TODD GEHMAN

Software Humanist

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SUMMARY

Creative, seasoned web application software generalist and team/product/project manager attuned to language, design, usability, and the transformative humanist power of internet software. Having settled in New York City after extensive global travel, I'm seeking greater NYC companies who do social good (health, human rights, equality, education) or facilitate human experience and creativity (arts, music, software, travel, productivity).

PROFESSIONAL WORK

Software Consultant at Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting (FAIR)
2015 - Now
http://fair.org

Part time, pro bono software support for this exceptional media watchdog group: MySQL database manipulation, custom PHP development for Wordpress, etc.

Director of Engineering at Experi
2014 - 2016
https://experi.com

For a new travel startup splitting off from our former company Orbridge, lead greenfield development of a universal Rails web application designed to serve the public website, manage intranet and extranet systems for employees and third parties, and auto-generate design-intensive travel documents as PDFs. Hired, tutored, and managed a junior developer.

Director of Engineering at Orbridge
2012 - 2014
http://www.orbridge.com

Operating as the entire tech team on a greenfield intranet & extranet system for this global travel startup, executed all roles from sysadmin to full-stack Rails developer to project/product manager, including much of the UI/UX design. The web application managed group travel trip creation from the standpoint of employees and third parties as well as guest reservations while also integrating with the public CMS website's existing database.

Senior Software Developer at Vittana
2011 - 2012

Taking the reigns on an abandoned Rails codebase and Wordpress blog, operated primarily as a one-man development team for this nonprofit Microfinance startup, handling all technology tasks from sysadmin to CSS. Evangelized design, recruited and hired a designer, and launched site-wide design overhaul. Designed and built intranet and extranet system to handle data administration, metrics reporting, and student/partner information management tasks. Hired and managed three Rails developers through an outsourcing firm until and after hiring an in-house developer.

Interactive Developer at Urban Influence
2010 - 2011
http://www.urbaninfluence.com

Client-based, design-centered web development in PHP, Wordpress, and Drupal. Full-stack web app development with Ruby on Rails.

Software Developer at Robot Co-op
2004 - 2009

Full-stack Ruby on Rails development on our suite of "useful social-networking" sites, most notably 43 Things, one of the earliest and most heavily trafficked Rails sites. Sole developer on Neighborhood Watch, a spam and abuse policing application using automation and user consensus to vet site content.

Web Development Manager at Amazon.com
1998 - 2004
https://www.amazon.com

Serving as a member of Amazon's centralized web development team, launched dozens of customer-facing and internal web products to transition Amazon from book store to much more. Primary responsibilities included building out Amazon's template layer using a proprietary scripting language and acting as lead developer for Amazon's product detail page. Became Lead Web Developer for Amazon's Personalization team, the first decentralized, mission-based "startup" within the broader company. Transitioned from Lead Developer to Web Development Manager, hiring and managing a team of eight developers. Launching dozens of cutting-edge web products, we ushered Amazon into its current model of serving page content that is largely personalized to each user and mostly automated to minimize employee/editorial overhead. Sole project manager and software developer on Amazon's first digital music sampler, a stand-alone web app built with Real/WMP JavaScript APIs. Lead Developer for the Digital Technology group, responsible for the digitization of humanity's published works and handling the purchase and curation of digital consumer goods.

Webmaster at Cellar Homebrew
1994 - 1998

Greenfield development of the online presence and e-commerce store for this mom & pop retail shop purveying brewing and winemaking supplies. Independently created and managed all aspects, from the design to the database. Created the world's first online beer recipe calculator tool, later split off into its own service.

toddgehman.com   **2016 - Now**

The digital hub for my professional and amateur creative projects. Currently getting rebuilt into a Rails 5 public site and API consumed by SPA management tools.

Hopville & Beer Calculus   **1996 - 2013**

Created this popular geeky/social site for amateur and small-scale professional brewers. Beer Calculus (standalone from 1998-2008) was the first-ever online recipe calculation tool for brewers. Hopville leveraged Beer Calculus into a social network centered around the creation, calculation, and sharing of brewing recipes. In 2013 the Hopville brand, database, and software were acquired by Ackmann & Dickenson, makers of competitor site Brewtoad.com.

Major White   **2008 - 2013**

Offered custom, free (and clutter-free) websites to photographers based on their select portfolios using Rails software synced with the Flickr API, served via either siloed subdomain or custom domain.

Todd Gehman Photography   **2008 - 2013**

Photography portfolio website which ran via Flickr's public API and for which the side project Major White was purpose-built.

AMP: A Music Project   **2003 - 2008**

Web-hosted, publicly-viewable, privately-streamable MP3 music database and playlist generator. Before things like iTunes and Spotify existed, people like me had to build our digital jukeboxes all by ourselves.

NaSoAlMo   **2005 - 2008**

Took the reins on managing this annual amateur songwriting and recording challenge and rebuilt the web presence as a Rails site.

Best Social Networking Site Webby Award   **2005**
Awarded to Robot Co-op for 43things.com.

Recruiting Bar-Raiser   **2002 - 2004**
Initiated into Amazon's program rewarding and promoting excellence in interviewing and critiquing candidates. In that role, interviewed Web Developer candidates company-wide daily with absolute veto power.

Just Do It Award   **2000**
Amazon internal award for displaying bias for action.

Photographic Center Northwest   **2005 - 2009**
                                                     Fine Art Photography

Penn State University   **1988 - 1994**
                                                     Integrative Arts

Ada Developers Academy Volunteer Tutor   **2014**
                                     http://adadevelopersacademy.org/

Cascade Bicycle Club Member & Volunteer   **2013 - 2015**
                                     https://www.cascade.org/

East Ballard Community Association Volunteer   **2012 - 2015**
                                     http://eastballard.org

Seattle Works Volunteer   **2010 - 2013**
                                     http://seattleworks.org

Currently/Recently Used

Apache, API Design, AWS, Capistrano, CoffeeScript, Data Modeling, Git / Github, HAML, HTML 5, JavaScript, MySQL, Object-Oriented Programming, Photoshop, PHP, Responsive Design, Rspec, Ruby, Ruby on Rails, SASS, Test-Driven Development (TDD), Vue.js, Wordpress, Zurb Foundation

Lapsed

Angular, Backbone, Berkely DB, C, C++, CSS, Drupal, Flash/ActionScript, HTML/XHTML, jQuery, Mason, Objective-C, Oracle Database, Perforce, Perl, Rackspace Cloud Hosting