

# Resume

Simphiwe Sithole

## Personal

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Driver's License: Yes  
Criminal Records: None

## Professional Summary

Experienced Senior QA professional with over 10 years in testing, both in Waterfall and Agile environments. Passionate about technology and User Experience Design (UX), I bring a logical, organized approach to problem-solving, thrive under pressure, and work well both independently and as part of a team. My career spans across various domains, including IT services, banking, and mobile development. A dedicated self-starter, I continuously strive for personal and professional growth, regularly hosting knowledge-sharing sessions like lunch-and-learns. Proven expertise in Test Management, Black Box Testing, Test Strategy, and Agile Methodologies.

## Key Skills

- **Testing & QA:** Black Box Testing, Regression Testing, Exploratory Testing, Sanity Testing, System Integration Testing, Mobile Testing (Android, iOS, Windows, Blackberry)
- **Test Planning & Management:** Test Strategy, Test Case Design, Test Automation, Test Reporting (both verbal and written)
- **Tools & Technologies:** Selenium, Jenkins, Docker, Kubernetes, GIT, Postman, JIRA, Confluence, Grafana, Kibana
- **Languages & Frameworks:** Java, JavaScript, React.js, C#, Python, Ruby, TypeScript, Protractor, Cypress, Cucumber, TestCafe, Xamarin, Android Studio, Xcode, Nightwatch.js
- **Performance Testing:** Locust.io, Artillery.io
- **Agile Methodologies:** Scrum, Kanban, CI/CD practices
- **Soft Skills:** Strong interpersonal skills, Leadership, Knowledge sharing, Stakeholder management

## Professional Experience

### 79 Consulting

**Lead QA - Cassandra CEO** | February 2024 – Present

- Create automated UI test cases for typical user flows using Cypress.
- Maintain tests continuously and update them on GitLab.
- Troubleshoot and resolve errors using CloudWatch and DynamoDB.
- Ensure GitLab pipelines run smoothly and tests pass consistently.
- Maintain and update Confluence for QA best practices.
- Communicate progress and blockers to the CEO.

- Raise risks regarding any testing issues.
- Ensure all team members follow the agreed-upon definitions of done.
- Build and run back-end API tests using Cypress on GitLab.
- Sign off on stories and contribute to story kick-offs with the Product Owner.
- Fully document test results, defects and track resolutions.

#### **Lead QA - Platform45 | July 2020 – January 2024**

- Managed a team of QA engineers across multiple projects.
- Mentored team members on career development and upskilling initiatives.
- Held bi-weekly team meetings to resolve blockers and discuss progress.
- Maintained automated tests on multiple projects using GitHub and Cypress.
- Worked closely with clients on testing strategies and resource management.
- Participated in hiring for QA roles, interviewing candidates.
- Advised on industry best practices for QA.

#### **Dariel (2018 - 2020 January)**

**Position:** Test Lead

**Project:** CCCP/PowerCurve (Absa)

- Managed testing strategies for critical systems, including customer scoring and credit vetting.
- Introduced CI tool (Jenkins) and streamlined test pipeline management.
- Coordinated with stakeholders, leading bi-weekly meetings to prioritize workload and manage resources.
- Led sprint planning, retrospectives, and test alignment with team progress.

#### **Thoughtworks**

##### **Discovery Vitality (2017 - 2018)**

**Position:** Senior QA

- Delivered testing strategies for web and mobile applications in a fast-paced, agile environment.
- Ensured seamless mobile app portability across multiple regions (SA and Japan).
- Co-wrote acceptance criteria and performed exploratory testing of web and mobile apps.

##### **Momentum (2014 - 2017)**

**Position:** Senior QA

- Worked on API testing and integration with other systems using Postman and artillery for performance testing.
- Guided the client team in Agile practices and test strategy implementations.

##### **Old Mutual (2017)**

**Position:** Lead QA

- Developed testing strategies for a web app and chatbot, ensuring reliability and performance through CI/CD and monitoring tools (Grafana, Kibana).

- Led test automation efforts for mobile (Android, iOS) and web apps.
- Standard Bank (2014 - 2017)**

**Position: QA**

- Contributed to a major web offering revamp for competitive edge in internet banking.
- Led testing for RCP, current accounts, and overdrafts, focusing on functional and performance testing.

**BLG (Better Life Group)**

**Position: Lead QA**

- Delivered automated testing for web and mobile apps using Xamarin (iOS, Android) and Nightwatch.js for the web.
- Introduced performance testing with Locust.io.

**NUMSA**

**Position: Lead QA**

- Led QA efforts for a digital solution handling union membership fees, implementing automated and manual testing strategies.

**Interfile (2003 - 2014)**

**Position: Software Tester, UIF Technical Support Team Leader**

- Led the testing team on various projects, including uFiling, Matrix HR, and multiple IRE systems.
- Managed SQL-based reporting and defect management with Team Foundation Server.
- Coached team members and facilitated knowledge sharing.

**Education & Certifications**

- **Certificate in Introduction to SQL** (2006)
- **Certificate in SQL Server 2008**
- **Certificate in Fundamentals of Testing** (Time Quantum, 2010)
- **Introduction to SAP Authorizations**

**On-The-Job Training & Tools**

- **Languages:** Java, JavaScript, C#, CoffeeScript, Ruby, Python, TypeScript
- **Test Automation Tools:** Selenium, TestCafe, Cucumber, Protractor, Jasmine, Cypress, Xamarin, Nightwatch.js
- **CI/CD Tools:** Jenkins, GO CD, Team Foundation Server
- **Cloud/Infrastructure:** AWS (VPC/EC2), Terraform, Docker, Kubernetes
- **Databases:** MySQL, MongoDB, Oracle, PostgreSQL
- **Monitoring Tools:** Grafana, Kibana, Pingdom, Logstash, Elasticsearch

**Additional Responsibilities**

- **Knowledge Sharing:** Hosted numerous lunch-and-learns and meet-ups on various topics (e.g., Performance Testing, BA and QA collaboration)
- **Agile Advocacy:** Coached teams in Agile methodologies and played a key role in process improvements.

## References

- **Interfile:** Dianne Mc Turk (Test Manager), 011 361 4000
- **Interfile:** Tina Kanniah (Team Lead), 079 712 9866
- **Standard Bank:** Pam Pillay (IBR Product Owner), 084 680 3059