

Thinking Outside the CF Box

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There's a lot going on in the wider world outside of ColdFusion that developers should be aware of. This talk is a whirlwind tour of what's on the leading and bleeding edge of languages, tools, techniques, libraries, and platforms that savvy web developers should be aware of. This dynamic talk will feature up-to-the-minute information, but at the end of 2008 some examples would include:

- * new web-oriented languages like Erlang, Scala, and Clojure
- * new development tools such as git, mercurial, and bazaar

In the Beginning...



Development was Hard

Our tools looked like this



Our code looked like this

```
#!/usr/local/bin/perl
use CGI;
$q = new CGI;
print $q->header,
      $q->start_html('hello world'),
      $q->h1('hello world'),
      $q->end_html;
```

Or at some shops, it looked like this

```
@P=split//,".URRUU
\c8R";fd=split//,"\nrekcah xinU /
lreP rehtona tsuJ";sub p{
@p{"r$p","u$p"}=(P,P);pipe"r$p","u
$p";++$p;($q*=2)+=$f=1fork;map{$P=
$P{$f^ord
($p{$_})%61};$p{$_}=/ ^$P/ix?$P:close
$_}keys@p;p;p;p;p;p;map{$p{$_}=/
^[P.]/&&
close$_}%p;wait until$?;map{/^r/&&<
$_>}%p;$_=$d[$q];sleep rand(2)if/
\S;/print
```



But we were happy

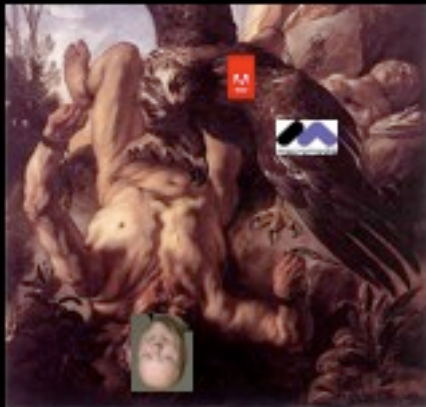


Then a god





CFilivized



Prometheus was punished



And so was man.

from Bullfinches' Mythology

Woman was not yet made. The story (absurd enough!) is that Jupiter ([Zeus](#)) made her, and sent her to [Prometheus](#) and his brother, to punish them for their presumption in stealing fire from heaven; and man, for accepting the gift. The first woman was named [Pandora](#).



Pandora's Box

Step 1: Most famous box in history, outside of Saturday Night Live sketches is probably Pandora's box

- * Prometheus mankind fire and was punished by Zeus
- * Mankind was nunished as well -- with



Your Guide

Step 2: You need a guide. Someone who can help you open the box. That's me. Some examples:

2006: Agile for CF

2005: Rails for CF Developers

2003: Groovy. AOP



Step 3: Open the Box

credit: Screenshot of YouTube video from Hulu



You need a canary in the coal mine. Someone to test the path ahead. A sacrificial lamb.

There's Hope?

Leave databases behind
Explore new languages
Try new techniques
Change your mindset



Credit: http://swarmgallery.com/artists2008/junge/junge_indx.htm

Databases?!?!?

We don't need no stinkin' databases!

No SQL?

NoSQL!

lots of kinds of databases: flat, hierarchal, relational, object, etc.

Document Databases?

- Stores documents (NOT objects)
- No schema
- Distributed

Document Databases!

- CouchDB (Apache)
- Tokyo Cabinet
- MongoDB
- SimpleDB (Amazon)
- MUMPS (!!!!!)

MUMPS was developed in the 1960s....

CouchDB in 1m

- Use **Futon** to make a database
- Use **REST** to communicate with **Couch**
- I sense a theme!....

Code

Using Russ Spivey's CFC from RIAForge but
can use any REST client [http://
couchdb.riaforge.org/](http://couchdb.riaforge.org/)

New Languages

Flex and AIR aren't enough?
iPhone?
Java and Groovy?

Languages on the JVM

- ColdFusion (duh)
- Groovy
- JRuby
- Jython

Many of you may know that I do Ruby and
Rails almost full-time now.



Ruby is so 2004

Languages on the Rise

- Lua
- Erlang
- Clojure
- Haskell
- Scala

Lua: functional programming language similar to Javascript and derived in part from Scheme. Can use it to build iPhone apps (runtime is << 212KB), used in LEGO Mindstorms and World of Warcraft for scripting. Even used for the MySQL GUI tools. Tokyo Cabinet uses it for scripting

Rising from the Dead

- Javascript
- Objective-C
- Lisp

On the Horizon

- Javascript, on the server, again
- loka
- Rela

So what should you learn next?

JavaScript

Code example :)

\$()

New Techniques

Distributed Version Control

- GIT
- Mercurial
- Bazaar

DCVS -- many central repos (often including a local one) and merges are simple. Sync is very lightweight and no network connection is required.

xDD

- TDD - tests
- BDD - behavior
- DDD - model oriented, domain focused
- ATDD -- acceptance test driven

In plain English

Feature: Press the red button

In order to satisfy my curiosity

As a curious user

I want to push the red button

Scenario: Push the button

Given I visit "<http://bigredbutton.com>"

When I press "red button"

Then I should see "Internet Stopped!"



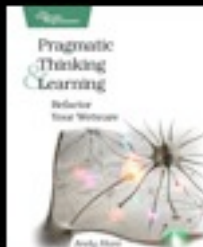
**IN UR APPLICASHUN TESTIN
UR SOFTWAREZ**

More Code

New Mindset

Pragmatism

Pragmatic Thinking & Learning
The Passionate Programmer

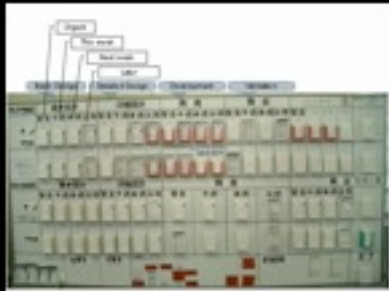


InfoQ: Kanban Applied to Software Development: from Agile to Lean



Agile => Kanban

“Kanban visually shows the flow of information and things to every worker and stimulates [Kaizen 4](#) (process improvement) in the [Gemba 5](#) (the workplace). Kaizen starts with watching what is happening in the Gemba. Via Kanban, every worker (not manager) can see the flow and has a chance to notice waste in the flow and suggest improvement to the process in which



Craftsmanship, not Engineering

The Manifesto

- Not only working software, but also well-crafted software
- Not only responding to change, but also steadily adding value
- Not only individuals and interactions, but also a community of professionals
- Not only customer collaboration, but also productive partnerships

As aspiring Software Craftsmen we are raising the bar of professional software development by practicing it and helping others learn the craft. Through this work we have come to value:

That is, in pursuit of the items on the left we have found the items on the right to be

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Credit: http://swarmgallery.com/artists2008/junge/junge_indx.htm



Hope? Or Evil?

Every serious innovation in ColdFusion has its basis in the wider world but as a community we tend to ignore that world. Adobe gave us ORM -- but the community has had it for years. We've got ColdSpring, MVC frameworks, and a vibrant OSS community

Related Talks

- Th 4:45 CFGroovy
- Sa 9:45 CF and JQuery
- Sa 9:45 Req's and Estimating
- Sa 11:00 Intro to JQuery with CF

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