sketch development

Better Teams // Better Software

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LIVE FROM ST. LOUIS
IT'S SATURDAY NIGHT

The Agility of SNL

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Let's connect

It's way more fun than not connecting

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A brief history

And my miniscule place in it

Sketch Development

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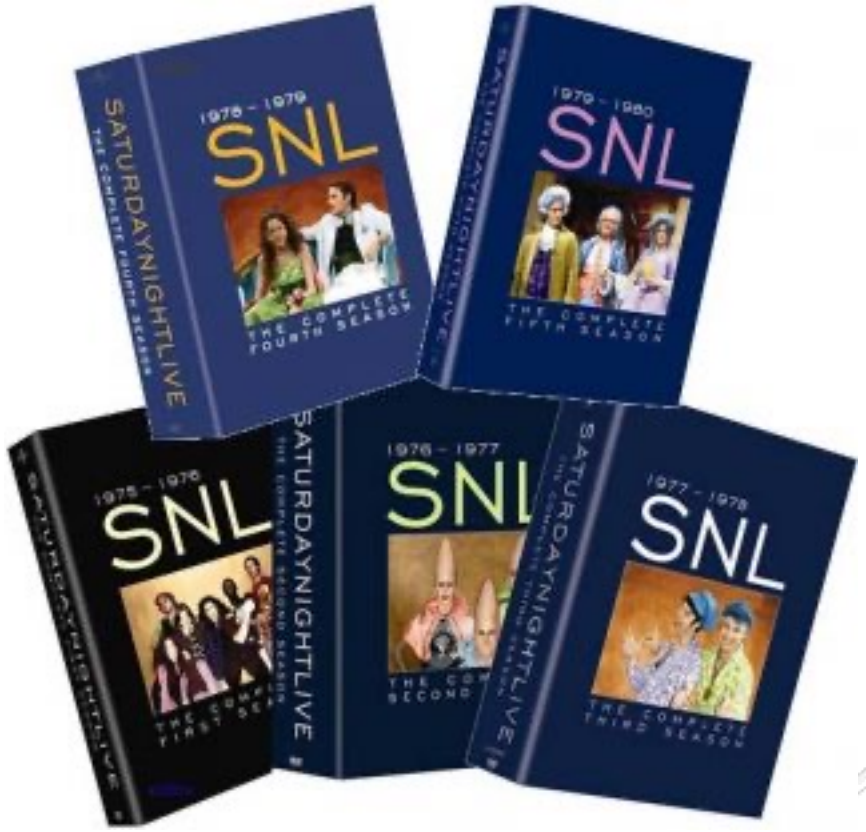
AGILITY

A working definition

Teams of self-organized individuals
delivering value continuously
and frequently,
learning from that delivery,
and adjusting accordingly.
Indefinitely.

