

Michal Marko

senior product designer



Eleven years across mobile products and physical objects. Most recently the only designer on Openvibe — one app for the open social web, an Apple editors' pick for 2026. I like starting things: taking a raw idea, shaping it into a product, and staying with it through the refinement that makes it ship.

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EXPERIENCE

Openvibe — Lead Product Designer

2023–2026

The only designer on a team of five, backed by an \$800K seed with Automattic in the round. One app that brings Bluesky, Mastodon, Nostr, Threads, Tumblr and RSS into a single feed. iOS, Android and macOS. 120,000+ downloads.

Onboarding across decentralised networks, multi-account architecture, crossposting with partial-failure recovery, threaded timeline, design system.

78 design-related pull requests merged into the production app after engineer review.

App and store assets localised to 20+ languages.

Plebstr — Lead UI Designer

2022–2023

A Bitcoin-native Nostr client, built from scratch after Musk closed the Twitter API. Designed end to end in a few months — wallet, zaps and payment flows for a non-technical audience. It got the team into Wolf, the Bitcoin accelerator in New York — one of nine teams in the cohort.

Jack Dorsey posted publicly about running Plebstr.

Tweetoshi — Lead UI Designer

2021–2022

A Twitter client that shared ad revenue with its users, with Lightning tipping built in and no KYC. The only designer on the team.

TheTouch X — Co-Founder & Head of Design

2015–2021

Co-founded and led design for six years. HB Ring — a ring that lets two people feel each other's heartbeat, in solid 18K rosé gold or stainless steel, both with sapphire crystal. Then the software around it.

SOLO PROJECTS

Oopsie — Solo iOS app

2026

Puppy potty-training tracker. Designed and shipped alone with Claude Code. App and store assets localised to 16 languages. Live on the App Store.

kdesimezilesy.cz — Solo web

2026

A photo site and the tool that runs it: drop, crop, trim, optimise, publish, RSS. Plus a packing checklist that installs like an app and works offline. Built with Claude Code on Firebase.

RECOGNITION

Apple editors' pick

2026

"26 Apps for 2026" (Openvibe)

TechCrunch

2024-2026

Four features (Openvibe)

Pacific Bitcoin Festival, Los Angeles

2022

Winner, startup competition (Tweetoshi)

Museum für Kommunikation Bern

2016

Permanent collection (HB Ring, IKT_00504)

Swedish Innovation Prize

2015

Winner, Industrial Design, category under IKEA

Bang & Olufsen Innovation Camp

2012

The working group's concept filed as a Danish patent by B&O (PA 2012 00530)

SKILLS & TOOLS

Product & interaction design, design systems, information architecture, native iOS and Android patterns, prototyping, motion, localisation	design
Figma, Claude Code, Git, Xcode, Webflow, Rhinoceros, Jira, Firebase, Rive	tools
Bitcoin & Lightning, Nostr, decentralised social, consumer fintech, hardware + software	domains
Design-level contribution in a production Flutter codebase — theming, dialogs, media viewer, localisation, merged after engineer review	code

EDUCATION

Wolf Wolf Pack 2, two-month startup accelerator, New York	2023
Tomas Bata University in Zlín MA, Product Design	2010–2017
Universidade de Aveiro Industrial and Product Design, exchange semester	2014

LANGUAGES

Slovak — native · Czech — fluent · English — professional working proficiency