Florin LIPAN

About

I'm a Ruby developer with a strong devops background, leadership experience and a passion for building products. I know my way around AWS, Ansible, Kubernetes, Docker and Linux. I can speak SQL to your database and GraphQL to your clients. I have a personal interest in languages like Crystal and Rust. I know a thing or two about HTML, CSS, Javascript and what makes a good UI/UX. I value clean, simple, boring code and try to be pragmatic while keeping my standards high. I can write concise, well structured documentation. I enjoy learning, teaching and being self-organized.

Personal

Email	florinlipan@gmail.com
GitHub / Projects	https://github.com/lipanski
Website / Blog	https://lipanski.com
Place of residence	Berlin, Germany
Languages	Solid English, German, Romanian. Some French.

Experience

Nov. 2021 - Present	**Chatterbug / Staff Engineer (Ruby on Rails)**
May 2020 – Oct. 2021	**Chatterbug / Senior Software Developer (Ruby on Rails)** A hands-on experience building a complex language learning and video streaming platform together with the founders of GitHub. I improved the website performance on numerous occasions, nurtured the Rails monolith and designed advanced GraphQL APIs. I helped other developers in their daily work through pairing, code reviews, planning and patience. I introduced Turbo Streams, Stimulus and GraphQL Subscriptions to the stack, significantly reducing our development time. I learned a lot about developing a successful product with a very small team and lean processes.
Jul. 2018 - Apr. 2020	**Blacklane / Head of Engineering (Platform)** A partially hands-on management role. I'm providing high-level technical guidance to the Blacklane Platform teams (Infrastructure, Geolocation, Payment, Back-office, Salesforce, Internal APIs, ~15 engineers), trying to empower developers whenever I can, but getting my hands dirty when I'm needed. I'm handling recruiting and interviews, providing feedback in 1:1 sessions and mentoring team members. I'm trying to keep engineering standards high, apps running smoothly and people engaged and happy.
Sep. 2014 - Jun. 2018	**Blacklane / Lead Backend Developer (Ruby)** A merry mix of backend development, devops, software architecture and management tasks. I helped tame the Rails monolith, designed and partially developed the new Booking API and developed various (micro)services in Sinatra or Rack using MySQL, Postgres, Redis, Sidekiq, Puma and others. I got deeper into ops, got familiar with a wide range of AWS services from VPCs to CloudFormation and built our infrastructure around Ansible. Over the course of the last year, we shifted towards Kubernetes and Docker. I introduced new processes, handled technical interviews and performed product management tasks. I improved the performance of our systems and lived to see some beefy infrastructure migration Sundays.
Feb. 2014 - Aug. 2014	**Blacklane / Backend Developer (Ruby)**
Nov. 2012 - Jan. 2014	**Axonic / Full Stack Developer (Ruby on Rails)** I developed a fairly complex product from scratch, while being the only developer on the project. Working closely with the CEO, I learned not just full stack Ruby on Rails but also what's important to customers, how to plan and how to build a product.
Dec. 2010 - Aug. 2012	**Axonic / Full Stack Developer (PHP5, Symfony)**
Apr. 2009 - Jul. 2010	**Pi Technologies / Developer (PHP, CMS, Javascript)**

Education

2010 - 2011	**Karlsruhe Institute of Technology** M. Sc. Informatics (discontinued)
2006 - 2010	**Technical University of Cluj-Napoca** B. Sc. Informatics, 240 ECTS Points, 9.5/10