SNL is a value delivery engine



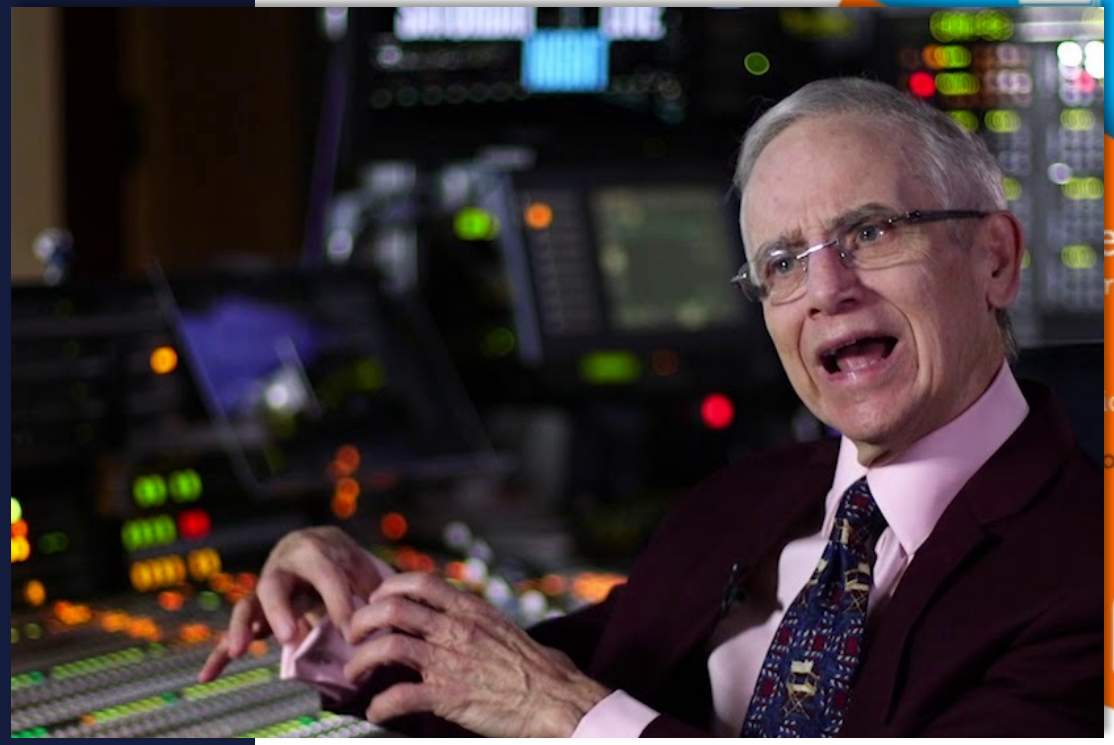
Owned by NBCUniversal and Comcast

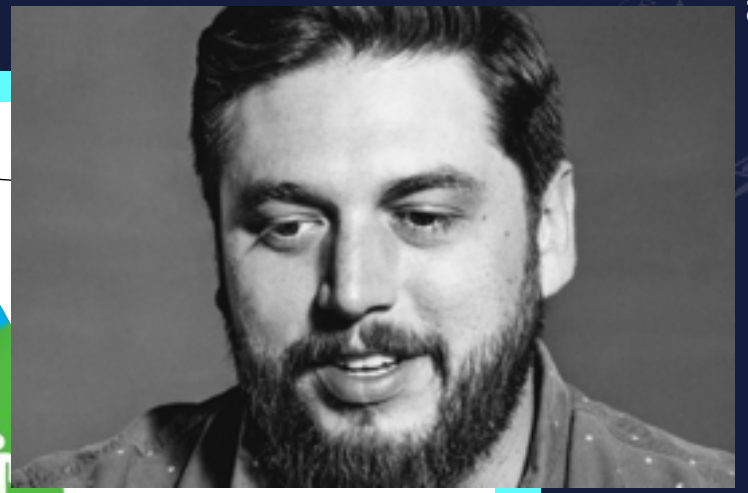
Developed by Lorne Michaels

The agile team

The agile team

The agile team





Volatility
Uncertainty
Complexity
Ambiguity

Empirical Process Control

A FRAMEWORK FOR MANAGING VUCA

TRANSPARENCY
Keep everything visible

INSPECTION
Review it continuously

ADAPTATION
Continuously improve it

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Transparency

SNL

Inspection and adaptation

Monday	Pitch Day	100 >> 60

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INSPECTION AND ADAPTATION

Inspection and adaptation

Monday	Pitch Day	100 >> 60

Photo by Edie Baskin/Courtesy of SNL

Inspection and adaptation

Monday	Pitch Day	100 >> 60
Tuesday	Writing Day	
Wednesday	Read-through and Picks	60 >> 20

Photo by Edie Baskin/Courtesy of SNL

Inspection and adaptation

Monday	Pitch Day	100 >> 60
Tuesday	Writing Day	
Wednesday	Read-through and Picks	60 >> 20
Thursday	Design	
Friday	Rehearsal	

