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# Denis Defreyne

[də'ni] • pronouns: he/him

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Berlin, Germany

I am a **software engineer** with extensive experience in backend and frontend development. I am comfortable with infrastructure, security, and reliability topics. I excel at technical writing and have a solid sense of visual design and UX.

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## Experience

### STAFF SOFTWARE ENGINEER

AUG 2022 –  
PRESENT,  
BERLIN

- Created tooling to automate onboarding across all products of all teams
- Architected and prototyped a cross-project access management (authorization) solution
- Guided teams to adopt state-of-the-art software delivery practices (CI/CD), significantly speeding up releases and reducing overhead to a minimum
- Mentored junior coworkers to bring them to a more senior level

### SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Shopify

JUL 2021 –  
JUN 2022,  
BERLIN

- Prototyped a recommender system for suggested products
- Converted a legacy PHP platform into a Ruby on Rails one

### SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Pitch

FEB 2021 –  
JUN 2021,  
BERLIN

- Sped up build pipelines and increased delivery resilience by improving developer tooling

### SOFTWARE ENGINEER, CO-FOUNDER

closecontact

JUL 2020 –  
DEC 2021,  
BERLIN

- Led the technical design and implementation of a privacy-first contact-sharing solution for Berlin nightclubs

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## Core skills

### NATURAL LANGUAGES

English: *fluent*

Dutch: *fluent*

German: *conversational*

### PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

*expert:* Ruby, HTML, CSS

*advanced:* JavaScript, TypeScript, Go

*intermediate:* Java, Python, SQL

*beginner:* Rust, Clojure

### TECHNOLOGIES

*advanced:* React, Ruby on Rails

*intermediate:* PostgreSQL, MySQL

*beginner:* Tableau, Node.js

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## Community involvement

### NANOC

Creator and maintainer of Nanoc, a powerful static-site generator, used at GitHub, at GitLab, at PayPal, for Prometheus, at FOSDEM, for Atom, at Disney, and in many more places.

### SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

BCG Digital Ventures

JUL 2019 –  
DEC 2020,  
BERLIN

- Defined the technical direction for the internal tools team, striking a balance between business needs and long-term maintenance
- Migrated a legacy system onto a modern frontend stack (React and TypeScript), boosting development speed and quality
- Brought consistency to the design system, and improved accessibility

### SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Movinga

NOV 2017 –  
JUN 2019,  
BERLIN

- Brought consistency to the company's infrastructure using Terraform and Ansible, slashing infrastructure operating costs by 40–50%
- Introduced monitoring and alerting using Prometheus and Grafana
- Tightened security of applications, services, processes, and infrastructure

### SOFTWARE ENGINEER

SoundCloud

JUN 2013 –  
NOV 2017,  
BERLIN

- Built infrastructure for the On SoundCloud partner program, including a flexible logic engine to handle frequently-changing business needs
- Ran workshops around incident response
- Set up a central repository for organization-wide technical documentation
- Improved and expanded the customer support's tooling and processes

### SOFTWARE ENGINEER

MediaGeniX NG

SEP 2010 –  
MAY 2013,  
BRUSSELS

- Expanded the broadcasting solution for VIMN subsidiaries such as MTV, Comedy Central and Nickelodeon for divisions in Europe and Southeast Asia

### SOFTWARE DEVELOPER INTERN

(various)

2007 –  
2009

- At Cyan Worlds: modernized web sites, improved SEO, set up translation workflows across seven languages
- At Netlog, optimized an abuse-detection system for social networks
- At dotProjects, developed a web-based machine translation system for large documents

### OPEN-SOURCE PROJECTS

Creator and maintainer of several open-source projects, including cri, ddmemoize, and ddmetrics.

### MENTORING

I have mentored a diverse group of people as part of CoderDojo, RailsGirls, and SoundCloud's internship programs.

### PUBLIC SPEAKING

I regularly give talks, of which *Code as data* (2018), *How to memoize* (2018), and *Let's write a parser* (2016) are my personal favorites.

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## Education

### MASTER OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

(Ghent University)

Dissertation: Design of a recommendation system for offering services on social-network sites

### BACHELOR OF INFORMATICS

(Ghent University)