

# Anil Bawa-Cavia

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Software Developer

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## Phone

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## Email

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[anil@quotesque.net](mailto:anil@quotesque.net)

## Web

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<http://www.quotesque.net>

## Nationality

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British

## Date of Birth

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21.06.81

## Technical Summary

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I'm an experienced web developer with strong AGILE principles, object-oriented programming expertise and a proven ability to lead teams. I value testing, design patterns and clear communication. I have a track record of innovation in social software projects.

Commercial/academic experience, in years, is marked in parentheses.

### Languages

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Ruby(2), XML(7), PHP(7), Actionscript 2/3(7), SQL(7), Javascript(7), C/C++(1), Java(1), Python(1), Prolog(1), Haskell(1), Perl(1), Bash(7), XHTML/CSS (7)

### Technologies

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Adobe Flash(7), MySQL(6), PostgreSQL(5), SVN(6), Thrift(1), Git(1), Hadoop/MapReduce(1), Various PHP MVC frameworks(5), Max/MSP(3), Ruby on Rails(2), Web CMS/Publishing Frameworks(7), Testing frameworks (6)

### Operating Systems

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UNIX (Mac OS X) (7), Linux(2), Windows(7)

# Education

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## Higher Education: Masters Degree: 2004-2005

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Awarded a Masters in Computing at Imperial College of Science & Technology, Kensington, London. Finished in September 2005. Completed a dissertation on Social Software.

## Higher Education: Bachelors Degree: 1999-2002

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Awarded a first year scholarship from the UCL Chemical Engineering department

A 2:1 honours attained in 'Chemical Engineering' (Beng) at University College London (Dept. of Chem. Eng., UCL, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7JE), Summer 2002

## Higher Education: A-Levels: 1998-1999

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A-levels sat in Spanish (A), Pure Mathematics (A), Applied Mathematics (A) and Chemistry (A)

## Schooling: 1993-1997

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Glyn ADT Technology Secondary School, The Kingsway, Ewell, Surrey.  
GCSE's: 4 X A\*, 4 X A, 2 X B

# Work Experience

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## 06/2006-08/2009 Lead Web Developer, Last.fm Ltd.

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As part of the startup team at the online social music network, Last.fm, I helped to redefine how people share, consume and experience music around the world. As lead web developer I designed and built web technology such as personalised internet radio, a vast music information resource ('the imdb of music'), advanced user-generated content tools, the most comprehensive social music API on the web and a social platform with millions of members. Key responsibilities at Last.fm included:

- Accountable for a team delivering robust web software. Promoting working processes such as code review, continuous integration, high-quality OO design and test-driven development. Mentoring younger team members. Encouraging innovation through processes and working environment. Helping to hire and find talented people. Prime contact point for cross-team development.
- Web application framework development for high-scalability, high-availability web sites. Production of MVC framework used by all of Last.fm's web applications, an ORM with distributed cache support, testing and documentation frameworks and other toolkits used by the team as a whole.
- Leader in implementation of AGILE working methodologies. Scrum-master and implementor of Scrum within the Last.fm Webteam. Release manager accountable for iterative deployment of web software.
- Lead developer for all advertising technology at Last.fm, including our own in-house adserver. Lead technical contact point for the Last.fm advertising team. Technical challenges included processing large amounts of data on a daily basis using a distributed datastore (Hadoop/MapReduce).

- Lead public API developer. Software designer of overall Last.fm API framework. Lead API developer for all commercial partnerships as well as in-house mobile projects (Android/iPhone) and Last.fm desktop software. Designer of token-based authentication systems, permissions-based radio APIs and other business critical APIs. Communicating and co-ordinating with all our partners as well as the wider development community.
- Lead web radio and video client developer using Actionscript 2/3. Development of complex, robust Flash applications with 10k+ concurrent users.

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#### **09/2005-06/2006 Software Developer, M3 Media Services Ltd.**

Working on enterprise software as a core member of a small team. Working in an AGILE development environment with daily exposure to application/testing frameworks in PHP 5, source control tools, and distributed deployment.

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#### **09/2002-09/2005 Freelance Web development**

Creating portals/applications for a range of businesses. Working on commission, to tight deadlines. Solid client-facing skills and project pitching ability developed. Expertise in a range of web technologies developed. Ability to see projects through from initiation to completion.

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#### **04/2005- 07/2005 LHOG Portal**

Building a web portal for the London Housing Organisations Group. Designing a custom-made CMS to incorporate roles-based access, flexible content management, user management and templates. Deployed in PHP/MySQL.

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#### **09/2004- 04/2005 Flash Application Development for Barclays Bank**

Building a web-based power monitoring system for Barclays Bank, in co-operation with web developers at Tela Ltd.. A business critical application working with a distributed system of sensors on the client's site. Deployed in Macromedia Flash/PHP/MySQL.

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#### **08/03 – 01/04 Software Development at BT Ventures**

Developing for SecureWorld (a BT Ventures project). Commercial experience with web technologies such as XML/PHP 4.\*/MySQL/Java/Macromedia Flash. Large-scale project experience in a multi-million pound venture. Fast-paced, high-pressure environment, working to tight deadlines.

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## **Personal Skills**

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### **Broad programming skills**

Familiarity with contemporary software design paradigms, MVC frameworks, highly scalable code, application development in distributed systems, caching strategies, principles of networks, web services technology, CMS software for the web, artificial intelligence techniques, advertising technology, test-driven development, interface usability, web standards, database design, data visualization.

### **Rigorous design ethics**

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An ability to formulate and articulate design concepts and apply them equally to both software architectures and interface design challenges. I speak most forms of UML and discuss software using a rich vocabulary of design patterns.

### **Creative pragmatism**

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I use creativity to decompose complex business and design problems into software iterations that deliver value at each step. I create processes to manage response to changing requirements and unfolding situations, reducing risk and maintaining a smooth development rhythm throughout.

### **Strong development principles**

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I subscribe to the 4 core principles that describe AGILE. I am committed to OOP practices and have a high regard for unit & integration testing. All my principles are evident in my day-to-day work. I build software to last, with sustainability a core principle. I understand that maintenance is the largest cost associated with software.

### **Communication skills**

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I became a pivotal technical figure in the growth of Last.fm, partly due to my ability to communicate with a range of non-technical people both internal and external to our company. Describing our services, documenting our APIs, creating manuals for our applications, debugging problems with remote teams and co-ordinating distributed technical efforts were core to my work.

### **Multi-disciplinary interests**

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I look to the fields of architecture, the visual arts, sound art, urbanism, philosophy and social theory as input for my software work. I build software out of a deep conviction for progressive technologies. I produce, release and exhibit sound art, using my own software-based instruments. I have a deep interest in software art and publishing, and have been active in all these areas over the years.

## **References**

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- Felix Miller, CEO Last.fm Ltd., Karen House, 1-11 Baches Street, London N1 6DL

Web: <http://www.last.fm>

- Dr William Knottenbelt, Academic member of staff, 180 Queen's Gate, South Kensington Campus, Imperial College London, SW7 2AZ

Web: <http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/~wjk/>

**Please contact me for further details regarding my references, including contact information.**