

Andrew Smith

Presentation Technical Architect at AKQA

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Career Goals

I live and breathe the web. If I'm not coding or writing about web technologies, I'm reading and learning about what I could use on my next project. I am always striving to better and improve what is possible in a web experience.

I want to be involved in making the web a better place; helping users and developers to get the most out of the technology available, and by collaborating with other like-minded people.

Recent Achievements

- **Car Manufacturer Web Site Lead Developer**
Lead developer on a new responsive, playful front-end experience for a large car manufacturer. The site has a major emphasis on "fun", as well as a car configurator, which is a separate AngularJS application.
- **Facebook Shipyard**
Worked at Facebook's San Jose campus as lead front-end developer on an intensive two-week project to deliver a new social integration experience for a popular sports brand.
- **AKQA Anoraks**
Organised monthly meet ups from June 2012 - March 2013 for the digital agency technology community, consisting of three talks from internal and external speakers, food and refreshments.
- **"Secrets of the Browser Developer Tools"**
Website showing the hidden parts of the Browser Developer Tools, accompanied with speaking at several London meet ups and the main cover article in .NET Magazine #246 Oct 2013. <http://devtoolsecrets.com>
- **Heineken Star Player**
Real-time gaming experience that allows football (soccer) fans to play along with the game anticipating the action before it happens. Lead Front End Developer for a team of web developers and Flash developers; and responsible for the JavaScript adapter layer and Facebook connections. The project has won multiple awards, including Cannes Gold Lion and Revolution's Award for Innovation.
- **Github Open Source Projects**
Created a number of open source projects including a responsive images plugin for Grunt and the "When Can I Use" widget to allow technical writers to include the latest, up to date information about support for the technology they are using directly in to their blog posts. 24hr project "MusicMatch.IO" won 2 categories at the Hacked.IO hackathon.

Skills

- HTML5
- SASS, LESS, CSS3
- JavaScript, jQuery
- Jasmine, QUnit
- Grunt
- Facebook JS API, Twitter API
- AngularJS
- Some NodeJS
- Some ASP.NET MVC (Razor), C#, MS SQL
- Some PHP, MySQL
- Photoshop

Employment

During the course of my employment I've worked with clients such as Nissan, Heineken, Ubisoft, MINI, Nike, Diageo, Unilever, Disney, Sainsbury's, Barclays and Coca Cola.

Presentation Technical Architect, AKQA

(Feb 2011 - Present)

- Lead developer on high-risk projects.
- Managed and mentored other developers including holding code reviews; pair programming and forming base projects (boilerplates).
- Investigate and prototype the latest web technologies and libraries to decide which are viable options for our clients.
- Created a web base project with common libraries and Grunt tasks to ensure an optimal development workflow and environments.
- Built social applications using the Facebook JS SDK.
- Built developer tools to bridge gaps in work in progress third party APIs.
- Liaised with third parties to ensure requirements and expectations between development teams were met.
- Ran monthly external meet up events.
- Ran internal web developer roundtable sessions where we discuss the latest technology news and techniques.
- Spoke at external events, and wrote for publications and blogs.

Technical Delivery Manager, AKQA

(Feb 2009 - Oct 2010)

- Managed the tech team (Software Engineers, Web Developers, QA).
- Ran scrum.
- Worked with the Project Manager to ensure successful technical delivery.
- Liaised with teams and third parties in Amsterdam, Canada and the US to deliver a unified product.

Senior Web Developer, AKQA

(May 2007 - Feb 2011)

- Developed standards-compliant cross browser websites.
- Worked as lead front-end developer on a variety of different projects ranging in development time from a few weeks to 6 months.
- Improved accessibility and SEO practices for our clients.
- Launched internal training sessions where developers could share their experiences with other developers.

Web Developer, YouAtWork, Barclays

(Sept 2005 - May 2007)

- Produced a new flexible benefits shopping system, creating the whole experience - the look and feel, the JavaScript/AJAX front end and .NET back end.

Web Developer, Head Software International

(Sept 2003 - Aug 2005)

- Developed dynamic, database-driven website applications with a heavy reliance on JavaScript.
- Represented the company at trade shows, such as the Online Information Exhibition & CILIP.

Speaking

I speak internally at AKQA on a regular basis and have spoken at external meetups around London. I have previously spoken at Selenium Conf 2011.

I will be speaking at jQuery UK 2014 on "The Perfect Workflow".

Please see <http://lanyrd.com/andismitth> for more information.

Education

I attend a number of conferences and meet ups such as jQuery UK and Full Frontal; as well as local meet ups such as LondonJS, London Web Standards and London Node User Group on a semi-regular basis.

- **Computer Science (Software Engineering)**
University of Essex - Sept 2000 - Jul 2003
2:2 with Honours. Modules included Object Orientated Programming, Software Engineering and Data Visualisation.
- **A-C in 3 A-Levels**
Reigate College - Sept 1998 - June 2000
In Computing (C), Business Studies (B) and English (C).
- **A-C in 9 GCSEs**
Coulson High School - Sept 1993 - July 1998
Including English (B), Mathematics (B), Art (B), D&T Graphics (A) and British Industrial Society (C).