Oliver Thurley

o.thrly@gmail.com   +447792723236   thrly.com   GitHub   LinkedIn

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Full-stack Software Developer • *JavaScript • Python • React • Node.js*

I am looking to change career following a number of years working as an academic lecturer in music technology. I am driven to learn new things and develop my skills, and programming has been a huge part of that.

I bring a creative and analytical mindset to my work, with experience in research, communication, and problem-solving. I am happiest when working with others to make new things.

Technical Skills

- **Languages:** JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, HTML, CSS
- **Frameworks & Libraries:** React, Node.js, Express, p5.js
- **Databases & APIs:** RESTful APIs, PostgreSQL, OpenAPI/Swagger
- **Tools:** GitHub, npm, VS Code, neoVim, Markdown, LaTeX, AI
- **Testing & Deployment:** Unit Testing, Render, Docker, Supabase, GitHub Actions
- **Other Skills:** Technical writing, research, agile working, mentoring, public speaking

I have contributed to the open-source project p5.js, a creative-coding JavaScript library by the Processing Foundation.

Professional Experience

Lecturer, University of Leeds (2019 – present)

- Delivered lectures and workshops to technical and creative audiences on topics including JavaScript, p5.js, and Max/MSP. This includes my module "Computational Art" which introduces non-coders to JavaScript, using it to generate algorithmic art, music, and poetry as well as other digital arts.
- Designed new module restructure and part of the core development team for a new Music Technology programme, which recruited >40% of our School's undergraduate intake in 2024-25.
- Supervised software-based student projects involving procedural systems and interactive installations, including multi-channel audio diffusion systems, and music education apps.
- Produced technical documentation and live including tutorials to support independent learning and development, including a successful YouTube-partnered channel teaching the node-based programming language, Max/MSP.
- My tutored students' average grade is a high 2:1. (2023–25)

Teaching Fellow, University of Leeds (2016 – 2019)

- Provision of technical teaching across BA, MA music technology and BSc electronic engineering programmes.
- Supported student development with structured project feedback, tutorials and supervision.

Personal Projects

Grant Scribe (React, TypeScript, Express, OpenAI API)

SPA that generates tailored research proposals from user input. Built with React (TypeScript), Node.js/Express backend, and RESTful calls to the OpenAI API. Deployed via Render. Demonstrates component-based architecture, async data fetching, error handling.

clouddrift (Node.js, CLI Tool)

Published npm module that generates animated ASCII clouds using simplex noise. Demonstrates proficiency in package publishing and noise algorithms.

Pen Plotter Art (p5.js, Raspberry Pi, Arduino)

Interactive generative drawing using p5.js to design visuals, render gcode, and control a 3D-printed pen plotter. Combines creative coding, hardware integration, and microcontroller programming.

Harmonic Synthesizer (p5.sound, JavaScript)

Browser-based synthesizer for demonstrating harmonic series relationships through real-time audio generation and UI controls. Used in educational settings for interactive music teaching.

Tempest (ZMK Firmware, Hardware)

Designed and built a wireless 36-key split keyboard running custom ZMK firmware. Focused on PCB layout, embedded firmware, and configuration.

Education

- **PhD** - Fully funded by AHRC. Awarded without corrections and Board of Examiners Prize. University of Leeds, *2012–2016*
- **MA** - Computer Music & Music Technology (Distinction) - University of Leeds, *2010–2011*
- **BA(Hons)** - Music Production (First Class) - Leeds College of Music, *2007–2010*

Certifications & Awards

- GitHub Foundations certification - GitHub
- Full-Stack Engineer certification - Codecademy
- Kranichsteiner Musikpreis - Internationales Musikinstitut Darmstadt, Germany, 2018
- Artist Residency, Junge Akademie scholarship - Berlin Akademie der Kunst, Germany, 2022

Contact

Please get in touch via `o.thrly@gmail.com` and find me on GitHub or LinkedIn.