

# SYL ARENA

Morro Bay, California 93442

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[SylArena.com](http://SylArena.com)

## Curriculum Vitae

Updated: December 7, 2017

### EDUCATION

*MFA Visual Arts—Photography*

Lesley University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Thesis: *The Tautology of Jäger: Expanding the Definition of Concrete Photography*

*BFA Studio Art—Photography*

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

### ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2017—present

*Adjunct Faculty, Digital Photography*

Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo, California

2015—present

*Department Chairman, Visual and Performing Arts Department*

Mission College Prep Catholic High School, 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 Prep Catholic High School, San Luis Obispo, California

### BOOKS AUTHORED

2015

*Speedlitter's Handbook (2nd Ed.)—Peachpit Press ([link](#))*

Translations: [Mandarin](#), [Spanish](#)

2012

*Lighting For Digital Photography—Peachpit Press ([link](#))*

Translations: [French](#), [German](#), [Italian](#), [Mandarin](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#)

2010

*Speedlitter's Handbook—Peachpit Press ([link](#))*

Translations: [French](#), [German](#), [Mandarin](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#)

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## RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

2017—2018

*Todd Walker Research Fellowship—* ([link](#))

Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

Focus: Early explorations of digital photography by Walker in pre-Photoshop era

## ARTIST RESIDENCY

2017—2018

*Penumbra Workspace Program—* ([link](#))

Penumbra Foundation, New York, New York

Focus: Color Carbon Printing Process

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2017

*Color: Photography Now—*Blackbox Gallery, Portland OR

*EAFA Juried Abstract Show—*Evergreen Association of Fine Arts, Bellevue, WA

*Good Bokeh—*DAB Art Gallery, Ventura, CA

*LA Artcore 1st Annual Photographic Exhibition—*LA Artcore, Los Angeles, CA,

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

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

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

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

*Order and Chaos Chautauqua National Juried Exhibition—*Giles Gallery, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY,

*Photowork 2017—*Barrett Art Center, Poughkeepsie, NY

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

2016

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

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## PHOTOGRAPHY COURSES TAUGHT (\* = week-long workshop)

### 2018

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

### 2017

\* *Flash Photography*—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

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

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

\* *Speedlites Demystified*—Maine Media Workshops, Rockport, Maine

### 2013

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

\* *Peter Read Miller Sports Photography Workshop*—Denver, Colorado

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

\* *Speedlites Demystified*—Maine Media Workshops, Rockport, Maine

### 2012

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

\* *Speedlites Demystified*—Maine Media Workshops, Rockport, Maine

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

### 2011

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

### 2009

\* *Speedlites Intensive*—Paso Robles Workshops, Paso Robles, California

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## LECTURES AND SEMINARS

**2017**

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

**2016**

*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—*  
B&H Event Space, New York City, seminar.

**2013**

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

**2012**

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

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

**2011**

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

**2010**

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