Michael Howe Level Designer

About Me

I am currently a Level Designer at Studio Gobo, working on the recently announced title, Lego Horizon Adventures. I am passionate about developing rich levels and worlds and expanding my skills in level design and narrative. In my free time I like to attend events such as Animex, Develop or EGX, I also like to create mods for games such as Elder Scrolls and Fallout to practice my craft. I believe in developing high quality experiences and strive to do this through teamwork and problem solving.

Contact



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Credits

LEGO HORIZON ADVENTURES Level Designer | *TBD 2024*

HYENAS

Level Designer | Cancelled

THE DARK PICTURES: THE DEVIL IN ME Game Designer | November 2022

THE DARK PICTURES: HOUSE OF ASHES Game Designer | October 2021

THE DARK PICTURES: LITTLE HOPE Level Designer | *October 2020*

THE DARK PICTURES: MAN OF MEDAN Level Designer | *August 2019*

Education

SHEFFIELD HALLAM UNIVERSITY MA Computer Games Design – Merit

September 2017 – September 2018

TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY

BA Computer Games Design – First Class (Honours) September 2013 – June 2017

Achievements

GAME DEV HEROES AWARD - DESIGN - SHORTLIST 2024

BAFTA | BAFTA CREW GAMES MEMBER 2021

EXPOTEES AWARD - GAMES CONCEPT & DESIGN May 2017

Experience

Studio Gobo

Level Designer | Jan 2024 - Present

- Re-designing & building upon existing levels to fit within the projects new design pillars.
- Biome ownership, ensuring quality & parity through each milestone.
- Encounter design such as enemy Al markup & ingredient spawns.
- Designing simple level design focussed puzzles & encounters to encourage exploration & adventure.
- Aided in research & prototyping for future projects & pitches.

Creative Assembly

Level Designer | Sept 2021 - Dec 2023

- Designing and developing PvPvE maps from 2D to deliverable quality, considering multiple playstyles, weapons & abilities.
- Designing PvE encounters, such as setting up & refining player detection ingredients & implementing Al markup & behaviours.
- Implementing systems such as events, resources, & security areas to support the game mode & encourage engagement.
- Utilise modular kit sets & Houdini to build gameplay spaces.
- Owned features from proposal stages to final completion.
- Aided in reworking & pushing level design pillars for HYENAS.

Supermassive Games

Level/Cinematic Game Designer | Aug 2018 - Sept 2021

- Creation of levels & gameplay using the in-house storyboard tool to pre-vis the game from start to finish.
- Blocking out levels & gameplay, iterating upon them based on director & peer feedback.
- Create the moment-to-moment logic & flow for branching narrative games within Unreal Engine 4.
- Implementing & scripting cinematic sequences, balancing & adjusting the pacing.
- Onboarding & mentoring new starters & outsource/co-dev partners.

Software Skills

- Unreal Engine 4 & 5
- Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim Creation Kit •
- Fallout 4 Creation Kit
- Perforce

- 3DS Max
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Premier Pro
- Microsoft Office Suite

Professional Skills

- Dedicated passion for Level Design
- Committed to building fun & immersive experiences.
- Experience in all stages of the Level Design process.
- Enthusiastic about environmental storytelling through Level Design.
- Strong design documentation skills.
- Puts care & detail into my work.
- Quick to adapt & learn new skills.