

Ben Lerchin
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Canada

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benlerchin.com

Full Stack Engineer with over ten years of experience. I have expert level knowledge of React design patterns as well as full-stack experience in Ruby and Node.

As a freelancer for much of my career and a generalist by necessity, I have extensive experience working with product teams to develop user-focused solutions while maintaining high code quality and minimizing tech debt. I enjoy keeping up with the latest trends in web technology, always with a focus on shipping reliable, beautiful and performant applications.

Languages: Typescript, JavaScript, Ruby, Elixir, Python, HTML5, CSS3, sass

Frameworks: React, Redux, Apollo, View Components, Node.js, Ruby on Rails, Polaris, Tailwind

Tools: Webpack, Postgres, graphql, git, eslint, jest, React Testing Library, BrowserStack, Docker, Travis, Firebase, VSCode, Trello, RSpec, Minitest,

Certifications: Triplebyte Certified Engineer (Front End, July 2020)

EXPERIENCE

ENGINEERING AND WEB DEVELOPMENT

Staff Developer, Shopify (May 2022 - Present)

- Lead development of new features for the Shopify App Store, including: LLM-based review summarizer, review ranking, editorialized category pages.
- Author tech designs, participate in project estimation and timelines, and make code contributions.
- Contribute to service health through ATC and on-call rotation, maintaining observability dashboards, updating documentation and addressing tech debt.

Technical Lead, ProducePay (August 2021 - April 2022)

- Founding member and technical lead on Fulfillment team, building customer-focused features around logistics tracking and quality assurance.
- Architected and contributed to a greenfield **Ruby on Rails** API backend
- Collaborated closely with Product to define priorities and assess feasibility of new features
- Configured devops pipeline including end to end testing in **Cypress**
- Led successful initiative to normalize and map a historical database of 800k produce SKUs

Senior Front End Engineer, ProducePay (September 2020 - August 2021)

- Product owner for **React**-based financial dashboard serving mission-critical data to internal users
- Architect and build highly interactive workflows as part of a small cross-functional team
- Contribute to backend development in **Ruby** and **Elixir** through code review and pair programming
- Improve test coverage, code hygiene and deployment processes across projects
- Participate in company-wide planning discussions around infrastructure and shared data

Web Developer, Self Employed (2012 - 2020)

- Built **React + Redux** front-end management dashboard for video streaming network
- Modernized and migrated a monolithic ecommerce **Rails** application.
- Architected and developed fully-functional **React + Redux + Node.js** MVP for social startup, including integrations with Firebase Firestore, Google Cloud Functions and Airship Wallet API.
- Implemented static and CMS-backed marketing websites using **Gatsby, Jekyll, Shopify** and **Hugo**

Full Stack Software Engineer, Junior.io (2016)

- Built **Node.js** microservice integrating SMS, image processing and mobile apps for brand activation
- Led development of **React** marketing website for established startup, implementing custom CMS-backed build process using **Node.js** and **webpack**
- Implemented MVP of VR app using **React** and A-Frame webVR framework

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CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

Graduate Student Researcher, University of California, Los Angeles (2019 - 2020)

- Led development of animated online art gallery for student exhibition.
- Developed network interface streaming live motion capture data
- Supervised safe use of lab equipment including 3D printers, CNC router, table saw and hand tools

Robotics Engineer, CODAME (2017)

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

Apprentice to Ricardo Miranda Zuñiga, New York Arts Practicum (2012)

- Supported fabrication and software development for two new media artworks. Prototyped interactions in Arduino and Processing. Assisted with woodworking tasks.

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 (2013 - 2015)

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

Design and Technology Intern, Mighty Tieton (2011)

- Developed visual identities and templates for artisan business incubator. Designed exhibition catalogs. Established workflows for exhibitions and events.

TEACHING

Lecturer, University of California, Los Angeles (2020)

- Special Topics in 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

EDUCATION

2020

UCLA — Los Angeles, CA
MFA, Design | Media Arts

2013

Whitman College — Walla Walla, WA
BA, Art