

James Clotfelter

Lighting & Design

19 Winthrop Ct.
Durham, NC 27707
james@jclcd.net
917.517.4272

portfolio: www.jclcd.net

ARCHITECTURAL LIGHTING DESIGN

James Clotfelter Lighting Design (2017 – present), Owner & Principal Designer

James directs project work at varying scales and types from initial concept through construction administration. His office deploys a collaborative and socially conscious practice informed by James' experience developing time-based narratives for live performance. Design development is further supported through rigorous analytical study, conceptual lighting renders and full-scale mockups.

WILSON ARTS CENTER, Louis Cherry Architecture, Wilson, NC, 2019*
HOPE VALLEY RESIDENCE, Louis Cherry Architecture, Durham, NC, 2019*
RALEIGH RESIDENCE, Louis Cherry Architecture, Raleigh, NC, 2018*
DURHAM FOOD HALL, Ellen Cassily Architect, Durham, NC, 2018*
STEPHEN PETRONIO RESIDENCY CENTER STUDIO, David Szlasa (Studio Manager), Round Top, NY, 2017

Derek Porter Studio (2013 – present), Lighting Designer

Lighting design, documentation and analysis for projects at a variety of scales in a highly collaborative, design-focused environment. Inspired by shared philosophical interests, design work advances through analytical and diagrammatic studies, research, and meticulously crafted details and specifications.

LIP LAB, Bite Beauty, Brooklyn, NY, 2019
HEART OF THE CITY, Coen+Partners, Rochester, MN, 2019
SOBRATO CENTER CLUBHOUSE, Gould Evans (Arch), University of San Francisco, 2018*
30 OTIS STREET, Gould Evans (Arch), San Francisco, CA, 2018*
MARKET STATION (dynamic skin), el dorado, inc. (Arch), Denver, CO, 2017*
THE EDGE HOUSE, Dake Wells (Arch), Galena, MO, 2016*
PULSE FIELD (permanent art installation), Wichita Art Museum, 2015

Buro Happold Engineering (2015 – present), Lighting Designer

Lighting Design and documentation for a variety of project types and scales within a global engineering firm that cultivates fluid, productive and efficient communication across multiple trades and services. This office employs cutting edge, digital tools to strengthen its work towards design, computation and analysis.

VERIZON EXECUTIVE EDUCATION CENTER, Snohetta (Arch), Cornell Tech Campus, NYC, 2016*
MARTIN BUILDING RENOVATION AND EXPANSION, Machado Silvetti (Arch), Denver Art Museum, 2016*
COCA EXPANSION, Christner Architects, St Louis, MO, 2017*
108 LEONARD STREET, SLCE (Arch) & Jeffrey Beers International (Interior Design), 2016
IPEX, 3rd Floor fit out, Sasaki (Arch), University of Sciences, Philadelphia PA, 2016
BRACEBRIDGE CAPITAL, Sasaki (Arch), Boston, 2016
Various Residential Projects, Kao Design Group, Moskito Islands, BVI, 2015-2017*

* *under construction*

LIVE PERFORMANCE

Studio C Projects (2018 – present), Co-Owner

Studio C Projects broadly investigates the live intersections of movement, design and performance. This work begins as a series of studies between these disciplines and is guided by inquiry, experimentation and the idea that live-performance should not be predetermined. Studio C is based in Durham, NC and maintains a mission to develop collaborative projects with local artists and practitioners.

Freelance Lighting Designer for live performance (1998 – present)

I have premiered work in venues ranging from 3,000 seat opera houses to abandoned warehouses and public parks. 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 and devised live-performance.

Mlab Design Laboratory (2005 – 2011), Co-Founder

A laboratory for innovations and design technologies in the live arts, Mlab was created to culture and explore ideas about the use of mixed media and technology in current design and stage direction that differ from what seems to be generally accepted in contemporary live performance art.

DESIGN & FABRICATION

DESIGN AND FABRICATION FOR RETAIL INSTALLATION

Each of these temporary environments was designed to inhabit specific venues and all of the scenery and technical components were custom fabricated to support a seamless experience between the original space and the intervening design.

MUJI REST STOP, Lighting & Controls Design, Muji, Cooper Square, NYC, Spring 2015
FLOAT, Lighting Design & Fabrication, Pas de Calais, NYC, Spring 2015
DRIFT, Lighting Design & Fabrication, Pas de Calais, NYC, Fall 2014
Seasonal Press Showcase, Lighting Design & Fabrication, Eddie Bauer, NYC, 2005 - 2010

INSTALLATION AND PERFORMANCE ART

The characteristics of installation and performance maintain an interesting and unpredictable relationship. To design and curate work in this context requires a re-imagination of the gallery as a performance space. Each of these works was designed to integrate into the shared public space while maintaining the flexibility and fluidity that live performance requires.

RED, BLACK & GREEN: A BLUES, Marc Bamuthi Joseph, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, 2011
TRAFFIC, Bill Shannon, Dance New Amsterdam, mobile bus project, 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

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS, HONORS, AND AFFILIATIONS

AFFILIATIONS

Illumination Engineering Society (2013-present)
Skills Administrator, Young Engineer's Forum, Buro Happold, NYC, 2016 - 2017
Artistic Associate, Pig Iron Theatre Company, Philadelphia, 2007-present

PANELS & PRESENTATIONS

Beyond Vanity (with Gabe Guilliams), LEDucation 2017
Light Years: Lighting Design in 2045, as part of UNESCO IYL2015, Parsons School of Design, NYC, 2015
Lighting for Ensembles and Devised Work, USITT National Conference, Charlotte, NC, 2011

AWARDS & HONORS

IALD Award Of Merit + Sustainability, 888 Boylston Street, with Buro Happold Engineering, 2017

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

EDUCATION

MFA (double major), Parsons The New School For Design, Transdisciplinary Design & Lighting Design, 2015
BFA, Tulane University, Lighting Design & Technical Direction, 1998

TEACHING

Lighting Design, Duke University, Department of Theater Studies, Durham NC, Spring 2019
Digital Environments, Parsons The New School For Design, New York City, Fall 2016
Leading High-Performance Teams, Wharton School of Business; Philadelphia, 2008-present
Summer Studies in Constructed Environments, Parsons The New School For Design, New York City, Summer 2014

AWARDS & HONORS

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