Daniel Magliola

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Current Location: Putney, London, UK
Languages: English, Spanish

Highlights

- Regular tech conference speaker - *Rubyconf, Railsconf, RubyFuza, PromCon*.
- Maintainer of open-source gem with millions of downloads - *prometheus-client*.
- Technical co-founder of 3 startups - *Translator's Corner, HearABlog, Watu*.
- Ally and instructor for those underrepresented in tech - *Code First:Girls, Women who Code, Rails Girls*.
- Published technical reviewer - *Multiplayer Game Development with HTML5* by Packt.
- Judge of Algorithms in Microsoft's Imagine Cup international finals for 2006, 2007 & 2008.

Strengths

- Independent, self-motivated, results oriented, and used to learning new skills quickly.
- Excellent communication skills - over a decade of successfully working remotely.
- Outstanding productivity - track record of meeting impossible deadlines.
- Obsessed over code quality, legibility and maintainability.
- Big-picture vision during analysis, forecasting future needs and delivering to that end.
- Strong focus on performance and database access patterns, enabling future growth.
- Ample experience in the development of applications for production environments.
- Strong knowledge of web security and secure code (SQL injection, XSS, CSRF, etc).

Work Experience

April 2021 - Present
Senior Staff Engineer at Indeed Flex
Formerly known as Syft, Indeed Flex is a market-leading flexible recruitment platform.

Technologies applied include: Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, Sidekiq, Redis, Heroku, Datadog.

December 2017 - March 2021
Senior Software Engineer at GoCardless
GoCardless is one of the leading bank-to-bank payment providers worldwide.

Daily activities are focused on our partner ecosystem as part of the API team and internal developer tooling mostly around observability and metrics.

Independently onboarded and improved a large, complex, legacy application purchased by GoCardless. This resulted in it being runnable in production without constant attention, with effective observability and alerting, and aligned with engineering best practices.

Rewrote the open-source Prometheus Ruby client, fixing a problem that had been highly reported for over 4 years that prevented it being used in most production environments. As a result, I became the new maintainer of the gem.

Regularly mentor colleagues and ramp up new joiners. This has resulted in their promotions, very fast uptake of the large codebase, and highly positive feedback both from them and those they worked with.

Technologies applied include: Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, PHP, MySQL, Go, Redis, Elastic Search, Prometheus.

Jan 2017 - December 2017

Lead Developer at Watu (Contractor)

Watu was a small startup that developed a multi-tenant SaaS management tool for staffing agencies.

Asked by the other co-founders to return to Watu (see below) for a one-year project: modernizing their legacy codebase to follow recent engineering best practices in preparation for team and product growth.

Owned all elements of the project which included increasing test coverage, adding Continuous Integration, and refactoring a large part of the codebase to follow better Object Oriented design. This led to reduced coupling and complexity, making it accessible to new team members.

Technologies applied include: Ruby on Rails, jQuery, PostgreSQL, SOLR Search Engine, Puppet and Capistrano for deployment, TestUnit and Capybara for automated browser testing.

November 2015 - December 2016

Senior Software Engineer at Appear Here (appearhere.co.uk)

AppearHere is a marketplace that matches pop-up shops with short-term real estate.
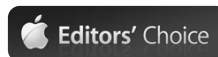
Led a small, fast-moving team that was responsible for the whole codebase. This included the customer-facing website, the custom internal CRM for agents to facilitate the lettings, the data processing pipeline for the business intelligence unit, and DevOps / Continuous Integration.

Worked on the entire stack, from the EC2 servers, to the Ruby on Rails backend, to the React frontend to bring features to life.

Technologies applied include: Ruby on Rails v4.2, PostgreSQL, Redis, Elastic Search, AWS S3, AWS EC2, AWS RDS, Amazon Redshift, AirBnb's Airflow, Bootstrap, Foundation, React.

November 2014 - November 2015

Lead Backend Architect and Developer at MSTY Editors' Choice

Formed part of the initial team at MSTY, a startup that developed a music messaging app. In August 2015, MSTY was featured as **Apple Editor's Choice worldwide**.

Single-handedly designed, architected and coded the entire Backend infrastructure, with an obssessive focus on reliability, performance and scalability.

After the initial development phase, I worked extensively on performance, through stress tests and profiling, reaching a sustained throughput high enough to serve 4 million daily active users, with only a single medium-sized PostgreSQL instance, and a response time in production consistently under 20ms (p95).

Technologies applied include: Ruby on Rails v4.2, PostgreSQL, Redis, Elastic Search, Heroku, AWS S3, AWS EC2.

December 2013 - November 2014

Lead Ruby on Rails and JavaScript Developer at Gallant Capital Markets

Worked as a contractor for a global leader in online trading specializing in Forex, developing an internal management tool used to keep track of all of Gallant's clients, their finances and their trading.

I took basic requirements from the CTO, did the whole analysis and developed significant functionality through to completion and deployment in production. Also worked extensively on performance, reducing batch process execution from hours to under a minute, and enormously reducing CPU load on the trading servers.

April 2012 - December 2013

Senior Ruby on Rails and JavaScript Developer at Watu

Co-founded Watu, a four-person startup that developed a complete multi-tenant SaaS management tool.

Based on an existing architecture created by my fellow technical co-founder, I created most of the features from end to end working with the CTO, CEO and Designer on UX, analysis and implementation.

The result was a successful product with loyal customers across the UK, Australia, Canada and the USA.

April 2005 - April 2012
Full Time Freelance Programmer - Under the business name "Crystal Gears"

Worked as a freelancer with clients from across the USA and Europe, on solutions ranging from desktop applications to websites and online games. To accommodate growth, hired and coached an additional developer.

Reference Projects:

- **FriendShopper**: Interactive, real-time social shopping with friends. Has over 15,000 lines of object-oriented JavaScript code and a custom long-polling HTTP multi-threaded Chat Server written from scratch.
- **MoverTrends**: Sells mailing lists of New Movers around a location in the US. Handles fast geographic queries in a Database with 20 million records.
- **GigPay**: Escrow system for bands and other performers to make secure transactions. Full rewrite of an original codebase made by a team in India, which had taken 1 year of work, didn't quite work and was full of security bugs. The whole rewrite in ASP.Net, from scratch, took only one month.

2006, 2007 & 2008
Judge of Algorithms in Microsoft's Imagine Cup competition

The Imagine Cup is a programmer's competition sponsored by Microsoft, where students have to solve complex algorithmic optimization problems. In 2006-2008, I developed the infrastructure code for the competitors to work on and test their entries, and acted as one of 3 judges of the world's brightest CS students in the Worldwide Finals that took place in India, Korea and France, respectively.

References

"Daniel is a rare beast, understanding the big picture, technically and commercially, whilst being able to identify and define the minuscule detail that will make the wider vision achievable. Equally adept at designing features and writing complex code, he works at a pace unrivalled. Add to that a great sense of humour and deep knowledge on the weird and the wonderful, he was a great colleague and is now a good friend."

Julian Johnson - Founder and CEO, Watu
About my work at Watu, a startup selling a SaaS management tool for staffing agencies.

"As a financial solution provider we outsource a great deal of our development work. Our relationship with Daniel Magliola is without a doubt the best outsourcing experience we have ever had.

Daniel, unlike other providers, will take the time to review and analyse each project with us, often pointing out issues and considerations that would have cost us a lot more had they come up during the development. He is dedicated to meeting his deadlines and makes himself available at all hours to support and manage any unexpected problem that arise. I would recommend Daniel to any company in search of a reliable, long term software development partner."

Adam Grandt - CTO, Gallant Capital Markets
About the Forex Account Management Software custom-made for them.