John Calvin Roberts

Senior Software Engineer
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Work Experiences

10/2024 - (now)

Mirage (fka Captions) - Senior Software Engineer
- Full-stack product engineering with Typescript, Python, and lots of Large Language Models

04/2023 - 10/2024

AlpacaML (acquired by Mirage in 2024) - Senior Software Engineer
- Full-stack startup development using Typescript, React, Node JS, and Python
- Lead developer for Alpaca's Editor, built using advanced graphics tech such as Three.js, Fabric, and shaders
- Built subscriptions and billing infrastructure, taking Alpaca from zero revenue to positive cash flow
- Mentored junior teammates on topics such as Kubernetes, Postgres, and Typescript

08/2022 - 04/2023

Uplight - Senior Software Engineer
- Full-stack developer on the billing team, using Python, Typescript and React Native.
- Leveraged knowledge of Kubernetes and Google Cloud Platform to decrease cloud costs for a major production Django application.
- Created a gRPC layer on top of an existing back-end service managing over 200k smart home devices during company-wide hackathon.

10/2021 - 08/2022

Italic - Software Engineer
- Lead back-end developer on a team of 6 on the marketplace team, in charge of refactoring a critical hot path to use event-driven architecture with Go, AWS Lambda and SQS, processing more than 20k orders in a day. Our refactor greatly reduced order creation errors and improved data integrity.
- In first 3 months, worked closely with product & design on an overhaul of the front-end Checkout experience using React, Next.js, Tailwind, and Apollo GraphQL, resulting in high praise from company leadership.
- Went above and beyond the role of software engineer -- solved a long-standing authentication bug by designing a pattern for better read consistency from Postgres, reducing login failure by 20%; used load testing and profiling tools such as k6 to scale high-traffic pages to 10k req/second.

10/2018 - 10/2021

Wiredcraft - Full Stack Developer
- Built a custom localized-for-China ecommerce middleware system utilizing Bull Queue and Redis to process over 100k orders per day for a major retailer.
- Served as code owner for a handful of multi-tenant microservices using Node JS, Nest, Typescript, and Couchbase.
- Designed a monorepo-driven strategy for rapid development of React dashboards for client projects, greatly reducing the amount of front-end developer capacity needed per client project.
- Mentored junior front-end developers, fostered a culture of positive and constructive code review among peers.

04/2017 - 10/2018

Heyshop - Full Stack Developer

04/2018 - 01/2020

Le Wagon - Bootcamp Instructor (part-time)

02/2016 - 02/2017

FuguMobile - Project Manager

Education

02/2017 - 04/2017

Le Wagon - *Shanghai, China*
Full Stack Development

08/2013 - 12/2015

Donghua University - *Shanghai, China*
Master of Economics, International Trade

06/2010 - 08/2010

Middlebury College - *Middlebury, Vermont, USA*
Chinese Language

09/2008 - 06/2012

Lewis & Clark College - *Portland, Oregon, USA*
Bachelor of Arts and Sciences, East Asian Studies

Personal Projects

- **pprmnt.** - An MP3 encoder made with WebAssembly
- **cryp** - Easy-to-use file encryption tool built on Svelte
- **Craglog** - A training tool for rock climbers to track their fitness. React front end + Nest JS back end.
- **guu** - A small browser logging tool. Better than debug.
- **SSSRPBP** - Super Simple Stupid React Prototyping Boilerplate

Spoken Languages

- English - *Native*
- Mandarin Chinese - *Advanced (HSK 6)*
- Spanish - *Elementary*

Interests

Electronic music production, rock climbing & bouldering, trail running, bonsai cultivation 🎍