, WebVR), React Native for iOS and Android. HTML, CSS and related templating engines and preprocessors, JS build tools.

Node.js API development, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Serverless with AWS, Firebase

CI/CD, Linux, Git, NGINX, Native app distribution

Prior exposure to:

Go, C# (Unity), PHP, Python (Django), OpenFrameworks (C++ Creative Coding library), Processing (Java Creative Coding library), Docker, SOLR, Arduino (Hardware prototyping platform)

VeeSee — Co-Founder & Fullstack Developer, 2014 - 2015, New York, NY

— Designed, developed and sold a Node.js app to streamline deal tracking and business valuation for venture capitalists in close collaboration with co-founder.

The Daily Beast — Frontend Engineer, 2013 - 2015, New York NY

— Developed and maintained front-end modules for mobile and desktop News products with a focus on code reusability and maintainability in close collaboration with product designers and back-end engineers.

— Helped re-think the technology roadmap and migration effort from a legacy jQuery-based custom JavaScript framework to React.

Academic Experience

Parsons School of Design — Part-time Faculty, 2014 & 2018, New York, NY

Designed and taught a graduate JavaScript development course focused on:

- Core language features & best practices
- Design patterns, MV* architecture, functional and object oriented paradigms
- UNIX command line basics
- RESTful back-end development with Node.js, Express and MongoDB.
- Deployment

Coordinated and led career orientation for graduating students, organized a diverse panel of alumni across disciplines and industries to support students in their career paths.

Code Nation — Volunteer Teacher, 2014 - 2015

Co-taught a curriculum of web development to a class of 16 students at High School for Global Citizenship, Brooklyn, NY. Curriculum covered: HTML, CSS and JavaScript basics.

New Centre for Research & Practice — Lecturer, 2015, New York, NY

Designed and taught a curriculum titled Internet as Platform, Programming as Medium, focusing on JavaScript for procedural drawing to artist without prior programming experience.

Projects

Disco Tehran — Co-founder & CTO

Disco Tehran is a New York Times-profiled cultural platform, live performance series and dance party featuring music and culture from West Asia, Africa, Latin America & Europe. Toured in North America and Europe. Designed and developed responsive software features including a Live Streaming platform with Node.js RTMP implementation, Next.js, Stripe and Strapi headless CMS.

Tan Haw — Multi instrumentalist, Singer & songwriter

Composing and performing on the setâr, guitar and fretless guitar with Brooklyn-based Iranian psychedelic folk project, Tan Haw

Film Scoring — Composing music for film and videos

Winner of Best Music and Sound Design for My Family Trees, LA Feedback Film Festival, 2020.

Diffy.js — A dependency-free motion detection library for the browser.

Languages

English (Fluent)
Farsi (Native)
French (Intermediate)
Spanish (Intermediate)
Arabic (Basic)

Skills Contd.

Design:

UX/UI Design, Wireframing, User Testing, Adobe Design Suite, Figma

Sound:

Logic Pro, Ableton Live

Other Interests

Machine Learning & creative applications of generative models.