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education

MAY 2012 — **Louisiana Tech University**
Master of Fine Arts Candidate – Photography
Ruston, LA

MAY 2009 — **McNeese State University**
Bachelor of Visual Arts – Photography
Lake Charles, LA

teaching experience

WINTER 2012 — **Intro to DIgital Photography** (Teacher of Record)
Louisiana Tech University - Ruston, LA
Introductory course designed specifically for the DSLR. Course was geared for students retaining a firm grasp on their DSLR, Adobe Bridge, Adobe Camera Raw, Epson Inkjet Printing and preliminary Photoshop skills.

FALL 2011 — **Intro to Digital Photography** (Teacher of Record)
Louisiana Tech University - Ruston, LA
Introductory course designed specifically for the DSLR. First quarter for new curriculum with digital as the foundation course of the photography program. Course was geared for students retaining a firm grasp on their DSLR, Adobe Bridge, Adobe Camera Raw, Epson Ink Jet Printing and preliminary Photoshop skills.

SPRING 2011 — **Digital Photography for Communication Design** (Teacher of Record)
Louisiana Tech University - Ruston, LA
This course is designed to teach basic photographic and Photoshop skills for those with a significant knowledge (JR/SR level) of design communication in order for the designer to produce their own imagery for their design work.

WINTER 2011 — **2D Basic Design** (Teacher on Record)
Louisiana Tech University - Ruston, LA
Designed and facilitated a class aimed at introducing students to the basic elements and principles of design. Students were challenged with weekly assignments with various mediums including oil and acrylic paint, collage, charcoal, pen and ink, pencil, mixed media and digital work through Photoshop and Illustrator.

FALL 2012

Teaching Assistant, Intro to Photography
Assistant Professor Jes Schrom
Louisiana Tech University - Ruston, LA
Assisted with critiques, grading, project designs, classroom assistant for darkroom within a film based class. Responsible for daily lectures on the history of photography.

SPRING 2010

Teaching Assistant, Intro to Digital Photography
Assistant Professor Jay Gould
Louisiana Tech University - Ruston, LA
Assisted with critiques, grading, classroom assistant for an introductory course in Photoshop and digital camera work. Facilitated writing assignments geared to help students begin developing their artistic vocabulary as well as viewing, analyzing and writing about contemporary art. Emphasis on Epson Inkjet printing was built into the course.

WINTER 2010

Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Photo
Assistant Professor Jes Schrom
Louisiana Tech University - Ruston, LA
Assisted with critiques, grading, project designs, classroom assistant for Photoshop with film based class, facilitated and taught assignment geared to cultivate conceptual thought within a photographic series. Emphasis on Epson Inkjet printing was built into the course.

FALL 2009

Teaching Assistant, 2D Basic Design
Assistant Professor Joey Slaughter
Louisiana Tech University - Ruston, LA
Assisted with critiques, grading, project designs, managed online discussion board, facilitated an introductory Photoshop based project on the design element "shape".

professional experience

2009-2012

Graduate Gallery Committee
Installation and lighting for both the Main Gallery and E.J. Bellocq Gallery; approximately 10 shows per academic year.
Jay T Taylor School of Art
Louisiana Tech University – Ruston, LA

2009-2012

Wet Darkroom, Lighting Studio and Digital Lab Monitor
After hours assistant/ monitor for both the wet darkroom, lighting studio and digital lab. Mixing of black and white chemicals, changing ink for Epson printers, and assisting/advising students use of professional kits were part of the job requirements.

2010-2012 Epson 9900 Print Service
Louisiana Tech University, School of Art
1of 2 graduate students in charge of running a paid large format print service using an Epson 9900.

2011 North Central Louisiana Arts Council
Piney Hills Gallery Intern
Show installation, data base & permanent collection organization, digitizing submission and artist database, developing formal Piney Hills Gallery logo

lectures

2012 Society for Photographic Education, National Conference
San Fransico, CA
Camera & Curtain
Graduate Lecture

Point of Advent: MFA Thesis Opening
Ruston, La
Jay F Taylor School of Art
A Method of Mourning

2011 Society for Photographic Education, South Central Regional Conference
San Antonio, TX
Camera & Curtain
Graduate Lecture

selected exhibitions

2012 Point of Advent , MFA Thesis Exhibition
E.J. Bellocq Gallery
Louisiana Tech University
Ruston, LA

Spinning Yarns
800 and Ice House Galleries
Monmouth University
West Long Branch, NJ.

