

# Gareth James

I am an optimistic, caring and creative individual who loves a challenge and works methodically and efficiently to see any task through. I am a fast learner with an eye for detail who works well both self-motivated and under instruction.

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## Employment

October 2007 – Present

Self Employed

Over the last few years I have been pouring my energies into freakyleaf.co.uk – the front end to my creative efforts. This has included sound engineering, producing, editing, mixing, arranging, scoring, web design, graphic design and tuition. I have taught piano and music theory to many students aged between 8 and 55 and currently give one to one software studio tuition ( Cubase / Nuendo / Wavelab ).

My roles over the last few years have included work with:

- Solid Silver Productions ( June 2009 ) as live sound engineer / consultant for a string of gigs with the Upbeat Beatles
- Devine Hypnotherapy ( August 2008 – August 2009 ) as web designer and graphic designer for a series of CDs
- Parc Computers ( November 2008 ) as computer technician, repairing broken computers
- Sublime Productions ( late 2007 ) as studio engineer and audio editor for various projects
- SoundARC Recording Studios ( January 2002 – Present ) as house sound engineer / producer and web / graphic designer
- Various bands who I have designed artwork for

Most recently I have spent 3 months working with a company dealing in Search Engine Optimisation and website promotion. I was responsible for over 500 domain names and installed and maintained over thirty WordPress blogs dealing with a vast selection of subjects. Many of the sites needed keyword-rich copy which I assisted in the creation of and I was also responsible for continually vetting, editing and posting articles. Through working with this company I have gained an extreme in-depth knowledge of cPanel, MySQL databases and general back-end tasks such as creating and managing add-on domains and email accounts. I consider myself extremely proficient navigating around the WordPress user interface and feel at home custom editing blogs and working with third party plugins to suit the needs of each site. I have also learned a great deal about general website promotion and how to manipulate the resources available on the internet (article directories, directory listings and web 2.0 properties to name a few) to push sites higher up the search rankings.

January 2006 – August 2007

Dangerously Brian Productions

I worked with a small production company who design and produce DVD greetings cards as musical director / producer. I got given a musical idea and a loose direction as to where to take it, then recorded and produced the final version ( including several variations - full mix / instrumental mix / orchestral mix etc ). I have also produced the company's website using Adobe Dreamweaver and Flash.

August 2005

FUNKification

I worked as live sound engineer for function band FUNKification. This involved travelling to functions, setting both the PA and lighting rig up and ensuring that both the musicians and audience had the best sound possible.

April 2005 – July 2005

Protocol Professional

For the 2004 / 2005 year at Bedford College I lectured as part of the Rock School guitar courses. I taught five courses ( debut and grades 1 to 4 ) to fourteen students between the ages of 16 and 60. On top of the basic courses I also taught music theory, to better the students' overall musical knowledge.

December 2003 – February 2004

Bein' Bri-ish Movies

This piece of work involved writing, recording and producing the soundtrack to Bein' Bri-ish - a short film celebrating the cultural diversity of the students of Newham College, East London. The film comprises of a title sequence, two video montages, fifteen stings and a credit sequence, along with interviews with students. I regularly had to liaise with the director and although having a certain amount of artistic freedom, worked to both a brief and a strict time schedule. This is a piece of work that I am particularly proud of as it stretched me both technically and creatively.

November 2003

MovieDo Productions

This piece of work involved writing the title music, several stings and a four minute piece of background music for a short film called Asian Dreams. The music had to have a distinct eastern feel due to the content of the film - a look at the Asian textile and fashion industries in North-East London.

August 2003 – September 2003

AR Services ( UK ) Limited

During my time at AR Services I set up and maintained an eBay online shop, through which I sold a selection of the company's goods. I also re-designed the company's web site and literature.

## Employment ( continued )

January 2002 – Present

SoundARC Recording Studios

As an engineer at SoundARC it is my duty to make clients feel relaxed in an often nerve-racking and sterile environment and to help them record their best possible performance. I have worked with a wide variety of clients – from companies wanting spoken word CDs and IVR systems to solo artists wanting a quick demo, bands recording full production albums and even full orchestral pieces, taking several months to complete. Many bands I record however are on tight budgets so I often have to work to a strict time schedule which keeps me on my toes, but I enjoy all the same. I use a wide variety of computer programs daily, such as Steinberg's Cubase and Wavelab, as well as various freeware and commercial plug-ins.

My strengths lay in editing and mixing, although I consider myself competent in every aspect of the recording process. My work has been highly praised by Abbey Road engineers & session musicians and a top mastering engineer.

As well as recording I have done much graphic design work whilst working for the studio in way of logos, leaflets, brochures and posters as well as designing various websites. I am proficient in using Adobe Dreamweaver & Photoshop and Corel Paint Shop Pro.

December 2000 – February 2002

Amphill Music School

I taught two classes at Amphill Music School - beginner keyboard and piano, to pupils aged between four and ninety-two. I wrote my own exercises and transcribed songs that were of interest to my pupils, as well as using a beginner keyboard book as a teaching aid.

## Qualifications gained

National Diploma in Music Technology	BTEC		August 2002
Introduction to Music Technology	NCFE		January 2002
Science ( M ) double / single	GCSE	A*	Summer 2000
Science ( M ) double ( higher )	GCSE	A*	Summer 2000
Business Studies	GCSE	A*	Summer 2000
Art and Design	GCSE	A*	Summer 2000
English ( higher )	GCSE	A	Summer 2000
English Literature ( higher )	GCSE	A	Summer 2000
Mathematics A ( higher )	GCSE	A	Summer 2000
Systems and Control ( higher )	GCSE	A	Summer 2000
French	GCSE	A	Summer 2000
Religious Education ( short )	NC / GCSE	A	Summer 2000
History	GCSE	B	Summer 2000

## Education

2000 - 2002	Bedford College	Bedford
1997 - 2000	Redborne Upper School	Amphill
1993 - 1997	Alameda Middle School	Amphill
1989 - 1993	Russell Lower School	Amphill

## Personal information

Date of birth : 20<sup>th</sup> May 1984  
Nationality : British  
Marital status : Single

## Interests and activities

My passion is music, which takes up a large proportion of my life. I am continually writing and recording songs both for myself and various side-projects. I am affluent in playing many different musical instruments ( piano being my principle ) which I have played in various bands throughout the years. Other than music I enjoy computing ( graphic design, web design and general internet surfing ), technology, reading, art and exercising, along with socialising with friends.

References are available on request.