

SYL ARENA

Curriculum Vitae

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SYL ARENA

CONTACT

Syl Arena
Morro Bay, California
SylArena@gmail.com
Portfolio: SylArena.com ([link](#))

EDUCATION

MFA Visual Arts (2017)
Lesley University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Thesis: *The Tautology of Jäger: Expanding the Definition of Concrete Photography*

BFA Studio Art—Photography
University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

ARTIST RESIDENCY

2017

Penumbra Workspace Program— ([link](#))
Penumbra Foundation, New York, New York

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

2017

Todd Walker Research Fellowship— ([link](#))
Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2017

*Left Coast Juried Exhibition 2017—*Sanchez Art Center, Pacifica, CA

*New Visions 2017—*San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, San Luis Obispo, CA

*Light Sensitive 2017—*Art Intersection, Gilbert, AZ

*MWCP Juried Exhibition—*Midwest Center for Photography, Wichita, KS

*Good Bokeh—*H Gallery, Ventura, CA

*Visions of Cuba—*Fototeca de Cuba, Havana, Cuba

*LA Artcore 1st Annual Photographic Exhibition—*LA Artcore, Los Angeles, CA,
George Simian, Richard Vogel, Brian Moss, and Jeff Alu, Jurors

*Photowork 2017—*Barrett Art Center, Poughkeepsie, NY
Isaac Diggs, Rebecca Morse, and Robert Stevens, Jurors

*EFAA Juried Abstract Show—*Evergreen Association of Fine Arts, Bellevue, WA
Katya Palladina, Juror

*Order and Chaos Chautauqua National Juried Exhibition—*Giles Gallery, Eastern
Kentucky University, Richmond, KY, Robert L. Croker, Juror

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2016

2016 Aperture Summer Open: Photography Is Magic—Aperture Foundation,
New York City, Charlotte Cotton, Curator

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: ACADEMIC

2015—present

Department Chairman, Visual and Performing Arts Department
Mission College Prep, San Luis Obispo, California

2013—present

College Prep Visual Art Teacher—studio art (intro through AP),
photography (intro through advanced), and cinematography (intro)
Mission College Preparatory, San Luis Obispo, California

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: MULTI-DAY WORKSHOPS

2017

Flash Photography (scheduled)—Rocky Mountain School of Photography,
Missoula, Montana

2016

Flash Photography—Rocky Mountain School of Photography, Missoula, Montana

2015

Crafting Dramatic Light with Small Flashes—Santa Fe Photo Workshops,
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Flash Photography—Rocky Mountain School of Photography, Missoula, Montana

2014

Speedlites Demystified—Maine Media Workshops, Rockport, Maine

Crafting Dramatic Light with Small Strobes—Santa Fe Photo Workshops,
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Flash Photography—Rocky Mountain School of Photography, Missoula, Montana

2013

Speedlites Demystified—Maine Media Workshops, Rockport, Maine

Crafting Dramatic Light with Small Flashes—Santa Fe Photo Workshops,
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Seeing Cuba: Discovering the Culture and People of Cuba—
Santa Fe Photo Workshops, Havana, Cuba

Peter Read Miller Sports Photography Workshop—Denver, CO

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2012

Peter Read Miller Sports Photography Workshop—Denver, CO

Peter Read Miller Sports Photography Workshop—Atlanta, GA

Speedlites Demystified—Maine Media Workshops, Rockport, Maine

Crafting Dramatic Light on Location—Santa Fe Photo Workshops,
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Strobes & Speedlites—Paso Robles Workshops, Paso Robles, California

2011

FotoWeekend 2011—Gulf Photo Plus, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

2009

Canon Speedlite Intensive—Paso Robles Workshops, Paso Robles, California

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: LECTURES AND SEMINARS

2017

Abstract, Concrete, and Non-Mimetic Photography—
Lesley University College of Art & Design, Cambridge, MA, artist talk.

2016

Canon Radio Speedlighting: Basic to Advanced Techniques—
B&H Event Space, New York City, seminar.

2015

Canon Live Learning—
Photo Plus Expo, New York City, demonstrations.

New Frontiers for Lighting with Canon Speedlites—
B&H Event Space, New York City, seminar.

2013

Speedlites: A Complete Studio in Your Bag—
Estudio Brazil, Sao Paulo, Brazil, lecture/demonstration.

Quick Start to Off-Camera Flash with Canon Speedlites—
B&H Event Space, New York City, seminar.

2012

Mastering the Canon 600EX-RT Speedlite System—
Canon Digital Learning Center, Hollywood, California, seminar.

Speedlites Intensive—
PixSylated Media, 25 cities around the US, seminar.

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Using Light and Shadow to Create Cinematic Portraits—
Exposure Photo & Video Imaging Show, Toronto, Ontario, seminar.

New Frontiers for Lighting with Canon Speedlites—
B&H Event Space, New York City, seminar.