Season 45

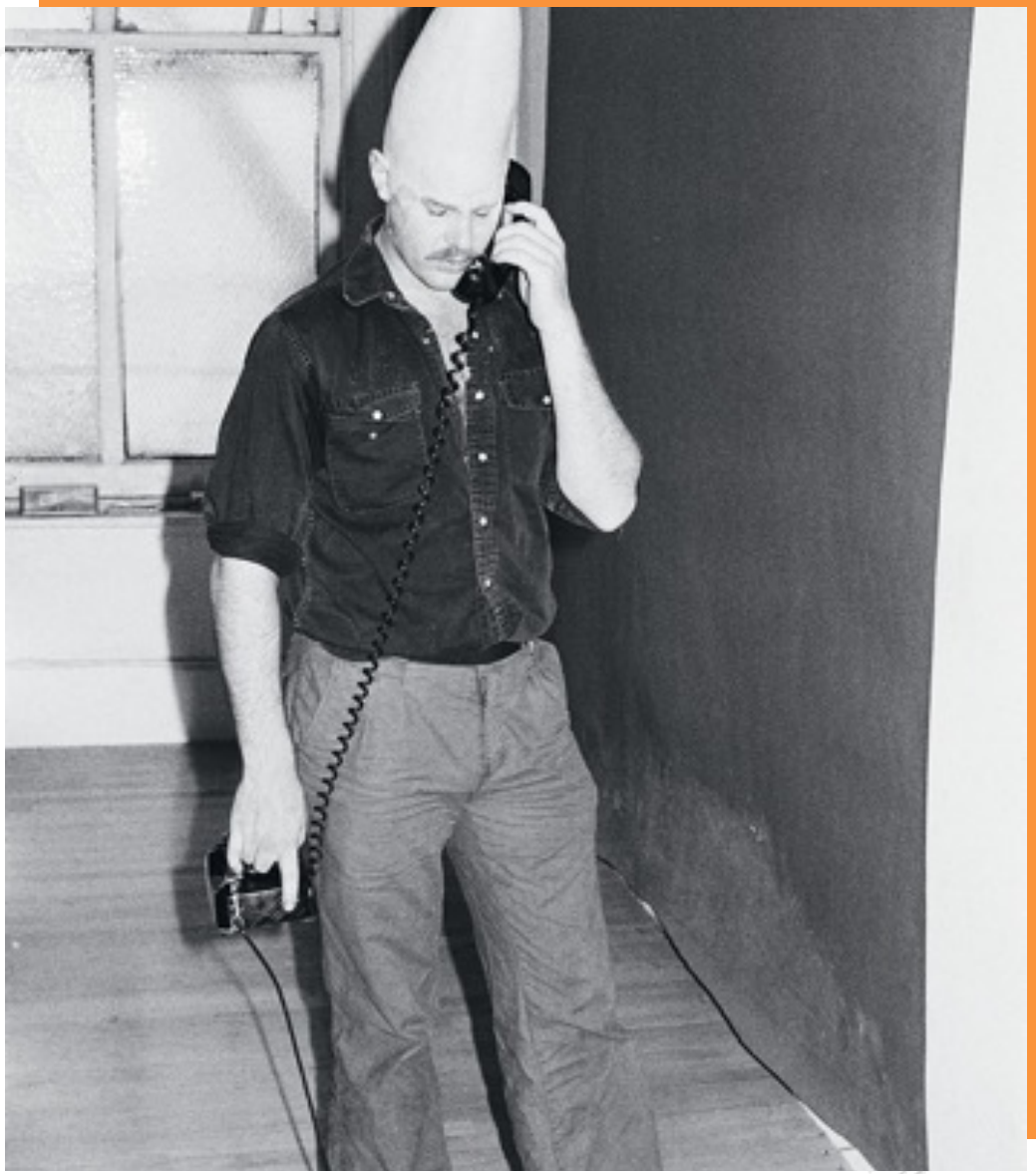
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE AT HOME

Visualizing work with WIP limits

Sustainable pace

The spirit of Scrum

"We don't go on because it's perfect, we go on because it's 11:30."



Technical excellence

SUBOPTIMIZING LOCALLY TO OPTIMIZE GLOBALLY

Tony Cenicola/The New York Times

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

Continuous improvement

According to Darrell Hammond

At regular intervals, the team reflects on how to become more effective, then tunes and adjusts its behavior accordingly.

Continuous delivery

Open the curtain when you're ready to release.

