Nicola Vece

Web Developer

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Full-stack web developer with a long background in digital product design and front-end implementation, now focused on Craft CMS and modern frontend tooling. I build accessible, performance-minded sites with clean content models and maintainable Twig templates (Craft CMS 5, Tailwind, Vite). I'm early in Craft CMS specifically, but I bring years of CMS-driven delivery from WordPress, so the learning curve is mostly Craft-specific patterns and conventions rather than fundamentals. Used to remote-first, mostly async collaboration and full ownership from 15 years of freelancing. Looking for a junior–mid role in Berlin where I can contribute immediately on Craft/front-end work and keep growing backend depth.

Development stack

- CMS / templating: Craft CMS 5, Twig, WordPress
- Frontend: JavaScript (ES6+), TypeScript, HTML5, CSS3/Sass, Tailwind, React, Angular
- Backend: Node.js, Express, Python, Django, REST APIs
- Databases: PostgreSQL, SQLite (via ORM), MongoDB/Mongoose
- Testing: Jest, Puppeteer, Cucumber (E2E)
- Tools: Git, GitHub, npm, Vite/Parcel

Also worked with (project exposure)

- Render, AWS Lambda, Google APIs, Firebase, React Native / Expo

Legacy experience

- jQuery, PHP, Bootstrap

Strengths

- Responsive UI and component-based front-end implementation
- Acts as a bridge between design and engineering, thanks to UX-aware development and clean design-to-dev handoff
- Reliable delivery: learn fast, own problems, ship production-ready work
- Accessibility-minded implementation (semantic HTML, keyboard/focus, ARIA when needed)
- Strong self-management and async communication from years of remote freelance work

Selected Projects

Outring - Craft CMS editorial/content platform

GitHub: https://github.com/nicovece/outring
Live website: https://www.outring.org

- Solo end-to-end build (concept, content architecture, Twig templates, TypeScript interactivity, deployment).
- Matrix editorial blocks and relationships between Experiences, Places (Structure), and Themes (Categories) for browsing.
- Implemented URL-based filtering and migrated fields from Dropdown fields to Categories mid-project (data migration, query/template refactor).
- TypeScript components for interactivity (before/after slider, filters, navigation, theme toggle) GSAP scroll animations; accessibility baseline (skip link, focus behaviour, ARIA where needed).
- Guest Entries form integration for story submissions (form handling, validation).
- Deployed on Fortrabbit via GitHub App; push to "production" branch triggers deployment.

Developer portfolio - Craft CMS 5

GitHub: https://github.com/nicovece/cf-portfolio-craft
Live website: https://www.nicovece.dev

- Craft CMS 5 portfolio with Matrix-based case studies (reusable content blocks).
- Implemented a modular Twig template architecture (modules for sections, partials for Matrix rendering, explicit variable passing).
- Query optimisation via eager loading; reusable content via Global Sets; light interactivity/animation with GSAP.
- Deployed on Fortrabbit via GitHub App with a production branch triggering deploy.

Nomalyze - Django recipes analyser

GitHub: *https://github.com/nicovece/cf-recipe-app*

- Solo full-stack project using Django + PostgreSQL (Tailwind UI).
- Difficulty scoring and basic analytics with Pandas/Matplotlib.

Flicktionary - Movie database (REST API + React & Angular clients)

GitHub: *https://github.com/nicovece/flicktionary*

- Node/Express REST API with MongoDB/Mongoose and JWT authentication.
- React + Angular SPA clients consuming the same API (browse/search, detail views, favourites).
- Built to compare framework patterns and improve confidence switching stacks.

Professional Experience

05/2010 – Present

Freelance Front-End & WordPress Developer, Digital Product Designer (self-employed)

Berlin, Germany · Remote for international clients · Co-founder & partner at WordPressChef studio
Key clients: Salonbookingsystem OÜ (EE), Beaver Lab S.r.l. (IT), Tomobikidesign (IT), various SMEs.

- Designed and built marketing websites, booking tools and small e-commerce solutions for SMEs using WordPress/PHP, custom themes and plugin configurations, so non-technical clients could manage content and run their businesses online.
- Acted as front-end lead and UX/UI partner for a commercial salon-booking plugin used by thousands of WordPress sites, refining flows, layouts and CSS/JS to make daily tasks faster for salon owners while keeping backwards compatibility.
- Pushed WordPress beyond standard blog/CMS use by modelling custom data, extending plugins and tailoring admin workflows, turning it into lightweight booking systems, online catalogues and simple web apps without needing fully bespoke platforms.
- Owned end-to-end delivery in remote setups: scoping, timelines, implementation, and ongoing maintenance (including WordPress updates and content-driven iterations).

01/2004 - 05/2010

Graphic Designer, Web Department Manager - Partner

Iknstudio. Ariano Irpino, Italy

- Progressed from trainee to partner, leading a small team delivering websites and digital campaigns, managing client communication and timelines, and building strong layout skills.

- Equal partner setup with shared decision-making, responsibility, and equal pay (good preparation for a cooperative environment).

Education

01/2025 - 11/2025 (Completed)

Full-Stack Web Development Program - CareerFoundry

Remote

- Project-based online program covering React, Angular, Node.js/Express, Python/Django, REST APIs, testing (Jest, Cucumber, Puppeteer), relational and NoSQL databases, and deployment workflows.
- Built several full-stack projects end-to-end, including a Django recipes app, a React/Angular movie client and a Node/Express REST API, with a focus on modern Git workflows and production deployment.

09/1996 - 07/2001

School of Architecture - Not graduated

University of Naples Federico II. Naples, Italy

Languages

- Italian - Native
- English - C1/C2
- German - A2 (learning)