Master Series with Jay Maisel, Syl Arena, and Henry Horenstein—
Maine Media Workshops, Rockport, Maine, lecture.

Ten Tips for Better Travel Photography—
Paso Robles Library, Paso Robles, California, lecture.

A Look Inside the Canon Wireless Flash System—
Canon Digital Learning Center, Hollywood, California, seminar.

Cinematic Portrait Lighting—
Cal Poly ART 468–Portfolio Prod., Sky Bergman, San Luis Obispo, CA, lecture.

Lighting Portraits with Small Flash—
Cal Poly GRC 202–Digital Photo, Brian P. Lawler, San Luis Obispo, CA, lecture.

Getting the Most Out of Speedlites—
B&H Event Space, New York City, seminar.

Master Your Speedlights For Amazing Results—
Photo Pro Expo 2012, Cincinnati, Ohio, seminar.

2011

Lighting Persona: Using Light and Shadow To Create Cinematic Portraits—
B&H Event Space, New York City, seminar.

Canon Speedlighting With Multiple Flashes—
B&H Event Space, New York City, seminar.

2010

Shadowing and Other Revolutionary Ideas—
This Week In Photo, San Jose, California, seminar.

2009

Worldwide Photo Walk—
Paso Robles Workshops, Paso Robles, California, photowalk.

Nikonian For Canonistas—
Joe McNally Workshops, Hobbs Ferry, New York, seminar.

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PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS AUTHORED

2015

Speedlites Handbook: How To Craft Light with Canon Speedlites (2nd Ed.)—
Peachpit Press ([link](#))
Translations: [Mandarin](#), [Spanish](#)

2012

Light and Lighting: From Snapshots to Great Shots—
Peachpit Press ([link](#))
Translations: [French](#), [German](#), [Italian](#), [Mandarin](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#)

2010

Speedlites Handbook: How To Craft Light with Canon Speedlites—
Peachpit Press ([link](#))
Translations: [French](#), [German](#), [Mandarin](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#)

PUBLICATIONS: MAGAZINE ARTICLES WRITTEN

2011

“Speedlites for Portraits”
Canon Pro Network Magazine, February 2011, pgs. 44-49. Print.

“Rituals of Discernment and Detachment”
San Louie, Spring 2011, pg. 7. Print.

2010

“High Speed”
EOS Magazine, October–December 2010, pgs. 54–59. Print.

“On the Road”
San Louie, November 2010, pgs. 18–19. Print.

“Adventures in Time and Space”
San Louie, Aug. 2010: 38. Print.

“Shadowing and Other Revolutionary Ideas for Speedlighting”
Professional Imagemaker, August–September 2010: 98-102. Print.

ONLINE: COURSES & LECTURES

2016

Getting Started with Flash Photography—Canon Digital Learning Center ([link](#))

2013

B&H Prospectives: Modifying Speedlites with Syl Arena—B&H Photo ([link](#))

Quick Start to Off-Camera Flash with Canon Speedlites—B&H Photo ([link](#))

Mastering the Canon 600EX-RT Speedlite—Canon Digital Learning Center ([link](#))

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2012

New Frontiers for Lighting with Canon Speedlites—B&H Photo ([link](#))

Getting the Most Out of Canon Speedlites—B&H Photo ([link](#))

2011

Lighting Persona: How Light Shapes Personality—B&H Photo ([link](#))

Canon Speedlighting with Multiple Flashes—B&H Photo ([link](#))

Working With Speedlites: One Flash Photography—KelbyTraining.com ([link](#))

Working With Speedlites: Multiple Flash Photography—KelbyTraining.com ([link](#))

ONLINE: ARTICLES WRITTEN

2015

Light Fantastic!—Canon Pro Network ([link](#))

2012

Canon's Latest Flash System—Canon Pro Network ([link](#))

Canon's New Radio Speedlites—Canon Pro Network ([link](#))

2011

Advanced Speedlite Strategies—Canon Pro Network ([link](#))

2010

Modifying Flash—Canon Pro Network ([link](#))

On- and Off-Camera Flash—Canon Pro Network ([link](#))

Speedlites Controls and Modes—Canon Pro Network ([link](#))

OTHER PROJECTS

Paso Robles Workshops, Paso Robles, California
Director and instructor—produced location lighting workshops
2009—2012

Peachpit Press, San Francisco, California
Designer and compositor—Speedlites's Handbook:
Learning to Craft Light With Canon Speedlites (Second edition)
2014—2015

Peachpit Press, Berkeley, California
Designer and compositor—Speedlites's Handbook
Learning to Craft Light With Canon Speedlites (First edition)
2010—2011

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Syl Arena Photo+Design, Paso Robles, California
Freelance photographer, publication designer, and creative director
2002—2013

This Week in Photo, Petaluma, California
Podcast—guest host, current issues in photography
2010—2016

REFERENCES

Upon request.