The self-organized team

Photo by Marty Lederhandler/AP

Performing

Norming

Storming

Forming

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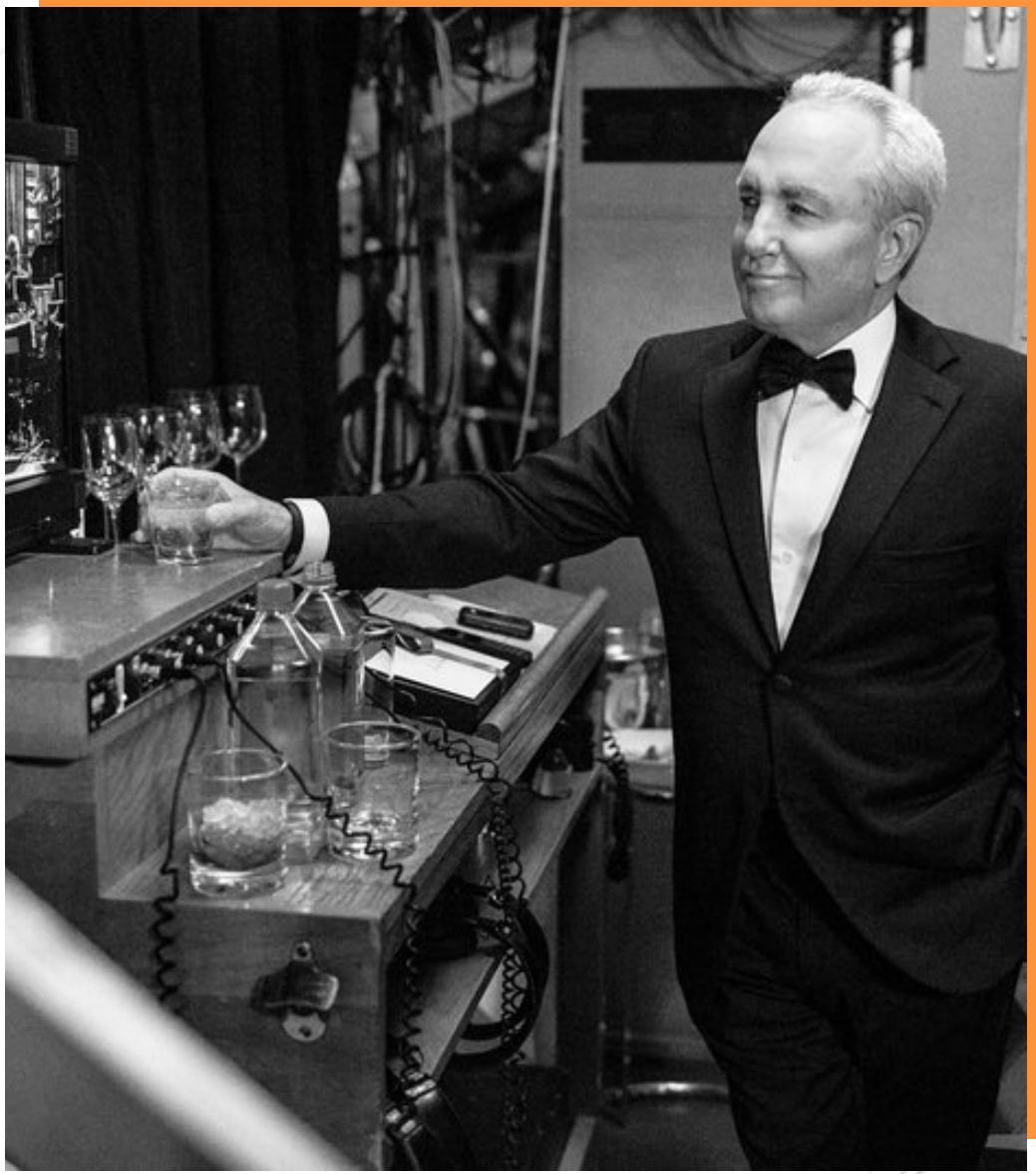
The Tao of Lorne

AGILE LEADERSHIP IN PRACTICE

- “We don’t go on because it’s perfect, we go on because it’s 11:30.”
- Producers are supposed to be invisible. The cast has to inhabit their own decisions.
- Organize loosely. You never know what will come up.
- “We don’t know that we’re going to be able to pull it off.”



