

Ben Lerchin
10839 La Grange Ave
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Los Angeles, CA 90025

415-259-9358
ben@lerchin.com

benlerchin.com

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Freelance Web Developer (2012 — Present)

Architect and build high impact web experiences using bleeding-edge technologies for a mix of corporate, creative, and agency clients.

Full Stack Software Engineer, Junior.io (2016)

Led engineering teams on projects such as: interactive brand activation at SXSW, VR web app, corporate website launch, IoT prototype.

Web Developer and Experience Designer, Walla Walla Foundry (2013 — 2015)

Prototyped, designed and engineered a unique project management system solving business intelligence and workflow issues at a fine-art foundry.

Skills: Rapid Prototyping, Full Stack Development, Frontend Development, DevOps

Tools: React, node.js, Ruby on Rails, Redux, Hugo, Jekyll, Webpack, MongoDB, PostgreSQL, git, WordPress, Travis CI, Docker, Sketch, Atom, HTML/SCSS/JS

CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

Lab Assistant (Graduate Student Researcher), Fabrication and Electronics Lab, University of California, Los Angeles (2019-2020)

Operate and maintain equipment including 3D printers, CNC mills, laser cutter, woodworking power tools. Develop organizational systems and workflows.

Robotics Engineer, CODAME (2017)

Collaborated in the production of ShyBot, an autonomous people-avoiding robot. Prototyped and assembled electronics for motion control and telematics.

Skills: Physical Computing, Interaction Design, Woodworking

Tools: Arduino, Processing, Adobe CC, electronics, SketchUp, 3D Printing

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Co-Founder, wallaPopUP (2013 — 2015)

Founded and managed a community pop-up art gallery hosting exhibitions, lectures and workshops for local artists in Walla Walla, WA.

Board Member, ArtWalla (2015)

Active board member for local arts organization. Led effort to develop web presence and outreach.

Skills: Exhibition Design, Accounting, Social Media Marketing, Graphic Design, Customer Relations, Art Handling, Sales

EDUCATION

2020

UCLA — Los Angeles, CA

MFA, Design | Media Arts

2013

Whitman College — Walla Walla, WA

BA, Art

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TEACHING

Lecturer, University of California, Los Angeles (2020)
Special Topics in Design | Media Arts: Digital Photography, Summer 2020

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Los Angeles (2018-2019)
Special Topics in Design | Media Arts: Introduction to Photography, Fall 2019
Tangible Media, Winter 2019
Design Culture: Introduction, Fall 2018

Lecturer, University of San Francisco (2018)
Interaction Design, Spring 2018

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2020

NEAREST NEIGHBOR, New Wight Gallery — Online

2019

Context Collapse, New Wight Gallery — Los Angeles, CA
Arts and Culture Salon, Mozilla Festival — London, UK (collaboration as Queer AI)
Sexual Activities, Open Plan Collective — Los Angeles, CA

2018

CRYPT2O, Centro Cultural de España — Mexico City, MX (collaboration as Queer AI)
QueerTech.io, Midsumma Festival — Melbourne, AU (collaboration as Queer AI)

2017

Believe the Hype, B4BEL4B — Oakland, CA
Scene with ShyBot, The Lab — San Francisco, CA (collaboration as Norma Jeane)
Desert X Biennial, Desert X — Palm Springs, CA (collaboration as Norma Jeane)

2016

Public Square: Field of Inquiry, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts — San Francisco, CA

2015

Spring Juried Exhibition, wallaPopUP Gallery — Walla Walla, WA

2014

Many Waters: Artists from Walla Walla, Larson Gallery — Yakima, WA
Spring Juried Exhibition, wallaPopUP Gallery — Walla Walla, WA

2013

10x10x10xTieton, Mighty Tieton — Tieton, WA
Senior Art Thesis Exhibition, Sheehan Gallery — Walla Walla, WA

SELECTED PRESS

East Bay Express: Lefebvre, Sam. "The Truth is Out There" (06.14.2017)
New York Times: Finkel, Jori. "'Desert X' Treats Arid Space as a Rich Canvas" (02.24.2017)
KQED: Holmes, Emily, "Notes From a Secret Art and Technology Sleepaway Camp"
(07.22.2016)

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RESIDENCIES, LECTURES, AND WORKSHOPS

2021

Residency, PLAYA (forthcoming) — Summer Lake, OR

2019

Workshop, Mozilla Festival — London, UK

2017

Presentation, Living Room Light Exchange — Oakland, CA

Residency, Signal Culture — Owego, NY