

CHRISTOPHER MEARS

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OBJECTIVE

An experienced Information Architect and User Experience Designer with skills in user testing and UX within an AGILE environment. Ability to work with teams that include technical, creative and client-facing personnel along with other stakeholders to create an overall user experience and architectural direction.

SKILLS

Skill	Years Experience	Self Rating (1-5)
IA/UX deliverables	2	5
User Testing/Research	2	4
Balsamiq/Axure/Catalyst	2	5
Adobe Suite (6-CS4)	8	4.5
XHTML / CSS / JS	5	5

EXPERIENCE

Adgistics LTD – London, UK

09/2008 – Present

User Experience Architect

Adgistics is a complete service agency, offering “Brand Centres” for large global blue-chip clients such as Vodafone, Network Rail and Ford to manage their marketing assets. As the User Experience Architect, I was involved in the complete UX life cycle of their projects from the initial information architecture to UI component design, CSS/XHTML coding and user experience design and testing. This role also involved management and UX direction and support of a small team of developers.

Responsibilities:

- Deriving the information architecture through the use of wireframing and clickable prototyping from the initial client requirements and user testing research and techniques
- Ratification of business and user needs and requirements
- Working with the designer to create usable and testable UI components
- Working with the product owners and stakeholders to derive personas for use in scenarios and user journeys, and translating these into appropriate UX deliverables such as flow diagrams.
- Working in an AGILE environment & running the daily front-end SCRUM meetings
- Management and guidance of a team of front-end developers and a designer to ensure the overall user experience vision was maintained

MyKindaPlace.com (British Sky Broadcasting / BSkyB) – London, UK

06/2007-03/2008

Front End Developer

As the sole Front-end developer in the web team I was responsible for hand coding all websites using standards compliant XHTML/CSS. I was frequently asked to provide guidance to the design team in what they could and could not achieve whilst keeping the websites accessible to all kinds of users including those with disabilities. This role also involved me ensuring a consistent user experience across the company's various projects.

Responsibilities:

- CSS 2.0 / XHTML 4.0 coding of all websites ensuring compatibility and accessibility with IE5.5+, Safari, Firefox and Opera browsers on PC and Mac platforms
- Frequent undertaking of large scale projects including www.rivals.net which gets over 1 million hits per day, and other BSkyB sites as part of their corporate website redesign
- Hand coding and sending of e-mail newsletters, ensuring compatibility with a wide range of clients

LBi (Formerly Wheel) – London, UK

06/2006 – 06/2007

Web Publisher

As a key part of the on-site web team for www.marksandspencer.com, I was responsible for the creative and CSS/HTML hand coding for the web pages. Other duties included coding and creating regular email marketing newsletters which go out to the large (100,000+) Marks and Spencer database of customers and creating affiliate banners to promote the company's marketing campaigns.

Responsibilities:

- To continually strive to add value to the M&S E-commerce team through development of skills and standards of service provided
- To establish strong, healthy, honest and appropriate relationships with Producer teams and Clients they interact with
- Timely and accurate reporting of time spent against projects as undertaken to Producers/Clients responsible for tracking and management of work
- Flexibility to use personal skills as dictated by the client/company requirements

ABC Computer Training – Bromley, UK

02/2005 – 06/2006

IT Technician

EDUCATION

University Of Kent – Canterbury, UK

09/2001 – 06/2004

- Achieved a BSc Hons In Computer Science
- Created an interactive learning CD-ROM for children, which was featured in the Whitstable Times

Ravens Wood School – Bromley, UK

09/1994 – 07/2001

- Ten GCSE's at grade A-C and three A-Levels at grade A-C

OTHER

In 2008 I travelled on my own around Australia and New Zealand, primarily on a photography trip. During this time I also tried many new things such as SCUBA diving, paragliding, caving and white water rafting. I enjoyed engaging with a wide variety of people of different nationalities and cultures including locals and fellow travellers.

INTERESTS

Photography, Ju-jitsu, DJing, diving, keeping fit, travelling and producing music.

REFERENCES

Available On Request.

ONLINE PORTFOLIO

Please see www.christophermears.co.uk for examples of my work.