The Tao of Lorne

AGILE LEADERSHIP IN PRACTICE

- People have to be bad before they can be good.
- Dress has to be bad before the show can be good.
- "If you're the smartest person in the room, you're in the wrong room."
- Put more energy into taking care of the cast than anything else.
- "You can ask for anything in the world, except to be appreciated."

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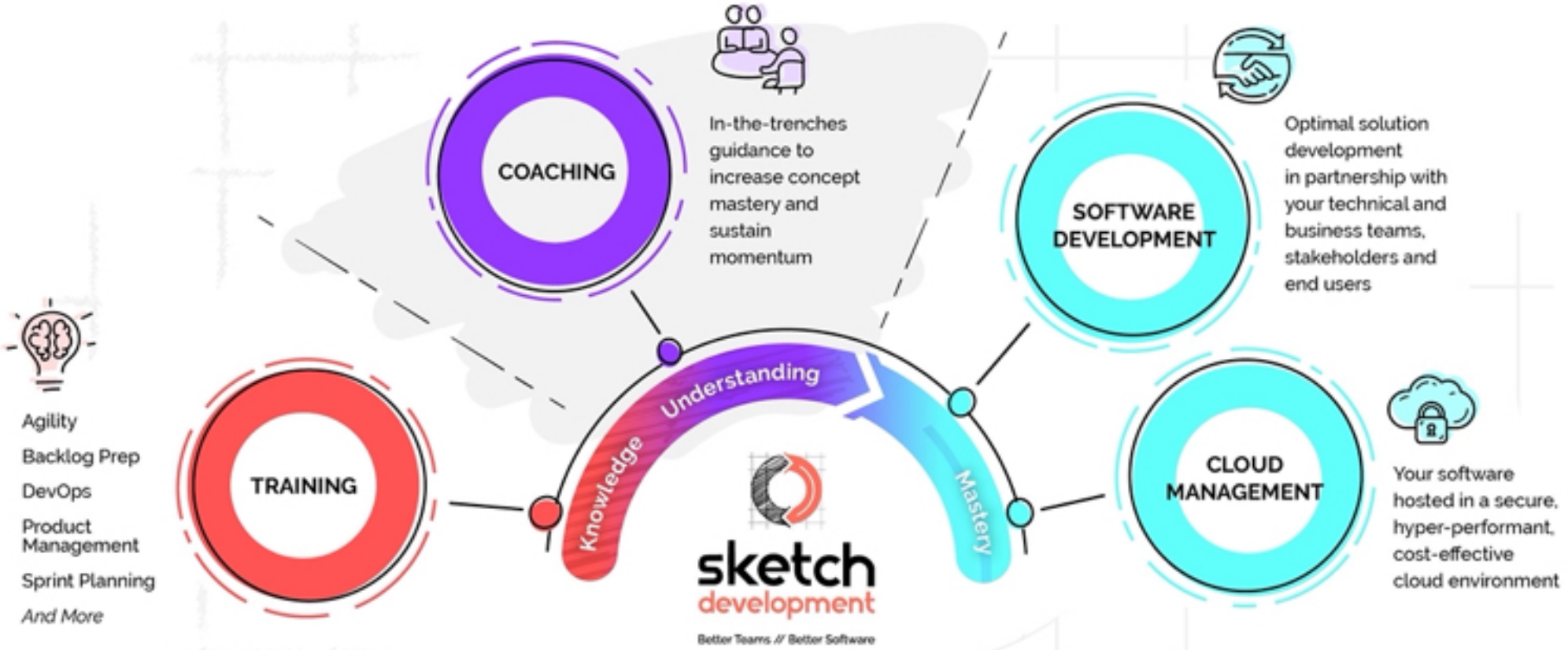
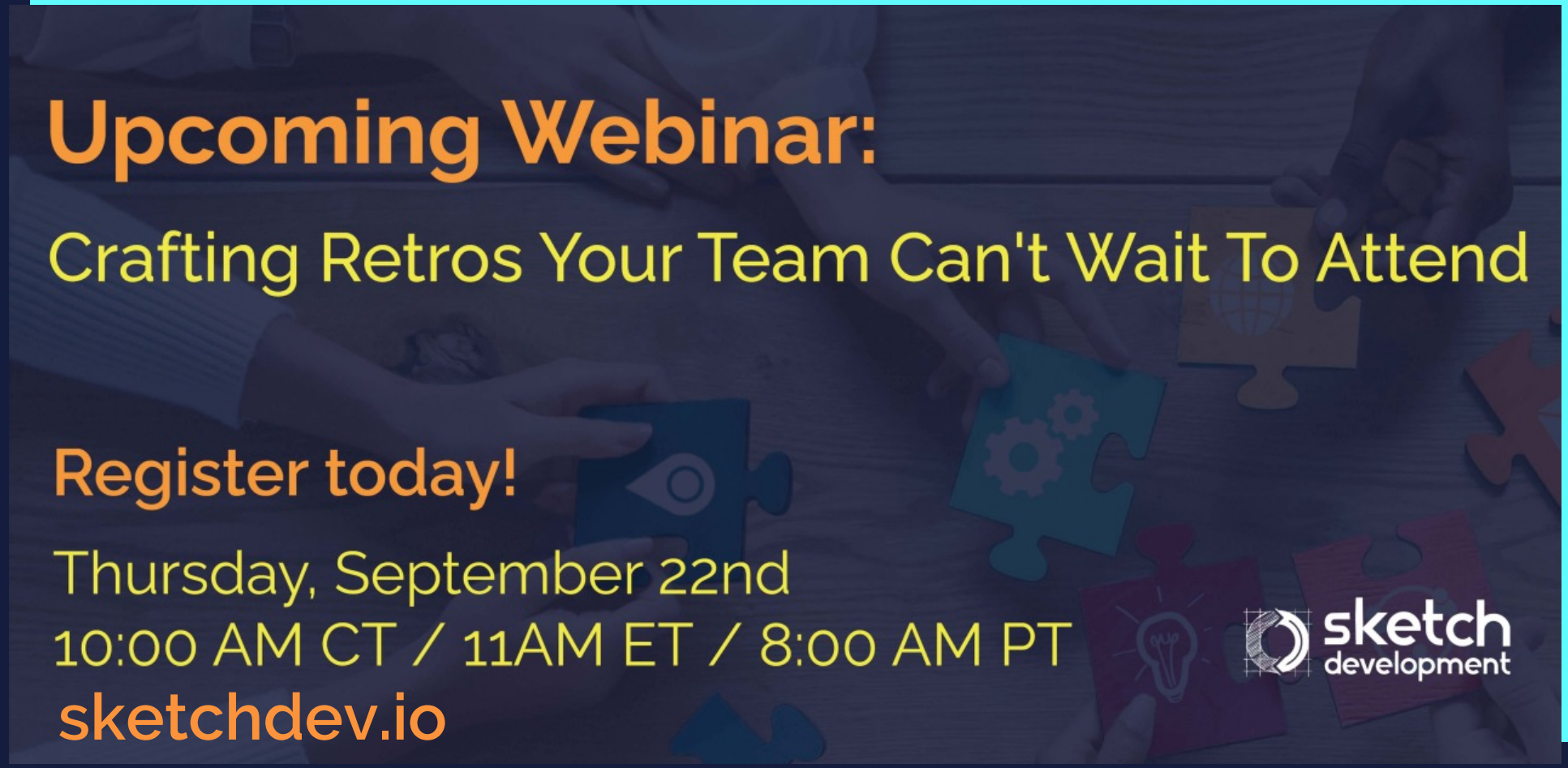
This is Sketch




Upcoming Webinar:
Crafting Retros Your Team Can't Wait To Attend
Register today!
Thursday, September 22nd
10:00 AM CT / 11AM ET / 8:00 AM PT
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Further reading

TALK AMONGST YOURSELVES, I'LL GIVE YOU A TOPIC

Live From New York, Miller and Shales

Saturday Night, Hill and Weingard

Saturday Night Live, Castle

Wired, Woodward

Bossy Pants, Fey

God, If You're Not Up There…, Hammond

Based on a True Story, MacDonald

I Must Say, Short

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