Thom Allen

Freelance web developer based in London

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Summary

I'm a front-end web developer passionate about building **effective, user-friendly web experiences**. Currently focusing on building modern web app components.

History

(More examples and info for much of the below available on my portfolio site along with various side projects & open-source code on GitHub.)

Freelance *Jan 2016–present & 2009–2012*

Agency: **ASOS.com / ASOS Creates** | Clients: **PayPal, Hostelworld**
Built microsites for ASOS' brand partnerships with PayPal and Hostelworld. Used Gulp scripts to build from Pug templates into an array of static files to target various devices & locales.

Agency: **Dunnhumby** | Client: **Tesco**
Provided QA for Tesco Groceries' XML-based banner ads along with workflow consultancy. Prototyped approvals-oriented web app with Knockout.js and responsive ad components with React.

Agency: **StirPR** | Client: **Felix**
Developed responsive HTML emails from provided designs.

Agency: **Antidote** | Client: **Travel Republic**
As part of a two developer team I created banner ads with HTML+JS for Travel Republic's summer campaign for a wide variety of destinations and formats. I also created a simple ad viewer to help the agency team quickly review changes & help meet the deadline.

Agency: **Antidote** | Client: **Libratone & Sigma**
Created a custom player module for YouTube 360° videos with JavaScript and YouTube's JS API and a landing page to a strict deadline. Assisted with refactoring colleague's first-draft JS into a revealing module pattern and added BEM and 7-1 code conventions, along with writing docs for the handover to back-end devs.

Skills & experience

Front-end fundamentals
HTML5, CSS3, Sass, PostCSS, JavaScript to ES6+

Libraries & frameworks
jQuery, React, Vue.js. Bootstrap, Foundation. Electron. GSAP, Anime.js

App state management
Redux, MobX, Flux

Build tools
Webpack, Gulp, Grunt

Testing & assertion libs
Mocha, Jest, Tape. Expect, Enzyme

Templating
EJS, Twig, Pug, Mustache, etc

CMS & back-end
Craft, ExpressionEngine, WordPress, ProcessWire, Grav, Jekyll, etc. Node.js basics

Version control
Git (via CLI/terminal)

Creativity to make you happy
Designed & developed this responsive Grav-based [blog site](.).

Various clients *2009–12*
Designing, building, hosting and maintaining client sites for small businesses.

Open-source & side projects *2016–present*

[react-simple-range](.)
Released this React component as an NPM package in Sep 2016, gaining nearly a thousand downloads in the first month. Uses semantic versioning and Travis CI for automated releases & package publishing when updates are committed to the master branch. Developed in ES6 and compiled to ES5 with Babel + Webpack.

[countdown-app](.)
A countdown timer app built with React and Electron, featuring web and desktop builds (and a truly original name...)

Part-time *2013–2015*

Phosphor Art
Part-time Developer
Built responsive promos and landing pages alongside maintaining, updating and improving existing WordPress site. Created HTML email campaigns & email builder, newsletter signup forms etc. Prototyped a responsive online store page with ExpressionEngine & PayPal's API.

Stuff & Sense
Part-time Developer & consultant
Designed & built the Stuff & Sense company site with a responsive front-end and an ExpressionEngine-based back-end. Provided consultancy services to various clients.

Other work

2011
Facilities assistant at Google, Buckingham Palace Rd
2008
Office administrator at Eaux de Vie Ltd, Harcourt St (now Marussia Beverages)

About

I'm an efficient, versatile and self-motivated front-end developer. I've designed and built numerous websites from the ground up, so my wide range of experience allows me an insight into the bigger picture of building sites and web apps.

I'm enjoying using React for the view layer of web apps thanks to its composable, reusable component model, strong performance, fast development and rich ecosystem.

I'm familiar with numerous patterns, code conventions and style guides, eg:
- Linting JS & CSS with ESLint & stylelint.
- Common JS design patterns
- Separation of concerns eg. presentational components vs business logic & data stores in JS frameworks.
- Using SemVer with Conventional Commits, etc

Tooling-wise I code with GitHub's Atom editor and use the command line for Git version control, launching apps and running NPM scripts. I typically use Webpack or Gulp for web apps or static front-end / templates, respectively.

Education

The Ravensbourne School, 10 GCSEs
Self-taught developer

References available on request