

Monica Messaggi Kaya

Senior UX Designer | Software Engineer

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Summary

My background is in Software Engineering, but passion for better user experiences lead my career towards User Experience (UX) lately. My aim is to bridge the gap between business goals and customer desires to create delightful experiences.

Attention to details and focus on the projects that I've worked with, helped me to build relations with project owners and users, facilitating many times the communications, and the delivery of the requirements. I am a fast-learner and I'm always willing to seek training, and participating in events to fulfill requirements and to progress in my career.

Whenever possible, I apply UX fundamentals, simple design and use of frameworks to create beautiful and functional products, choosing appropriate tools as necessary. Example of most used tools/technologies:

- UX and prototyping: Axure, Balsamiq Mockups, Invision App, UXPin, Omnigraffe.
- Design: Adobe Design Suite: Photoshop, Illustrator, Adobe XD, In Design. Sketch App.
- Structure and style: HTML5, CSS3, Front-end frameworks (Foundation Zurb, Bootstrap, Semantic UI).
- Functionality: Javascript, Node.js, D3.js, Git, Bower, Grunt, Python, Apache Solr, PHP, MySQL.
- Content Management Systems: Wordpress and Drupal.

Experience

Senior UX Designer at Incuna Ltd

August 2016 - May 2017

Leading the User Experience at Incuna, responsible for conceiving and conducting user research, interviews, and surveys; translating them into sitemaps, wireframes and prototypes; updating and defining UX for websites, mobile web and apps. Communicating the overall functionality with design, front-end and development teams to ensure a great user experience. I've created and expanded on the company's UX process defining a series of terms and tools for its better understanding.

Keywords: Sitemaps, wireframes, user journeys, prototypes, user-centered design, Balsamiq, Axure, Omnigraffe, and Adobe XD.

eCommerce / Web Software Engineer

May 2016 - August 2016 (3 months)

Working with the latest web technologies building new functionality and liaising with other groups to ensure the Elsevier framework is maintained in a flexible and reliable way. Helped develop a few lambda-functions in AWS to communicate with the e-commerce website and wrote majority of code in CoffeeScript.

Keywords: HTML5, JavaScript, CSS, PHP, Adaptive UI, Git, AWS, Elastic, Google Analytics & Tag Manager.

Front-end/Javascript Developer: Building the Digital Manuscripts Toolkit at University of Oxford

January 2015 - April 2016 (1 year 3 months)

Working on a digital toolkit to enable users to engage with digitised manuscripts. Leading the development of the user interface(s) required for the project to ensure the tools will meet the user's needs - <http://dmt.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>.

- Develop (code, test, and implement) a web interface for the tools and services being developed in the project, to a specification accepted by the wider community of developers
- Work with the rest of the Shared Canvas and IIF teams ensure interoperability and compatibility with existing specifications and APIs
- Represent the project at relevant conferences/hackathons/workshops and to contribute appropriately to academic publications
- Produce technical documentation specific to the project, provide support and training to project participants and/or users

Started the development creating the wireframes for the tool, understanding IIF, and programming its the basic features in JavaScript.

Keywords: UX/UI, JavaScript, HTML5, CSS3, IIF, Shared Canvas.

DAMS Software Engineer at University of Oxford

March 2009 - January 2015 (5 years 10 months)

Member of the core Digital Asset Management System (DAMS) team working with the system architect to develop the DAMS architecture.

Worked with Python and Solr engine in majority of projects, used Django, Blacklight (<http://projectblacklight.org/>) and Ruby briefly in few other projects and internal tools. Disseminated use of front-end frameworks for rapid development such as Bootstrap and Foundation. Worked on Wordpress templating and integrating to an existing website's look and feel.

- Worked on the Blockbooks (Image Library) project importing digitised materials from a legacy environment and developing a new online presentation of the content, today at <http://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk> (first design can still be seen, for limited time at <http://www.odl.ox.ac.uk/digitalimagelibrary/index.html>);
- Building a Research Information Infrastructure – integrating user profiles and project information into repositories to provide richer contextual information supporting the development of tools for research communities.

- Designed the <http://vocab.ox.ac.uk> website to provide controlled vocabularies in use by the University of Oxford's semantic web community.
- Worked on the Bodleian Incunable catalogue on a new online presentation, with full-text search in Solr <http://incunables.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>. Created uncluttered design for the "research@Oxford" proof of concept.
- Maps & Music Card Catalogue and the "What's the Score at Bodleian?" - <http://scores.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/> - was launched (May 2012) and made the news on Wired Magazine and The New York Times (<https://artsbeat.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/05/02/bodleian-announces-crowd-sourced-victorian-music-project/>).
- Serica - <http://serica.bodleian.ox.ac.uk> - Chinese catalogue
- Broadside Ballads - <http://ballads.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>
- Finished the Shakespeare FirstFolio - <http://firstfolio.bodleian.ox.ac.uk> (redesign and structure) and was featured on the University of Oxford main page (<http://goo.gl/84eq2p>).
- NEW EMLO redesign (2015): <http://emlo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>

Keywords: Web design & development, HTML5, CSS3, jQuery, repositories, RDF, semantic web, Solr, Elastic Search, UI/ UX.

Web Developer (P/T) at Brunel University

January 2012 - October 2012 (9 months)

TEL-Map is a Coordination and Support Action funded by the European Commission under the Technology- Enhanced Learning programme. It focuses on exploratory/Roadmapping activities for fundamentally new forms of learning to support the adoption of those new forms, via awareness building and knowledge management on the results of EU RTD projects in TEL and socio-economic evaluations in education.

Responsible to continue web development of portal in Drupal for TEL-map project. Liaison with project partners to identify opportunities and requirements for web software development, support content inclusion/ management and structure for portal. Collaboration with WP6 partners, advising Brunel team on technical matters.

Worked mostly on Drupal site and templating, creating different modules and extending Drupal libraries to cater the project.

Keywords: Drupal, Plone, HTML, CSS.

Multimedia Designer/Programmer at CAE Oxford Aviation Academy (at OAAMedia department)

July 2005 - February 2009 (3 years 7 months)

Multimedia Designer/Programmer, development of computer based training software for pilots and general public creating graphics and interactive content for the CBT lessons. Project Leader coordinating 2-3 people on development of graphics for CBTs. Responsible for the department webshop maintenance, developed the main company website (<http://www.oxfordaviation.net>) and was part of the committee of the new web presence for the future website. Responsible for the re-skinning of the www.oaamedia.com website, OAA website and the kick-start of the Parc Aviation website. Creation of products adverts for magazines and newspapers and general programming. Participated of exhibitions of products developed and answered public queries during the events.

Keywords: Adobe Creative Suite software, Actionscript, HTML, XML, RSS, CSS, Javascript, ASP, PHP, MySQL, Ajax, server installation (Apache).

Education

University of Oxford

MSc, Software Engineering, 2006 - 2013

University of Oxford - Said Business School

Building a Business, Building a Business 2010/11, 2010 - 2011

Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina

Bachelor, Computer Science, 1994 - 2002

View more information and contact Monica on LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/in/monicamessaggi>

