

# Platform Engineering at QCon London 2026

## Sessions

### **Unconference: Building Engineering Teams**

Tuesday Mar 17

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### **Unconference: Modern Data Engineering**

Tuesday Mar 17

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### **Unconference: Tech of Finance industry**

Monday Mar 16

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### **Unconference: Connecting Systems**

Monday Mar 16

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### **Observability in Microservices & Gaming**

Tuesday Mar 17

Details coming soon.

#### **Nicholas Herring**

Technical Director, Eve Online @CCP Games, Refiner of Internet Spaceships and Explorer of Feral Gordian Knots of Python

## **Evolution of Booking.com's Ranking Platform**

**Monday Mar 16**

Details coming soon.

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## **AI is an Amplifier: Scale High Performance, Not Dysfunction**

**Wednesday Mar 18**

AI adoption in software development is nearly universal, yet the outcomes for teams are highly variable. Why do some organizations see massive productivity gains while others see their delivery stability crash? DORA's latest research provides a key insight: AI acts as an amplifier.

**Nathen Harvey**

Lead of DORA and Product Manager @Google Cloud

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## **Navigating the Edge of Scale and Speed for Physics Discovery**

**Wednesday Mar 18**

Details coming soon.

**Thea Klæboe Aarrestad**

Particle Physics and Real-Time ML @CERN @ETH Zürich

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## **The Rise of the Streamhouse: Idea, Trade-Offs, and Evolution**

**Tuesday Mar 17**

Over the last decade, streaming architectures have largely been built around topic-centric primitives—logs, streams, and event pipelines—then stitched together with databases, caches, OLAP engines, and (increasingly) new serving systems.

**Giannis Polyzos**

Principal Streaming Architect @Ververica

**Anton Borisov**

Principal Data Architect @Fresha

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## **APIs for Agents: Rethinking API Programs in the MCP Era**

**Monday Mar 16**

As API programs mature, a familiar gap emerges: some teams operate with strong standards, reusable platforms, and clear governance, while others rely on informal guidance and best-effort consistency.

**Jim Gough**

Distinguished Engineer, API Platform Lead Architect @Morgan Stanley, Co-Author of Optimizing Java

**Andreea Niculcea**

Vice President @Morgan Stanley

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## **The Ladder Is Missing Rungs: Engineering Progression When AI Ate the Middle**

**Tuesday Mar 17**

Career progression in engineering has traditionally followed a predictable path: junior tasks teach fundamentals, mid-level work builds judgment, senior roles require synthesis across systems.

**Alasdair Allan**

Scientist, Author, Hacker, Maker, Journalist, and Head of Documentation, CTO @Negroni Venture Studios, Interim CTO @Evaro

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## **Building an AI Gateway Without Frameworks: One Platform, Many Agents**

**Tuesday Mar 17**

Early AI integrations often start small: wrap an inference API, add a prompt, ship a feature. At Zoox, that approach grew into Cortex, a production AI gateway supporting multiple model providers, multiple modalities,

and agentic workflows with dozens of tools, serving over 100 internal clients.

**Amit Navindgi**

Staff Software Engineer @Zoox

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## **Rewriting All of Spotify's Code Base, All the Time**

**Tuesday Mar 17**

We don't need LLMs to write new code. We need them to clean up the mess we already made.

In mature organizations, we have to maintain and migrate the existing codebase. Engineers are constantly balancing new feature development with endless software upkeep.

**Jo Kelly-Fenton**

Engineer @Spotify

**Aleksandar Mitic**

Software Engineer @Spotify

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## **From Fan-Out to Fast: Sub-100ms API Design in Distributed Systems**

**Monday Mar 16**

A "simple" API request rarely stays simple. In distributed systems, one call quickly turns into fan-out across gateways, services, caches, and databases — and your p99 becomes the sum of every hop and every flaky dependency.

**Saranya Vedagiri**

Senior Staff Engineer @eBay

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## **Building on Bedrock: A Security Philosophy from Bootloader to Runtime**

**Tuesday Mar 17**

In Minecraft, every world is built from blocks. At the very bottom lies bedrock: an unbreakable foundation that

everything else rests on. Above it sit layers of stone, dirt, sand, and other materials.

**Alex Zenla**

Founder & CTO @Edera

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## **Why Governance Matters: The Key to Reducing Risk Without Slowing Down**

**Tuesday Mar 17**

When you hear “governance,” you might think of red tape, bureaucracy, or someone telling you what you can’t do. But real governance is about alignment and reducing technical risk. And that matters more than ever.

**Sarah Wells**

Independent Consultant and Author

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