

KATRINA FINNEY

Senior AI-Native Full-Stack Engineer (Laravel / Vue / Inertia)

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SUMMARY

Senior, hands-on full-stack engineer shipping production systems with **Laravel, Vue.js, and Inertia**. Owns features end-to-end (**spec → implementation → PR → deploy → support**) with strong delivery discipline, practical architecture judgment, and crisp written communication. Deep experience with **Laravel Forge/Envoyer, GitHub PR workflows, and CI/CD (GitHub Actions)**, plus payment/webhook integrations and production debugging. AI-native developer who uses modern AI tools as a force multiplier while applying strict guardrails for correctness, security, and regression prevention.

CORE STRENGTHS

- **Laravel (Production):** request lifecycle, service-layer patterns, migrations, Eloquent, validation, auth/authorization, API design
- **Vue.js (Production):** Vue 3 Composition API, component architecture, state patterns, UI delivery with backend alignment
- **Inertia.js (Production):** SPA-like UX with server-driven routing, shared props, form flows, auth patterns
- **Ops & Delivery:** Laravel Forge/Envoyer, Linux/Nginx fundamentals, environment/secrets management, deploy/rollback discipline.
- **CI/CD:** GitHub Actions, PR-based workflows, build/test gates, release hygiene, post-deploy verification
- **Queues & Async:** background jobs, retries, idempotency patterns, operational debugging (Redis/Horizon-ready patterns)
- **Integrations:** Stripe/PayPal, webhook pipelines, third-party misconfig/debugging, production issue remediation
- **AI-Native Engineering:** agentic workflows for planning, implementation, refactoring, test generation, and documentation—with human accountability

TECH STACK

Laravel • PHP 8+ • Vue 3 • Inertia.js • Tailwind CSS • MySQL • Redis • GitHub Actions • Forge/Envoyer • Docker • REST APIs • Stripe/PayPal

EXPERIENCE

Independent Software Consultant — Remote | 2023–Present

- Delivered production features in **Laravel + Vue + Inertia**, owning the full lifecycle: **build** → **PR** → **deploy** → **support** across client systems.
- Designed scalable backend services and REST APIs using Laravel and MySQL, supporting subscription workflows and new product capabilities.
- Built and maintained **CI/CD pipelines** using **GitHub Actions**, improving release consistency and reducing manual deployment steps.
- Deployed and operated applications via **Laravel Forge/Envoyer**: server configuration, environment setup, deploy scripts, and incident response.
- Integrated **Stripe and PayPal** for billing and transactions, including webhook-driven state updates and failure handling.
- AI-native workflow: used AI tools to accelerate implementation and tests; validated outputs via reviews, test gates, and security checks before shipping.

Web Application Developer — Kirschbaum Development — Remote | 2021–2023

- Built and maintained SaaS applications using **Laravel, Vue.js, TailwindCSS**; shipped features through **PR-based workflows** and async review.
- Stabilized and extended existing production systems: debugging issues, reducing repeat incidents, and shipping pragmatic improvements without scope drift.
- Improved performance through efficient SQL queries and backend refactors; reinforced changes with regression-minded testing.

- Implemented and supported payment-related features using **Stripe/PayPal**, coordinating frontend and backend changes.
- Collaborated cross-functionally to deliver user-centric enhancements aligned with business outcomes.

Web/Email Developer — Coweta County NAACP — Newnan, GA | 2020–2021

- Designed and launched websites with strong usability and responsive layouts; ensured production readiness through QA and validation.
- Configured and optimized email campaigns; maintained reliable publishing workflows and release checks.

AI-NATIVE DELIVERY PRACTICE (HOW I WORK)

- Loop: **spec → execution plan → AI-assisted implementation → tests → human verification → PR checklist → deploy notes → post-deploy validation**
- Uses AI for: scaffolding, refactors, test generation, edge-case discovery, and documentation drafts
- Guardrails: treat AI output as untrusted until verified; avoid secrets leakage; validate auth/validation paths; require tests for risky changes

PROJECTS & PROOF (SELECT)

- **Subscription SaaS Platform (Laravel + MySQL):** scalable architecture supporting subscription models; integrated Stripe/PayPal billing flows.

- **API Development (Laravel):** built REST APIs supporting frontend applications; consistent validation patterns and reliable data exchange.
 - **CI/CD Automation:** GitHub Actions pipelines + Forge/Envoyer deployment workflow improvements to enhance reliability and reduce downtime.
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