# philcstraw@gmail.com

# **Philip Straw**

## Link to Portfolio

Game designer and self-taught software engineer with 14 years industry experience. I am an effective communicator and collaborator with great attention to detail and a drive for tackling ambitious problems. I thrive on delivering goals to a high standard and within challenger constraints. I have been responsible for content design and implementation for multiple industry-leading and award winning AAA games.

Games Shipped Little Big Planet | Little Big Planet 2 & Move Pack | Tearaway
Independent Games Released Linking | Dynoball

Game worked on: Dreams | Man of Medan | Jigsaurus

## **Tools and frameworks**

- C# C++ C++/CLI LUA
- GLSL HLSL
- OpenGL Vulcan
- Unity Unreal Engine 4 Blueprints
- DearImGui Winforms WPF
- Visual Studio RenderDoc
- Github Perforce Source Tree Jira
- 3DSMax Blender

## **Technical Skills**

- · Gameplay design and balancing
- Level design
- Event scripting
- AI behaviour authoring
- Visual scripting
- Cinematic design
- Environmental Art
- Software Engineering
- Performance Analysis and Optimisation
- Debugging
- · Documentation and tutorials

## **Soft Skills**

- · Good communicator
- Team player
- Creative collaborator
- Quick learner
- Proactive
- Multitasking
- · Attention to detail
- · Easy going

## Work History

#### **KytheraAI** AI Developer

Dec 2021 - Present, Unity - C++

- Responsible for the development and management of a plugin that enables Unity's scripting system to interact with Kythera's proprietary C++ AI path finding engine.
- Maintained code in Unity and Kythera to facilitate interoperability between C# and C++.
- Built Unity components and user interfaces that interact with the C++ library.
- Designed and built levels to test and demonstrate Kythera's AI features.
- Optimised debug rendering to achieve real-time frame rates.
- Liaised with clients to address queries, gaining a better understanding of their requirements and constraints in order to help them achieve their goals.
- Collaborating with other engineers to revise and improve implementations.
- Wrote comprehensive documentation and tutorials for the plugin's available features.

## **Personal Projects**

## **C++ Game Engine**

3D Rigidbody physics • Collision detection • Spatial partitioning
Assimp SDK file import and exporting
• Skinned mesh rendering •
Animation motion matching Skeleton retargeting • 2D Rigidbody Physics •
Physically Based Rendering • Deferred shading • Shadow mapping Signed Distance Field rendering Marching Cubes • Jump Flooding • Text rendering • HTC Vive Controller Integration • Input handling • Sound Integration • Custom file format serialization

### **C# Music Player**

Audio playback ● ID3 tag editor ● Asynchronous file loading SQLite

## **Independent Developer**

2019-2021 | Unity-Android

- Worked on 3 mobile games on all aspects of game creation from prototype to completion, including gameplay design, difficulty balancing, art, UI, UX, audio and asset management.
- Wrote shaders and developed custom UI tools to facilitate experimentation and faster iterations times.
- Doing performance optimisations for Android devices.
- Running tests for multiple android devices to ensure maximum compatibility.
- Published 2 of the finished games to the Android play store, and pushing updates post release.
- Google AbMob and in-app purchase integration.

## **Super Massive Games** Contract Level Designer

2018-2019 | Unreal Engine

- Level designer on Super Massive Game's branching narrative game Man of Medan.
- Added motion captured animations, creating cinematic interactions and responsible for overall maintenance for a number of levels.
- Authoring cameras to achieve a cinematic feel that invokes tension, fear and mystery.
- Helped with localisation, bug fixing, network testing and participated in peer reviewed feedback.

## Sony Media Molecule Level Designer

2011 - 2018 | PlayStation 3-4-Vita

- Worked closely with directors to implement levels and gameplay that spanned multiple genres and targeted all age groups across 3 of their published games.
- Responsible for cinematic and tutorial design.
- Collaborated with team members across all disciplines to aid in the creation of customer facing tools for user generated content.
- Conducted user tests and implemented feedback.
- Quality assurance test for gameplay, networking and user generated content tools.

#### **Education**

GCSE O Level Mathematics, English, Economics, Fine Art, Biology

## **Qualifications**

NVQ Level 2 Certificate in Customer Services

Word Processing, Access, PowerPoint, Excel, Equals Level 1

European Computer Driving License Level 1