



Christopher Rault

Web/UI Designer, Front-end Dev & Entrepreneur

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Summary

Designer and Front End Developer with 20+ years of experience creating highly performant, accessible, and responsive websites. Skilled in HTML, CSS, JS and Vue. Passionate about the jamstack/headless space.

Experience

Freelancing @ SmokeyFro Jul 2023 - Present

Back to working on client & personal projects.

Co-founder @ EdenHub Jun 2020 - June 2023

Co-founded an ngo focussed on food security.

- Setup of technical infrastructure.
- Built the project website using Gridsome & Cockpit.
- Launched a community forum & chat server.
- Built an mvp for a multi-vendor marketplace.

Front-end Designer @ WineFolly Dec 2018 - Jun 2019

I was contracted to rebuild the popular wine blog, but later hired to work full-time on the project, alongside the award winning author, Madeline Puckette.

- Overhauled the site using Beans and AMP.
- Added a searchable index of grape and wine pages.
- Developed a shortcode preset builder with live preview.
- Built a suite of highly customizable Gutenberg blocks.
- Setup a comprehensive style guide with technical docs.
- Ongoing performance optimization and AB/Testing.
- Created landing pages for a number of marketing initiatives.

Skills

- Web / UI Design
- Front-end Development
- Theme Development
- Wireframing & Prototyping
- Performance Optimization
- Technical Writing

Interests

Jamstack, Headless API's & Commerce, DXP, Open Source, Personalisation, Public Speaking

Tools

HTML, CSS, JS, Vue, Markdown, REST API's, Tailwind, Nuxt, Ghost, Directus, Lighthouse, Pingdom, Vercel, Cloudflare, Figma, Github, Storybook, Paystack, Airtable

Education

Advanced Web Design

University of Cape Town

Jan 2001 - June 2002

National Senior Certificate

Die Built Highschool

Jan 1995 - Dec 1999

* Plus many *online courses / books.*

Experience (continued)

Co-founder & CTO @ Web Monkeys Apr 2007 – Dec 2018

Apart from co-running the business, my key responsibilities included theme development, managing a small team of developers, overseeing our technical support & documentation.

- Created 30+ commercial templates.
- Page ranked 7 on Google and 30k on Alexa.
- 30k customers across the globe, peaked at \$20k monthly revenue.
- \$3k monthly revenue through our favicon ad section, which ran on auto-pilot.
- Managed a remote team of 7 across multiple continents.
- Worked with two developers to create the Morph framework, where we abstracted all the common functionality across templates into a core framework, introduced the concept of child-themes, an admin component to manage layouts, fonts, colours and custom code.

Partner @ Nomad Studios Aug 2005 – Apr 2007

Boutique agency providing web design services to companies in the real-estate sector. Apart from agency sites, we built two For-Sale-By-Owner portals, one in the UK and one in Bulgaria.

Partner @ NuVu Trading Jul 2003 – Jul 2005

Online shop drop-shipping label clothing to eBay traders. While profitable, we ended up shutting it down as it was too hard to manage while travelling.

Technical Sales Consultant @ RPC Data Feb 2001 – Jun 2003

Recruited to a six month boot-camp covering networking, hardware & Oracles suite of products. Was later hired full-time as a technical sales consultant.

- Product lead for Oracles Forms and Reports, 9i Application Server & Portal.
- Assisting the sales team with technical demos, presentations & product info.
- Responsible for maintaining the companies website & internal portal.

Training Camp Manager @ Phinda Game Reserve Jan 2000 - Jan 2001

Responsible for the candidates, camp security, procurement, maintenance & bookkeeping.

References

Madeline Puckette

Founder WineFolly.com

Previous Employer

John Coonen

Founder CMS Expo

Conference Organizer

Leon Wilson

CEO DB Dynamics

Existing Client

Brandon McDonald

CEO RPC Data

Previous Employer

Thierry Muller

Engineer, Google

Former Business Partner

David Carter

Owner, Liquasil

Existing Client

Lorcan Caddick

Manager, FKB

Existing Client

Dylan Colman

Owner, DGG

Existing Client