

KEREM KAZAN
New York / NYC

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Product oriented full-stack and infrastructure engineer with 8 years of startup experience. Specializing in system architecture, backend development and decentralized systems.

EDUCATION

BSE in Computer Science, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

August 2013 - May 2017

WORK EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer - [Here Not There](#), New York City, NY

September 2022 - June 2025

- o **Tech: Rust, Terraform, K8S, TypeScript, AWS, GCP, Datadog, Cloudflare, Docker, Solidity, Forge / Foundry**
- o Lead all cloud infrastructure efforts, including the flagship decentralized messaging product.
- o Integrated Rust based self-authored open-source caching RPC load-balancer into company infrastructure, saving 50% on alchemy API costs, serving between 1000 to 2000 requests per second. Saved north of \$20,000/month.
- o Implemented the CI/CD pipelines for building, testing, linting, type-checking and deploying all services.
- o Designed the solidity protocol for registering and operating decentralized nodes that power the network.
- o Built an observability system to monitor the health of externally operated nodes.
- o Created a sandboxed environment mechanism that deployed all services on demand through PR labels.
- o Migrated core services from AWS ECS to GCP K8S.

Co-Founder - whatsgood.dog, New York City, NY

October 2022 - January 2023

- o **Tech: Solidity, TypeScript, GraphQL, React, NextJS, AWS, Terraform**
- o Started an engineering collective to help early stage web3 startups build early product iterations.
- o Closed 6 clients and scaled to \$85k monthly revenue.
- o Built a community of 40 engineers, designers and product managers.
- o Architected technical project plans, and placed member talent onto partner companies.

Smart Contract / Full Stack Engineer (**Part Time**) - sound.xyz, New York City, NY

July 2022 - November 2022

- o **Tech: Solidity, TypeScript, GraphQL, AWS, Datadog, OpenTelemetry**
- o Advised the company on solidity smart contract best practices and web3 security.
- o Built an AWS performance monitoring flow using Datadog and Cloudwatch to monitor health metrics.
- o Lead a distributed GraphQL APM tracing project using OpenTelemetry. This project allowed the engineering team to see how long particular GraphQL queries and mutations took, down to the field resolver level, covering spans such as Redis cache and database queries.
- o Restructured the GraphQL APIs to include errors as first class citizens in the schema.

Engineering Fellow - OxMacro, New York City, NY

May 2022 - July 2022

- o **Tech: Solidity, TypeScript, Hardhat**
- o Built, tested and deployed a suite of solidity smart contracts: a crowdfunding protocol, an ICO contract, a DAO and a liquidity pool. Gave weekly audits on the other fellows' smart contracts.
- o Finished the program with the **honors** tier, an award granted to historically 1-2 fellows per cohort.

Co-Founder and Head of Engineering - [Appreciate](#), New York City, NY

April 2021 - April 2022

- o **Tech: GraphQL, TypeScript, NodeJS, Apollo, Docker, Terraform, React, NextJS, NestJS, Postgres, AWS**
- o Hired and managed a remote team of 6 engineers.

- o Architected a security and scalability oriented AWS cloud infrastructure with a VPC, multi AZ deployments, ECS containers, RDS Aurora database.
- o Coded the majority of the company's early product features such as:
 - o Fashion Product API: where developers can search a GraphQL API to surface product information such as retail price, resale price, product category, brand name
 - o Wallet Experience: where users upload photos of their products and organize them
 - o Receipt Experience: where users forward e-receipts from their favorite brands to send@appreciate.it, and have their products appear in their wallets.
 - o Backoffice: where our team labels and monitors the user uploads.
- o Initiated an internship program that trained and mentored 2 new-grad software engineers.
- o After 8 months of service as Head of Engineering, started managing the Product and Design teams on top of the Engineering team, bringing the organization headcount under management to 10.

Founding Engineer - [Matter](#), San Francisco, CA

November 2017 - April 2021

- o **Tech: GraphQL, NodeJS, Apollo Client, React, TypeScript, Postgres, Nginx, SQS, Serverless, Lambdas**
- o Joined as the first employee on day 1, and assumed responsibility for all engineering efforts.
- o Led all system architecture and infrastructure efforts across the stack: Databases, caching, serverless lambdas, queues, GraphQL api design, React UI components & state management, monorepo maintenance, testing, CI, design patterns.
- o Collaborated with design and product teams to develop core features such as giving feedback, goal-setting, social-graph, recommendation engine, integrated learning content, onboarding, social feed, OAuth data syncing, and Slack integration.
- o Designed and built an e2e in-house A/B testing framework in collaboration with the engineering team.

OPEN SOURCE PROJECTS

Author - Nexus - nexus.whatsgood.dog

November 2020 - January 2022

- o **Tech: TypeScript, Rust, Docker, Cloudflare, NodeJS, Express, Fastify, Bun**
- o Built a cost-optimizing Ethereum RPC load balancer, supporting both http and websockets.
- o For the Rust port, visit: github.com/whats-good/rpc-gateway

Author - Uniform GraphQL - uniform-graphql.whatsgood.dog

November 2020 - January 2022

- o **Tech: TypeScript, GraphQL, NodeJS**
- o Published a framework for building code-first and type-safe GraphQL apis. Currently **45 stars** on GitHub.

Author - VulcanJS CLI - github.com/VulcanJS/vulcanjs-cli

July 2017 - September 2017

- o **Tech: NodeJS, JavaScript, Redux, GraphQL**
- o Authored a command line interface for VulcanJS, an open source JS web app framework.
- o The community adopted the cli. Currently **36 stars** on GitHub and 13,000 total downloads on npm.

PATENTS / AWARDS

[Product Hunt Golden Kitty Award for Social Impact](#)

January 2019

[OxMacro Secure Smart Contract Engineering Fellow](#), Honors degree

July 2022

Co-Inventor of pending patent application: "Automated Platform for Performance Feedback"

October 2021