Art from the G.U.T.
Best In Show Award
Juror: Jenny Burnham, *Curator of Education at the Masur Museum of Art*
Louisiana Tech University Enterprise Center
Ruston, LA

PhotoSpiva 2012
Juror: Andrew L. Moore*, Artist*
George A Spiva Center for the Arts
Joplin, MO

Louisiana Tech Unversity School of Art
Juried Student Show
Juror: Kelli Connell, *Artist & Educator*
Louisiana Tech University
Ruston, LA

2011 MFA Group Exhibition
Louisiana Tech University Enterprise Center
Ruston, LA

7th Photographic Biennial Exhibition
Juror: Keith Carter, *Artist*
Wellington B. Gray Gallery, East Carolina University
Greenville, North Carolina

Spinning Yarns
Gallery 114 and Kendall Gallery
Kendall College of Art and Design
Grand Rapids, MI.

Art from the G.U.T.
Juror: Benjamin Hinckley, *Curator at the Masur Museum of Art*
Louisiana Tech University Enterprise Center
Ruston, LA

Home... is Where the Camera Is
Juror: Julie Blackmon, *Artist*
Vermont Photography Workplace
Middlebury, VT

Louisiana Purchase: Bicentennial National Juried Show
Louisiana Tech University School of Art
Honorable Mention Award
Juror: Barbara Bloemink, *Executive Director at Anderson Ranch Arts Center*
Louisiana Tech University
Ruston, LA

2010 FOUR
Livaudais Studio & Gallery
Monroe, LA

Louisiana Tech University School of Art
Juried Student Show
Honorable Mention Award
Juror: Doug Baulos, *Artist & Educator*
Louisiana Tech University
Ruston, LA

MFA Group Exhibition
Louisiana Tech University Enterprise Center
Ruston, LA

2009 Art from the G.U.T.
Juror: Evy Stewart, *Director of the Masur Museum of Art*
Louisiana Tech University Enterprise Center
Ruston, LA

Ruston Holiday Art Crawl
1000 Words Photography Studio & Gallery
Ruston, LA

Senior Gallery Exhibition
Abercrombie Gallery,
McNeese State University
Lake Charles, LA

2008 Annual Juried Student Exhibition
Juror: Karyn Murphy, *Artist*
Imperial Calcasieu Museum
Lake Charles, LA

SPE Women's Caucus Exhibition
Juror: Liz Allen and Betsy Fahlman, *Artist & Educator*
Northlight Gallery
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

SPE South Central Region Student Exhibition
South Central Conference
Memphis College of Art
Memphis, TN

15th Annual Juried Student Exhibition
Honorable Mention Award
Juror: Kimberly Arp, *Artist & Educator*
Imperial Calcasieu Museum
Lake Charles, LA

publications / in print

2012 Poetic Objects: Still Life As Subject, exhibition publication
Juror: Sue Lezon, *Artist*
Vermont Photography Workplace
Middlebury, VT

Home... Is Where The Camera Is, exhibition publication
Juror: Julie Blackmon, *Artist*
Vermont Photography Workplace
Middlebury, VT

2011 Nikon/ Photo Forum
Photo Forum's 2011 Best of College

Self Searching: Redefining the Self Portrait, exhibition publication
Juror: Aline Smithson, *Artist*
Vermont Photography Workplace
Middlebury, VT

2010 Nikon/ Photo Forum
Photo Forum's 2010 Best of College

LBC LIVE - Best Cover Award
Publication of the Louisiana Baptist Convention
The Best of LBC Live
January – February 2009 Issue

LBC LIVE, The Best of LBC Live
Publication of the Louisiana Baptist Convention
January – February 2009 Issue

Infinity Hair Salon 2009 Spring Campaign
Photographer, Creative Concept Consultant

2009 LBC LIVE - Best Cover Award
Publication of the Louisiana Baptist Convention
The Best of LBC Live
January – February 2009 Issue

skill set

Traditional 35, 120, 4x5 Film processing, camera equipment
Black and White Darkroom printing
Digital SLR Cameras
Professional Inkjet Printing
Professional Photographic Lighting
ADOBE Photoshop
ADOBE Illustrator
ADOBE InDesign
ADOBE Adobe Bridge
ADOBE Lightroom
ADOBE Camera Raw
ADOBE Premier
Scanning; film & documents
Framing
Sewing/ Fabric work
Alternative print processes: *cyanotypes, tin types, liquid emulsion, acrylic lifts, albumen*
Lithography
Drawing, various mediums
Handmade Bookmaking
Vinyl Die-cutting

community involvement

SUMMER 2012

NCLAC Summer Arts Camp - 2D / 3D
Designed week long course to introduce elementary age children to 2 & 3 dimensional art.
Ruston, LA

