

Chris Vincent

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Objective

I am a self-motivated autodidactic engineer with over 9 years of independent experience writing software in a variety of development environments, including 6 years of independent contracting and 3 years of corporate experience. I have seen and worked with massive database schemas with even more massive data loads, and web APIs with volume in the millions of requests per day. I write code because I consider it to be an art form, taking great pride in elegant yet efficient solutions, and I am seeking employment with opportunities to grow by applying my skills to interesting problem domains within an organizational culture that fosters innovation.

Experience

Serious Business

Jun '09 - Feb '10

<http://www.seriousbusiness.com/>

Built out and maintained the company's internal multi-tiered metrics and analytics infrastructure, which automates the capturing and summarization of data pertaining to the company's highly popular social games. I was responsible for both back-end architecture and front-end UI and ad-hoc reports. Metrics included measuring the effectiveness of viral messages with regard to viral growth and user engagement, tracking of user retention, split testing of new features, demographics data, and multidimensional analysis conducted along these lines. Redundancy, failover, and test-driven development were employed to ensure the reliability of a system which is depended upon by each of the company's user-facing products. The hybrid approach taken included both specific modeling of problem domains as well as more generic OLAP-style data warehousing and reporting techniques. The resulting business intelligence gathered by the metrics infrastructure was used in optimization of game features, messaging, and marketing for acquisition, engagement, and retention of users.

Experience (cont'd)

Context Optional

Mar '08 - Present

<http://www.contextoptional.com/>

Designed, developed, and deployed high-volume Facebook and MySpace applications written in Ruby on Rails for many high-profile clients such as Microsoft, the NCAA, the Los Angeles Times, and ABSOLUT. This included back-end design and development, as well as cross-browser front-end design and interactivity using CSS and JavaScript including Ajax-powered UIs. I also made vast improvements to the company's core platform, providing reusable social networking API utilities which included distributed queues, throttling, and other niceties.

I was also involved in the company's first foray into iPhone development in collaboration with an iPhone game publisher; our proprietary statistics tracking software was adapted a high-volume mobile environment handling millions of daily requests via an iPhone library and a web API for receiving the statistical data and providing visual reports. I was involved in development of both the iPhone client library and the web API. I was also key in leading the team to adopt test-driven development for this and other projects.

Independent Facebook Launches

Dec '07 - Jan '08

Independently designed, developed, and deployed three Facebook applications in Ruby on Rails for the purpose of getting to know the Platform. *Bands & Music* allowed artists to upload their tracks to artist profiles and other users to become fans—this paradigm was later adapted by Facebook's Pages feature. Later launched *Before I Die*, an application for tracking, sharing, and discussing pre-mortem life goals. This was followed by *Reviews*, which pulled data from Amazon Web Services for users to post ratings and reviews about these products to their profiles.

Experience (cont'd)

Go.edu

Oct '06 - Mar '08

<http://goedu.com/>

Designed and developed user experience and functionality in rewriting the company's FoxPro-based K-12 school administration software using a PHP-powered web interface following the SaaS business model. My responsibilities included adapting the FoxPro interface to the web with CSS and JavaScript, developing new features, and maintaining database migration scripts. GoEdustar sees wide deployment throughout the United States, handling the schedules, health records, grade sheets, and more for over 150 public school districts.

Robertsons' Portraiture

May '05 - Present

<http://www.robertsonphoto.com/>

Designed, developed, deployed, and still maintaining a web portfolio for award-winning professional photographer Doug Robertson. Dynamic photo galleries and a direct-mail brochure opt-in form were developed in PHP.

Independent Web Launches

Sep '04 - Dec '05

Designed, developed, and deployed two PHP-based web applications on custom frameworks for the purpose of generating revenue from CPM and CPC advertising. *BehindTheLyrics* is a community site based around music and song lyrics; it includes member registration with per-user blogs and discussion forums, all behind a custom-built fragment caching system. Also integrated with Amazon Web Services to provide links to music and merchandise related to the artists being discussed. Later launched *QuotableQuotes*, a taggable archive of famous quotations gathered from around the web and built upon many of the same code libraries developed in the creation of *BehindTheLyrics*.

Experience (cont'd)

Hostbaby

<http://www.hostbaby.com/>

Feb '04 - May '04

Designed two CSS web templates, *Shafted* and *Sleek Tech*, for Derek Sivers's Hostbaby service, a sister site to CDBaby which provides a web presence platform for independent musicians. The templates, which are among the most popular on the site, each included 3-5 variations on the main theme which were added as layout options for artists utilizing the service.

CSS Zen Garden Official Design

Dec '03

[http://www.csszengarden.com/?](http://www.csszengarden.com/?cssfile=072/072.css)

[cssfile=072/072.css](http://www.csszengarden.com/?cssfile=072/072.css)

The CSS Zen Garden web design exposition, curated by professional web designer Dave Shea, has been acclaimed for its simple way of showing the power of using CSS-based layouts over table-based layouts and helping to lead the charge into that brave new world when CSS layouts were still being pioneered. Thousands of entries were received and more are being sent to this day, yet only a couple hundred were accepted as official designs. Among those, I designed *Outburst*, which has been repeatedly adapted to other sites by other professionals with my permission.

Technology

Software

Mac OS X, Windows Vista, various *nix systems (most recently Solaris), TextMate, Eclipse, Xcode, Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office Suite, Subversion, Capistrano, Apache Server, Mongrel, MySQL, MSSQL

Languages

C/C++, Objective C/C++, PHP, Java, Ruby, Python, SQL

Web Technologies

XML, (X)HTML, CSS, XSLT, XPath, ECMAScript (including cross-browser JavaScript with libraries such as jQuery, and ActionScript), Ajax

Skills

Object-oriented programming, application architecture, design patterns, database design, sensibility in user experience and usability principles

References

Alex Le

*Chief Technical Officer at Serious Business
(949) 232-6409*

Colin McCloskey

*Senior Software Engineer at Context Optional
(908) 693-3027*

Guarav Misra

*Senior Software Engineer at Go.edu
(316) 213-0485*

Praise

“Chris has very clear strengths—he champions TDD and doing things ‘the right way.’ He has embraced the time management skills that others are struggling with and juggles multiple projects on his task list. He is responsive to clients and both engaged and excited about what he’s working on. He doesn’t let challenging situations stress him out.”

- Scott Kleper, CTO, Context Optional

“Also, Chris Vincent did an awesome job on the project...It was really helpful having him in status calls with the client and he was always quick to respond!”

- Lan Phan, McCann Worldgroup