

# James Clotfelter

## Lighting and Transdisciplinary Designer

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### CURRENT POSITION

#### BURO HAPPOLD ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS

Lighting Designer, New York City, August 2015 - present

### EDUCATION

#### PARSONS THE NEW SCHOOL FOR DESIGN

MFA dual degree, Transdisciplinary Design (School of Design Strategies) and Lighting Design (School of Constructed Environments), 2015

#### TULANE UNIVERSITY

BFA Lighting Design and Technical Direction, New Orleans, 1998

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### THEATRICAL LIGHTING DESIGN (notable premiers)

I have premiered work in venues ranging from Off-Broadway and 3,000 seat opera houses to abandoned Rite Aids and the Pennsylvania forest. Most of these performances have toured internationally and I have coordinated and advanced the lighting and often the entire production. My work supports dance, theatre, and many other forms of ensemble-generated performance.

*EXODUS*, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Rennie Harris, Koch Theatre, Lincoln Center, 2015  
*CANYON*, John Jasperse, Brooklyn Academy of Music, 2012  
*HEAVEN*, Rennie Harris, Kimmel Center, Philadelphia, 2011  
*TRIBES*, Sarah Shelton Mann, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, 2010  
*PROGRESSIVE COMA*, Johannes Wieland, ZKM Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe, Germany, 2010  
*ENJOY*, Toshiki Okada, The Play Company, NYC, 2010  
*THE BREAK/S*, Michael John Garcés, Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis, 2009  
*NEWYOU*, Johannes Wieland, Staatstheater Kassel, Germany, 2009  
*NN*, Ryszard Kalinowski, Lubelski Teatr Tanca, Lublin, Poland, 2008  
*CHEKOV LIZZARDBRAIN*, Dan Rothenberg, Pig Iron Theatre Company, Philadelphia, 2007  
*CIVILIAN / WARRIOR*, Tobin Rothlein, The Grand Theatre, Groningen, Holland, 2007

#### "OFF-THE-GRID" AND ALTERNATIVE-PERFORMANCE-SYSTEM DESIGN

This work involves the design and construction of complete lighting and power systems that support performance using alternative energy such as bicycle power, foot pedals, and solar panels. Enabling productions to operate sustainably allows them to operate efficiently and ultimately reach a more diverse audience.

*RED, BLACK & GREEN: A BLUES*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA, 2011  
*CAPSULE 33*, Lucidity Suitcase Intercontinental, Barrow Street Theatre, NYC, 2010  
*GENERATE / DEGENERATE*, Miro Dance Theatre / Mlab, Philadelphia, 2009  
*BLACK WHOLE*, Black Mountain College, Food Lion Skate Park, Asheville, NC, 2009  
*"OFF-THE-GRID" FESTIVAL* (Production Manager), Philadelphia Fringe Festival, Painted Bride Gallery, 2009

#### INSTALLATION AND PERFORMANCE ART

Installation and performance maintain an interesting and unpredictable relationship. To both curate and design work in this context requires a re-imagining of the gallery as a performance space. Each of these works were designed to integrate into a more formal environment while maintaining the flexibility and fluidity that live performance requires.

*FROM THE SPOT WHERE WE/YOU/I STAND (STOOD)*, Miller Rothlein, Crane Arts Center, 2014  
*TRAFFIC*, Bill Shannon, Dance New Amsterdam, mobile bus, NYC, 2010  
*AFTERHOURS: Bill Shannon - what is what*, Hirshhorn Gallery, Washington, D.C., 2010  
*SELF PORTRAIT*, Miro Dance Theatre, Philadelphia Museum of Art, 2008  
*PITCH BLACK*, Prism Quartet, Whitney Museum of Art, Altria, NYC, 2007

## PRODUCTION AND STAGE MANAGEMENT (select positions)

Throughout my career I have been responsible for the success of various types of productions as a manager and technical liaison between artists and venues. This has involved complex logistics, planning and execution in everything from outdoor spaces to large union theaters.

Fleet Moves Dance Festival, Wellfleet, MA, 2012  
DanceMotion USA (BAM / US State Department), Middle East tour, 2012  
*HOW PHILLY MOVES*, Philadelphia Mural Arts, 2011  
Lighting and Technical Director, PICA's TBA Festival, Lincoln Hall, Portland, OR, 2004  
US Dance Showcase, Tokyo Performing Arts Market, Tokyo, 2003  
Cedar Lake Ensemble, NYC, 2004-2005  
Spymonkey, UK, international tour, 2001-2002

## PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS, HONORS, AND AFFILIATIONS

### BOARD MEMBER

Skills Administrator, Young Engineer's Forum, Buro Happold, NYC, 2016 - present

### INSTRUCTOR

Leading High-Performance Teams, Wharton School of Business; Philadelphia, 2008-present

### COMPANY MEMBER

Pig Iron Theatre Company, Philadelphia, 2007-present  
Miller Rothlein / MIRO Dance Theatre, Philadelphia, 2004-2012  
johannes wieland, NYC, 2008-2011  
Rennie Harris Puremovement, Philadelphia, 2003-2006

### CO-FOUNDER

Mlab design laboratory; Philadelphia, 2005-2011

### PANELIST

*Light Years: Lighting Design in 2045*, as part of UNESCO ITL2015, Parsons School of Design, NYC 2015  
*Lighting for Ensembles and Devised Work*, USITT National Conference, Charlotte, 2011

### AWARDS

Travel Grant Recipient, Theatre Communications Group, 2007

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE (PARSONS)

### TEACHING ASSISTANT

Summer Studies in Constructed Environments, Parsons The New School for Design, Summer 2014

### WORKSHOP SERIES AND PANEL ORGANIZER

*Moving to Design: Movement Models for Design Practice*, University-wide workshop series, The New School, Fall 2014

### PRESIDENT

Illumination Engineering Society, Parsons chapter, 2013-14 academic year

### RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Derek Porter, Director MFA Lighting Design, School of Constructed Environments, Summer 2013-present  
Alaiyo Bradshaw, Course Coordinator for Drawing and Imaging, School of Design Strategies, Fall 2012-present  
Alice Min Soo Chun, Solight Design, Fall 2014

### AWARDS & HONORS

Thesis Prize, presented by IESNYC, Spring 2015  
IDEO / Knight Foundation Civic Design Fellow, Winter/Spring 2015  
IALD Education Trust Scholarship, International Association of Lighting Designers, Spring 2014

## SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

MEDIA	Adobe Premier, Qlab, Isadora, A/V systems and components
SOFTWARE	Adobe Creative Suite, Revit, AutoCAD, SketchUp, AGi32, Ecotect Climate Analysis, MS Office
SHOP	3D model making, carpentry, electrics, audio, welding (stick, MIG, oxy-gas)
DESIGN	workshops, knowledge brokering, systems thinking, participatory design, co-design, service design
TRAVEL	extensive international experience