SUMMER 2011

NCLAC Summer Arts Camp - 3D
Designed week long course to introduce elementary age children to 3 dimensional art. Projects were designed to be constructed from recycled material in accordance to the camps theme.
Ruston, LA

JAN 2011

Art. Create. Discover. Communicate (AC/DC) Kids
Louisiana Tech University's Enterprise Center
Community art advocacy/ literacy program for 5th grade students from Ruston Elementary School.
Ruston, LA

DEC 2010

Help Portraits (help-portrait.com)
In conjunction with Help Portraits national campaign, edited and distributed portraits of local Boys and Girls Club member's families.
Ruston, LA

JAN 2010	Art. Create. Discover. Communicate (AC/DC) Kids Louisiana Tech University's Enterprise Center Community art advocacy/ literacy program for 5th grade students from Ruston Elementary School. Ruston, LA
DEC 2009	Help Portraits (help-portrait.com) In conjunction with Help Portraits national campaign, organized 10 volunteer photographers to photograph 98 youths from the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home, plus the printing and distribution of the photographs. Ruston, LA
2009-2011	ClubPhoto: *Founding Member, Secretary* Louisiana Tech University Ruston, LA
2008-2009	Student Photo Association, *President* McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA
JULY 2008	Shutterbugs Photo Camp Organized photo camp for elementary students Vincent Settlement Elementary Sulphur, LA
2007-2008	Student Photo Association: *Founding Member*, *Vice President* McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA

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teaching philosophy

My first experience in art came from the theatre. For ten years, I was involved with a semi-professional theatre group that became another family to me. Everyone worked on everything in order for each show to be a success. If someone was struggling with line delivery or character development, you volunteered to help them run lines. If there was a set to be built, or costumes to be made; we all did it. Every part of the production came from our hands and we understood that our success was tied to our hard work.

This notion of communal involvement in art was drilled in me from a young age, so it was a natural progression for me to assume and wish the very same dynamic to be a part of my visual art community. Within the classroom this idea is translated into an open platform where knowledge is free to flow in multiple directions: teacher to student, student to student, and also student to teacher. Embracing this structure helps a classroom dynamic become communal. It is important for my students to know their stories and experiences are valid and that they specifically bring something important to the classroom dynamic. I feel it is important to build an atmosphere in a classroom where students feel comfortable enough to explore, possibly fail and are ready to try again. Students begin to understand that the work they are making is not just part of the class requirements, but part of an exploration over time that will transform them into better artists.

In order for a class to achieve a certain level of comfort, I again rely on tactics from my previous theatre training. I begin each class with a group activity organized specifically to loosen them up. Some days the activity is meant to enhance group dynamics, others are based off of their readings, and sometimes it is for sheer fun. By beginning my classes like this I dissolve the notion that my only job is to “teach” them. Once I am able to convey the fact that I am learning from them as much as they are learning from me, I have seen students attitudes and work ethic transform within the first couple weeks. This model helps students in foundational classes understand that art truly is communal and artists are always learning from one-another.

I expect excellence, but believe that experimentation and some failures to be part of the process. I believe that a strong foundation in the technical aspects of photography give students the platform needed for conceptual experimentation. For each of the assigned projects, group discussion is used to help each of the students in their experimentation process. After the assignment is given, the students return with their proposals during the next class and each student is invited to share their ideas. This is also repeated halfway through the project timeframe. During these brainstorming sessions, I encourage the students help each other out with ideas, address alternate view points, tips and share what they found did and did not work. Through this process students see where they stand within the progression of the class against their peers, but also helps in the building of the classroom dynamic by investing in one-another’s success from the start.

I have witnessed this method within the classroom to have an effective outcome during critiques. The students have become comfortable with each other and as a result, their critical analysis and examination of their peers work comes from a more honest place. They are harsh when needed and their peers reviews are received graciously because a foundation of artistic trust has been established.

Within the structure of my class you will find a mixture of photographic projects, group assignments specifically designed in researching contemporary photography, mandatory gallery attendance that require a critical writing component and project critiques that vary in structure. The use of various methods is my attempt to appeal to the many levels in which students learn and also to make the class unpredictable and exciting for my students. I want my students to leave my class equipped with the necessary technical skills, comfortable with exploring conceptual ideas through their photographic work, enthusiastic about contemporary art and advocates for art in their surrounding communities.