

Valentina Calabrese

ENGINEERING MANAGER

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Paris (hybrid) · Italy

Engineering Manager and hands-on senior front-end engineer specializing in AI-powered editing experiences, React and TypeScript, with a focus on UX, performance, and accessibility.

EXPERIENCE

Photoroom

Paris, France · Hybrid

Engineering Manager - Website

Apr 2026 - Present

- ◆ Lead www.photoroom.com engineering: technical roadmap, architecture, quality, and acquisition goals.
- ◆ Manage the website team: 1:1s, feedback, performance, and career growth.
- ◆ Drive delivery across marketing, search, brand, product, and growth stakeholders.
- ◆ Stay hands-on in React and TypeScript on growth and monetisation initiatives.

Senior Front-End Engineer

Apr 2025 - Apr 2026

- ◆ Rebuilt the web onboarding flow in **MobX**, lifting activation from **50% to 95%** and enabling rapid A/B testing across login, onboarding, and paywall.
- ◆ **Owned Photoroom's Batch editor end to end**, rebuilding core editing and selection workflows for processing hundreds of images at once. Delivered sections with per-section ZIP export, bulk multi-select actions, and tile reordering.
- ◆ **Built in-browser AVIF export**: implemented a client-side AV1 encoder and AVIF container, preserving transparency while exporting transparent cutouts as smaller files than equivalent PNGs.
- ◆ Built **AI Shadows**, a credit-aware preview that lets users judge generated results before spending credits, integrating the ML team's pipelines into the editor.

Remote.com

Remote · Italy

Front-End Software Engineer

Apr 2022 - Mar 2025

- ◆ Shipped **AI-powered offboarding-compliance features** into production by integrating **LangChain** and **Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)** into user-facing workflows.
- ◆ Built and maintained design-system components in **React + Styled Components**, improving UI consistency, accessibility, and developer velocity across the product.
- ◆ Led migration of design-system documentation from **Storybook to Zeroheight**, creating a single source of truth for designers and engineers.

CloudAcademy

Mendrisio, Switzerland

Front-End Software Engineer

May 2020 - Mar 2022

- ◆ Revamped the onboarding and first-run experience, **boosting user retention by 20%**.
- ◆ Delivered features in **React, GraphQL, Styled Components**, backed by unit (React Testing Library) and end-to-end (Cypress) tests.
- ◆ Contributed reusable design-system components (Storybook, TypeScript, React).

Earlier

USA

- ◆ Front-end / UX engineering internships at **Mailchimp** (2019, Atlanta) and **Adobe** (2018, New York), contributing to their design systems and product features.

EDUCATION

M.S. Computer Science, HCI Specialization · Georgia Institute of Technology · GPA 4.0

2021 - 2023

B.S. Computer Science · Università degli Studi di Parma · study abroad at University of Leeds (UK) & Boston College (USA)

2016 - 2019

SKILLS

LANGUAGES TypeScript · JavaScript · Python

FRONT-END React · Next.js · MobX · GraphQL · Tailwind CSS · Radix UI · Styled Components

TESTING Playwright · Cypress · Jest · React Testing Library

AI AI-assisted development · Agent Skills · prompt design

DESIGN Figma · Design Systems · accessibility