

# Jamie Talbot

Senior Software Engineer and Technical Architect

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Phone:	+1 (415) 795 0189

**Objective:** To solve interesting challenges and develop excellent products at an ambitious, technology-driven company that has passion to match my own.

**Education:** **MSc, Advanced Computer Science.** University of Manchester, England. (2004).

**BSc, Computer Science, First Class Honours.** University of Manchester, England (2003).

**Interests:** Innovation, Application Development, API Design, Scalability, Testing, Social Networking, Travel.

**Eligibility:** British Citizen. Current H1B Visa, Eligible for Transfer.

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- Strong track record of pro-active application leadership and development from inception to delivery.
  - Passionate innovator, excelling at agile development practices and rapid release cycles.
  - Highly skilled in a wide range of technologies, including **PHP, JavaScript, SQL, NoSQL, REST** and **CSS**.
  - Experienced in the design and querying of large scale datasets, in the order of billions of rows.
  - Pragmatic developer, with a focus on outcomes rather than ideology.
  - Dynamic, adaptable and adventurous, having lived in multiple countries.
  - Technical leader, able and happy to mentor engineers in best practices and develop their skills.
  - Clear communicator, equally comfortable reporting to C-Level executives or engineering colleagues.
  - Strong believer in Open Source, with personal code freely available at <http://github.com/majelbstoat>

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## Experience

November 2011 to present

**Senior Software Engineer / Principal Engineer**

*StumbleUpon, San Francisco, California*

StumbleUpon is a content discovery engine that filters the best of the Web for users, based on their interests. Initially hired as a Senior Software Engineer, I was promoted to Principal Engineer within a year.

- Designed and developed a **Facebook** integration library which supported **Open Graph** publishing with offline queuing and retries using **Gearman**; friend finding; login, registration and sharing flows.
- Led a team of three for our Hack Week winning project **StumbleSense**, which was later productised as **Elicited Preferences**, analysing user signals stored in **Redis** to surface suggested actions non-intrusively.
- Designed and built email creation tools, providing an interface that allowed marketing colleagues to modify, preview and test email designs without further engineering input. Designed and oversaw tools to support segmentation of users by demographic and activity, allowing micro-targeting.
- Designed and implemented the **RESTful** backend architecture of StumbleUpon's 2012 redesign, simplifying front-end interactions through consistency, using View Models and tokens to control access and visibility. Promoted **REST-first** thinking throughout the organisation and mentored colleagues on its strengths and weaknesses.
- Wrote significant amounts of **Mocking** and **Unit Testing** code and gave engineers a simple way to implement **TDD** by generating boilerplate, adapted from a personal open source project, **Drumstick**.
- Took an active role in championing StumbleUpon publicly, through interviews and print, including on Quora (republished in Forbes), the Wall Street Journal and The Daily Muse (republished in Mashable).
- I am currently involved in the product design, development and implementation of a prototype product to disrupt StumbleUpon and stimulate a conversation about wider product direction.

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References are available on request and a number of recommendations may be found on LinkedIn.

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January 2011 to November 2011 **Independent Researcher / World Traveller**

*South East Asia, The Middle East, Europe, South America, United States*

While travelling the world, I researched a number of interesting technologies and participated in support forums such as Stack Overflow.

- Researched NoSQL technologies, especially **CouchDB** and **Riak**, **Redis** and **HBase**, using Amazon EC2.
- Investigated novel uses of **jQuery**, **HTML 5** and **CSS3**, and graphing algorithms in **Erlang** and **Python**.
- Took thousands of terrible photos in dozens of fantastic locations.

July 2006 to January 2011

**Senior Software Engineer / Internal Solutions Architect**

*Brennan Software Development, Brisbane, Australia*

Brennan IT is a rapidly growing IT company with one of the largest privately held IP networks in Australia.

- Designed and developed from scratch an application in **PHP** that manages the network of one of Australia's largest corporate ISPs, including a monitoring system that accumulated billions data points.
- Led a small team in the development and maintenance of all internal systems, reporting directly to C-level executives, using technologies including **PHP** and **C#**. Consistently praised for project success.
- Planned and executed integration and synchronisation strategies of applications using **SOAP** and **REST**.

March 2004 to March 2006

**English Teacher**

*Nova Group, Gifu, Japan*

Nova is a large ESL school and hires outgoing native speakers to teach conversational English to all ages.

## Education

2002 to 2004

**MSc Advanced Computer Science**

*University of Manchester, Manchester, England*

1999 to 2002

**BSc Computer Science**

**Phillips Engineering Prize**

*University of Manchester, Manchester, England*

**First Class Honours**

**2003**

The University of Manchester is regularly included in the top Computer Science programs in England, and in the top 50 worldwide. It has an excellent international reputation for research and counts Alan Turing amongst its alumni.

The Phillips Engineering Prize is awarded annually to the best final year BSc project amongst students taking the Engineering specialisation. The award was made for an investigation into collaboration in virtual environments, and contributed to the awarding of an MSc scholarship through the EPSRC.

## Leisure

Travel, Reading, Snowboarding, Programming Puzzles, Climbing, Japanese and Blogging, amongst others.

I am currently researching **Protocol Buffers**, **MVVM** Architectures, URL Canonicalisation, **Haskell** and **Node.js**.