Johnny Chacón Gairaud

Sr. QA & Software Engineer | Senior SDET | Test Automation Specialist

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Automation-driven, AI-augmented **Senior QA Engineer / SDET** with **8+ years** building and scaling **test automation** across web, desktop, API, and hardware platforms. Built and maintained **2,000+ automated tests** across multiple roles with Playwright, Cypress, and Selenium, using TypeScript, JavaScript, Java, C#, and Python. Designed **regression suites** that run on demand for internal builds in Jenkins, TeamCity, and Azure DevOps, and hardened them to reduce **flaky tests** and deliver faster, more reliable releases. Owns **QA tech-stack architecture** and tooling decisions, drives **shift-left test strategy**, **API automation**, and AI-assisted test design (Claude and Codex) as a strong cross-functional collaborator in **Agile/Scrum** teams, applying a **Quality Engineering** mindset and comfortable owning problems independently. Fluent in English, remote-ready, with US time-zone overlap.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Languages & Scripting: C++, C#, Java (incl. Java EE), Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Perl, SQL
- Automation & Testing: Selenium (Python & Java), TestNG, JUnit, pytest, REST Assured, Playwright, Cypress, Cucumber (BDD/Gherkin), Postman, SoapUI, JMeter, Swagger/OpenAPI, Appium (academic exposure)
- Frameworks & Design Patterns: Page Object Model (POM), MVC, Singleton
- CI/CD & Build: Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Gradle, TeamCity, Azure DevOps, Docker, Kubernetes
- Version Control: Git, Git Bash, GitHub, Azure Repos
- Databases: MySQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, Microsoft SQL Server
- Web Development: HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, Bootstrap, Materialize
- Data Analysis: Python, Pandas, Jupyter
- Operating Systems: Linux SUSE, Linux RHEL, Windows Server, Unix
- Methodologies: Agile (Scrum, Kanban), Waterfall, Shift-Left Testing, Risk-Based Testing, BDD, TDD, Test Planning, STLC, SDLC
- Project & Test Management: JIRA, Azure DevOps, Micro Focus ALM/Octane, TestLink, Rally, Jama Connect
- AI-Assisted Testing: Codex, GitHub Copilot, ChatGPT, Claude
- Languages Spoken: English (Advanced/Fluent), Spanish (Native)
- Core Strengths: Cross-functional communication, analytical troubleshooting, ownership & autonomy, adaptability, and fast ramp-up on new stacks

TESTING TYPES & METHODOLOGIES

API Testing, Automation Testing, Functional Testing, Regression Testing, Smoke Testing, Sanity Testing, Integration Testing, Unit Testing, End-to-End (E2E) Testing, Manual Testing, Exploratory Testing, Negative Testing, UI Testing, Database Testing, Accessibility Testing, Load Testing, Spike Testing, Stress Testing, Performance Testing

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

QAT Global | 2023 – 2026

QA Engineer

- Owned **test strategy, execution, and QA tech-stack architecture** across the full SDLC (Agile and Waterfall), evaluating and selecting tools (Selenium, Playwright, REST Assured, Postman) and documenting the rationale behind each decision

- Proposed and rolled out **risk-based, shift-left, and API-first testing strategies** with developers and Product Owners, moving defect detection earlier in the cycle
- Built **REST API** validation coverage across 35+ endpoints in code with REST Assured — authentication/authorization testing (role-based access, token validation, session management) and request/response verification
- Hardened application reliability through systematic **negative testing** against edge cases and invalid inputs, uncovering 50+ defects before release
- Tested products **hosted on AWS and deployed in containers**, running automated suites through TeamCity pipelines to validate functionality, APIs, and end-to-end workflows
- Set up **CI/CD quality gates** in TeamCity and Azure DevOps pipelines with automated smoke tests for API, functional and UI testing checks that could be triggered on demand for internal builds
- Led root-cause analysis with developers, Product Owners, BAs, and QA peers; worked directly with clients to scope requirements and expected behavior
- Used **AI tooling (Codex)** to speed up test-case generation, strategy design, and framework development, reducing test-case design time by 30%

