Gabriel de Tassigny

Staff Engineer · PHP, Symfony & WordPress

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PROFILE

Staff engineer who has built WordPress platforms for Twitch and BBC Good Food. Full-stack with backend depth, and product-owner experience setting priorities for client teams.

EXPERIENCE

Staff Engineer & Product Owner · XWP

Sep 2021 – now

Remote · WordPress, Gutenberg, PHP 8, React, TypeScript, Sass

- Builds modern WordPress plugins and themes for large publishers and tech companies, with Gutenberg, React, PHP 8, Sass and TypeScript.
- Product owner for 14 of the 16 Are Media sites moved from Umbraco to a WordPress multisite (6.2 million monthly users across the programme): planned a year-long launch calendar for a team of five developers, a project manager, a QA engineer and a designer, with accessibility and Core Web Vitals kept in the green. Editors now publish in half the time.
- Product owner for a GPT-4 integration that turned unstructured restaurant reviews into structured data (JSON-LD) for search, for pennies per review.
- Improves web performance and Core Web Vitals on high-traffic sites.
- Helped define the maintenance checklist for client sites, and built an AI agent skill for the team that automates most of it: WordPress core and plugin updates, security checks and Lighthouse performance reviews.
- Writes user stories and manages and prioritizes the backlog, with internal and client stakeholders across several projects at once, in Scrum and Kanban teams.

Clients: Twitch, Are Media, Evolve Media, OFX, ButterflyMX, Good Friday Appeal

Senior Backend PHP Developer · Immediate Media

Jan 2019 – Aug 2021

London, UK · PHP 7.4, API Platform, Symfony, MongoDB, WordPress, Docker, AWS Lambda, Artillery, Blackfire, Node.js, React

- Co-led the backend design of a new headless architecture for Immediate Media's WordPress multisite (about 100 million monthly users across its sites), launched first on the newly acquired BBC Good Food (about 50 million monthly unique users).
- Defined the API contracts for the frontend team and built three REST services with API Platform (Symfony), PHP 7.4, MongoDB and Docker: content such as recipes, per-site settings, and users' saved recipes.
- Built the WordPress side that pushes content to these services automatically whenever a post is published, edited or deleted.
- Load-tested the services with Artillery and profiled them with Blackfire to handle that traffic, on tight stakeholder deadlines.
- Set up automated testing at every level, from unit and API tests to end-to-end tests.
- Developed AWS Lambda functions with Bref for Amazon Alexa.
- Mentored and coached mid-level developers.

Senior Backend Engineer · Distilled SCH

Feb 2018 – Nov 2018

Dublin, Ireland (remote from South Korea) · Java 8, Spring Boot, Kubernetes

- Built microservices with Java 8 and Spring Boot, deployed on Kubernetes.
- Worked fully remote from South Korea with three overlapping hours a day, in a Scrum team.

PHP Developer on daft.ie · Distilled SCH

Dec 2014 – Feb 2018

Dublin, Ireland · PHP 5.3–7.1, Slim, OpenAPI, MySQL, PHPUnit

- Developed and maintained daft.ie, Ireland's largest property website, through the upgrade from PHP 5.3 to 7.1.
- Led development on several medium-sized projects.
- Was the main contributor to the internal REST API, built with Slim and OpenAPI.
- Introduced best practices such as TDD, design patterns and SOLID.

Full-stack Web Developer · DirectStreams Jan 2012 – Sep 2014

Paris, France · Ruby on Rails, PHP 5.3, jQuery, Bootstrap

- Built an extranet with Ruby on Rails, jQuery and Bootstrap.
- Developed REST APIs.
- Was the main maintainer of the legacy PHP 5.3 platform.
- Worked in a Scrum team of four developers.

SKILLS

Backend	PHP 8.x (and legacy upgrades from 5.3), Symfony, API Platform, Slim, Node.js
WordPress	Plugins, Block themes, Gutenberg blocks, Headless, WP-CLI
Frontend	React, TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML, CSS / Sass, Core Web Vitals
Data	MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, SQLite
Testing	TDD, PHPUnit, Playwright, API tests, Load tests (Artillery), Profiling (Blackfire)
DevOps	GitHub Actions, Docker, AWS, Kubernetes, Linux
Previously	Java, Spring Boot, Ruby on Rails
Languages	French (native), English (fluent), Korean (conversational)

CERTIFICATIONS

Effective Use of Claude Code
X-Team · Sep 2026

Advanced Professional WordPress Developer
Automattic · Sep 2026

EDUCATION

Master's-level degree in Software Engineering (RNCP Level 7)
ETNA, Ivry-sur-Seine, France · 2012–2014

Bachelor's degree in Software Engineering
Epitech, Le Kremlin-Bicêtre, France · 2009–2012

INTERESTS

Badminton, science fiction and fantasy, electric and acoustic guitar, self-hosting.