Samuel Mikula

Software Engineer · Paris, France · remote (EU)
Dual citizen · eligible to work in the EU and the US

samuelmikula@icloud.com
github.com/itemscenter · x.com/itemscenter
a-love-letter-to-arc.com

AT A GLANCE

- ✓ **2,997** GitHub contributions in the last year, public and private
- ✓ Runs a two-person studio that builds its own products from 0 to 1, like Keta AI
- ✓ Used to be a backend guy who got into design engineering, from the data side to the UI
- ✓ Works AI-first, and builds for agents as users: an MCP server, this site as Markdown

About

I started coding in high school, writing bots that bought limited sneaker drops. Since then I've loved reverse-engineering complex apps and APIs, taking them apart until I know exactly how they work. Today I run a small two-person software studio, **Cherry Cowboys Inc.**, with a close friend, where we build our own products from 0 to 1, and I work AI-first.

Selected work

Keta AI

ketagen.com

An unlimited AI video generator: take a clip's motion and recast it with your own characters, products or clothes. Built the Studio (a reference clip, up to eight images and a prompt become a video), a prompt layer that rewrites your words for the model, a fair queue that runs **4** renders at a time per account, card billing and groupbuys, and an **MCP server** so Claude and ChatGPT can start a video from a chat.

Own product · Cherry Cowboys Inc. · Astro · Cloudflare · Stripe · MCP

Bot-protection solvers · Footshop

releases.footshop.com

Private solvers for DataDome, Akamai and Kasada, offered as APIs that scraping services paid for per request. On the other side, freelance: internal anti-bot protection for Footshop's raffle system, with browser and TLS fingerprinting, identity checks and rate & velocity checks, so users running bots can't win by submitting hundreds or thousands of entries.

Ganesh

ganeshbot.com

A sneaker bot sold as licenses, started in high school, circa 2020, and built with friends. Over **1,500** users at its peak, who bought more than **$30M** of sneakers. With tens of thousands of active tasks running at once, the JavaScript version froze, so we moved to Python for multithreading, then to Go, where every task is a cheap goroutine across every CPU core. That's where I learned to push millions of requests through.

This portfolio

a-love-letter-to-arc.com

A one-page site with hand-built motion (View Transitions, the Web Animations API, no animation library), an SVG sprite pipeline, a draggable pinboard and a "Blueprint" mode that measures every component. Covered by a Playwright suite with JS and CSS size budgets, and published as Markdown (/samuel.md) and as this PDF for people and agents.

Next.js · React · TypeScript · plain CSS · Playwright

How I work

01 Write the issue down, then plan it against a spec
02 Split the work across agents (Claude Code, Grok bot, Cursor)
03 Review on the running app with Agentation annotations
04 Verify with Playwright; agents check their own UI
05 Ship

Stack & tools

TypeScript · JavaScript · Go · Python · React · Next.js · MCP · Playwright · Cloudflare · Stripe · Figma · Claude Code

Outside work

Grew up in Prague, CZ. Four years with LA as my home base and a lot of travel, now settled in Paris, FR. Part of Founders Running Club in Paris.