Tools: Selenium, Playwright, REST Assured, Postman, SoapUI, JMeter, Docker, Kubernetes, AWS, TeamCity, Jenkins, Gradle, Azure DevOps, Git, JIRA, SQL, React, Angular, Codex

Micro Focus (now OpenText) | 2020 – 2023

Software Automation Engineer

- Designed a **Java/TestNG/Selenium framework** (POM, data-driven, parallel execution on Selenium Grid) powering smoke, sanity, regression, and performance suites
- Added **API test coverage in code with REST Assured** alongside the UI suite, cutting reliance on manual checks
- Tested a containerized release of the application running on **Docker**, executing the automation suites against the containerized environment
- Built reusable **test-data factories** and SQL seeding scripts for Oracle and PostgreSQL, removing stale-data failures across environments
- Scaled a **regression suite** with parallel execution in Jenkins, cutting runtime by 25% and **flaky failures by 30%**
- Complemented automation with **manual testing** and **exploratory testing** of enterprise web applications, triaging user-facing defects before release
- Supported release readiness as an embedded member of the **Scrum** team
- Mentored engineers across the organization on key **QA automation** areas — framework design, coding standards, test design, and CI/CD integration — lifting team velocity

Tools: RHEL, Linux SUSE, Jenkins, Docker, Kubernetes, Java, Java EE, Selenium, Selenium Grid, REST Assured, Gradle, TestNG, Cypress, JavaScript, Oracle, PostgreSQL, HTML5, CSS3, Materialize, JIRA, Octane, Postman, Git, GitHub

HPE | 2019 – 2020

Testing and Automation Engineer

- Automated QA validation for ProLiant Gen10 server hardware, software, and configuration layers, and validated **30+ server configurations**
- Validated **firmware/BIOS configurations** on ProLiant Gen10 servers
- Led **automation innovation** across QA teams, introducing tooling and practices that replaced manual server validation workflows
- Gathered cross-team requirements to design scalable automation solutions
- Identified automation opportunities and closed coverage gaps across manual QA workflows
- Delivered **manual testing** and **exploratory testing** coverage for web applications
- Built functional, **integration testing**, and **performance testing** suites end-to-end

Tools: RHEL, Linux SUSE, Unix, Jenkins, Java, Python, C++, Selenium, Gradle, TestNG, Oracle, MySQL, Perl, Pandas, Jupyter, HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, JIRA, TestLink, Scrum, Postman, Git, GitHub

Intel | 2018 – 2019

Product Development Engineer

- Performed manual testing and exploratory testing of web applications, documenting and tracking defects through resolution in JIRA
- Automated testing and administrative workflows through custom Python scripting
- Wrote testable, efficient code for unit, integration, and functional test cases, including smoke, sanity, and regression coverage

Tools: RHEL, Jenkins, Java, Python, Selenium, Gradle, TestNG, PostgreSQL, MySQL, HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, JIRA, Scrum, Postman, Git, GitHub

Tek-Experts | 2017 – 2018

Technical Support Engineer

- Diagnosed and resolved complex customer issues within SLA-bound timelines
- Escalated unresolved issues through standard procedures, partnering with internal teams to drive resolution
- Delivered prompt, accurate feedback to customers throughout the resolution lifecycle
- Documented technical workarounds, scaling institutional knowledge across the support org

Tools: RHEL, Windows Server, JIRA, Scrum, MS SQL Server

EDUCATION

Universidad Nacional

Heredia, Costa Rica

Bachelor's Degree, Systems Engineering

SINAES-accredited program at the *Escuela de Informática* (Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales), focused on the analysis, design, and development of information systems for administrative, commercial, and technology-driven organizations. Curriculum spanning programming, database design & data modeling, computer networks, information security, software quality/testing, and IT project management.

ABOUT ME

I believe most problems have a solution if you're willing to look for it, even the tricky ones. New tools and unfamiliar tech don't rattle me; getting dropped into something I don't know yet is usually where I learn the most. Good code matters, but so does the team behind it — take care of every piece and the whole machine runs stronger. Give me an internet connection, a laptop, and a problem worth solving, and I'll find a way through it.