

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/christianbraun
(LinkedIn)
www.hobbyDB.com (Other)
www.popculturehall.com (Other)
www.modelcarhall.com (Other)

Top Skills

Community Building
Online Advertising
Corporate Development

Languages

German
French
Russian

Christian Braun

Collector of Collectors
Louisville, Colorado, United States

Summary

Specialties: Community Building, Marketplaces, eCommerce, Forums, Collecting & Hobby Markets. Member of SAH and SEMA.

Experience

hobbyDB

CEO

March 2014 - Present (12 years 6 months)

Superior, CO

hobbyDB is the ultimate compendium of every collectible ever made, letting users take an interactive trip into who made what, when, where and much more, allowing them to research, reminisce, manage their collections and buy/sell. Think eBay meets IMDB/Wikipedia, for collectibles. Collectibles are everything from model cars, planes, boats & trains, comics, action figures, baseball cards, records, R/C, slot cars, anime & manga, superheroes, movie & music memorabilia and more. hobbyDB's 765,000 member own 57 million collectibles in their online collections.

LEVEGH

Strategic Advisor - Collector Engagement & Brand Growth

August 2025 - Present (1 year 1 month)

Accelerate the brand's presence within global collector communities and develop sales channels with strong storytelling and PR potential.

Global Toy Experts

Industry Partner

December 2022 - Present (3 years 9 months)

Consulting clients in Collectible Markets

Fondazione Nicola Bulgari

Advisor

October 2022 - Present (3 years 11 months)

Allentown, Pennsylvania, United States

Advising on the acquisition on automobilia that complements the NB Center's car collection.

Pop Culture Hall of Fame

Chair

February 2018 - Present (8 years 7 months)

New York

From Mickey Mouse to Sponge Bob, from Superman to Jon Snow pop culture adds spice to life. The Pop Culture Hall of Fame is celebrating the best of it in toy and model format and over the years 16 inductees and 13 brands and characters have passed into its annals, including luminaries like Deadpool, Funko and Stan Lee.

Model Car Hall of Fame

Chair

February 2017 - Present (9 years 7 months)

Las Vegas

A staple of the diecast world, the Diecast Hall of Fame is best known for honoring pioneers of the model vehicle industry for their efforts to promote and enhance the hobby. From designers to entrepreneurs, there is no shortage of talented folks on the inductee list. The Hall has 167 inductees, including Carroll Shelby, Jay Leno, and Larry Wood.

Auto-Archives

Member of the Board

September 2016 - August 2022 (6 years)

Littleton, Colorado

Helping to make Auto-Archives board vision reality - a library open to anybody that has every car book, magazine, owner manual and brochure ever made!

EurActiv

Chair

July 2011 - July 2016 (5 years 1 month)

Brussels

Published in 15 European languages EurActiv is the leading online portal dedicated to European affairs.

EO41

Angel Investor & Board Member

December 2012 - March 2014 (1 year 4 months)

EO41 builds product discovery platforms which give eCommerce businesses a powerful voice from early on in the consumer journey. Currently in development, our platforms will launch shortly across selected special interest sites.

Martingale Internet Technologies

CEO

February 2008 - September 2013 (5 years 8 months)

Amersham, UK

Operator of model and toy related forums and related marketplaces.

Auctioning4u

CEO

April 2003 - January 2008 (4 years 10 months)

Founded and created the world's largest eBay trading assistant with around \$15m GMV in 2007.

Intrepid Ventures

Partner

April 2001 - April 2003 (2 years 1 month)

London & Menlo Park

Intrepid is a small focused trans-atlantic outsourced corporate development house working in the following sectors: Consumer Finance, CRM, Data Mining, Payments, Transaction Processing and certain Mobile Applications. During my time I was responsible for client acquisition.

Intrinsic

SVP, Business Development

March 2000 - April 2001 (1 year 2 months)

After having invested in the business while at GE I joined to make it the world's leading Enterprise Marketing Automation specialist. During my time I raised money from SAS Institute and Acxiom with discussions under way with Bearingpoint and IBM (during those discussions the company was sold to SAS Institute).

GE Capital

Vice President

May 1996 - March 2000 (3 years 11 months)

Stamford, Atlanta, Warsaw (Poland) & UK

Various positions, most recently managed the European Private Equity Team for financial services (about 35 deals managing around \$250m in investment assets).

Bain & Company

Team Leader

January 1996 - April 1996 (4 months)

Kiev, Ukraine

Ran an M&A assignment / project team for a major West European FMCG business, screening 35 acquisition targets across the CIS.

Dixon & Company

Managing Director, Russia

October 1993 - December 1995 (2 years 3 months)

Moscow & St. Petersburg, Russia

Built and managed the company's Russian operations (growing the team to 60 with offices in Moscow, St. Petersburg and temporary project offices in various parts of European Russia).

Suedia

Co-founder & MD

March 1985 - October 1988 (3 years 8 months)

Detmold, Germany

Event Operator; this was a part-time effort during high school by a team of four creating and managing ticketed parties.

Education

London Business School

MBA, Business Administration · (1991 - 1993)

Techstars

Accelerator Program · (2015 - 2015)

New York University - Leonard N. Stern School of Business

Exchange Programme, Business Administration · (1992 - 1992)

The University of Glasgow

Academic Year, Business Administration · (1990 - 1991)

Universität des Saarlandes

Vordiplom Management Sciences, Business Administration · (1988 - 1990)