

JER NELSEN

jer@jernelsen.com
www.jernelsen.com

BIOGRAPHY

Born in Springfield, IL and teaching photography in the upstate of South Carolina. Researching and making work in the intersection of faith, science, and art. Currently producing a multi-year photographic project on the decline of the shopping mall and its shift from retail centrality. Assistant Professor of Art at Anderson University.

EDUCATION

- 2017 MFA in Visual Art, Lesley University College of Art and Design, Cambridge, MA
- 2009 BS in Photography, Indiana Wesleyan University, 2009 (Cum Laude)

CURRENT GRANT PROJECT

- 2021 *Ghost Spaces: Junkspace and the Slow Death of the Shopping Mall*
Photographic Exhibition

EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *(upcoming) Event Horizon, Vandiver Gallery, Anderson University, Anderson, SC (solo)*
- 2022 *Faculty Exhibition, Vandiver Gallery, Anderson, SC*
Ghost Spaces: Junkspace and the Slow Death of the Shopping Mall, Marion, IN (solo)
- 2020 *Projected Voids, Williams Galleries, Marion, IN*
- 2019 *Faculty Exhibition, Beard Art Galleries, Marion, IN*
Expanding, 1920 Gallery, Marion, IN
Grant County Makers, 1920 Gallery, Marion, IN
- 2018 *Group 6 WIP, University Hall, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA*
- 2017 *Pop-Up, The Ballroom Gallery, Winona Lake, IN*
Windows x Wormholes, Williams Galleries at Indiana Wesleyan, Marion, IN (solo)
Ad Infinitum, Raizes Gallery, Cambridge, MA (solo)
Armstrong National 2D Exhibition, Armstrong University, Savannah, GA (juried)
- 2016 *townies, 1920 Gallery, Marion, IN*
Boston Young Contemporaries, Stone Gallery, Boston Univ., Boston, MA (juried)
The Space Between, Center Hall Galleries, Marion, IN
- 2015 *un / ceremonial, Old Master, Marion, IN (two-person)*
Rhyme & Reason, Old Master, Marion, IN
- 2014 *Chasing Light, Mount Memorial Gallery, Winona Lake, IN (solo)*

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 *Team Mecha-Hydra (Leveraging Technology for Efficient and Excellent Team-Teaching and Student Learning)*, Lynn University, June
aftersome: What in the World Am I Doing? Indiana Wesleyan University, February
- 2021 *Are You Watching Closely?: Why Photography Is More Important Than Ever Before*
Anderson University, March

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 *Posidrag: Issues 4 + 5 + 6*
- 2018 *To Infinity: The Contemplary Sublime*, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA
WIP Zine, Issue 18.3, 18.4
Posidrag, Issues 1 + 3
- 2017 *WIP Zine, Issue 17.4*

COLLECTIONS

Lunder Art Center, Cambridge, MA
Anderson Center for the Arts, Anderson, IN
Williams Galleries, Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN
University Archives, Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN

MEMBERSHIPS

American Photographic Artists (APA Professional)
Society for Photographic Education (SPE)
Southeast Center for Photography (Professional)
Christians in the Visual Arts (CIVA)
Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE)
College Art Association (CAA)

CURATION & JUDGING

- 2022 Juror - Hartwell Center for the Arts Annual Juried Show, Hartwell, GA
- 2018 Juror - Preservation of Memory (CCCU National Juried Show) Marion, IN
Juror - Photography Invitational, Clark Galleries, Honeywell Center, Wabash, IN
- 2017 Resident Critic - MFA in Visual Art, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA
Juror - Taylor University All-Student Art Exhibition, Upland, IN

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Filmmaking + Film Theory
3D Modelling and Printing
Alternative Photographic Processes (Pd/Pt Printing, Wet Plate, Cyanotype)
Quantum Mechanics' relationship to art, faith, wonder + sublimity
Cartography + Mapmaking
Visual Coding + Interactive Art

CERTIFICATIONS + TRAINING

Adobe Certified Instructor (Creative Cloud, renewed 2022)
Apple Teacher (2022)
Design Institute (2021, 2022)

EDUCATOR EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor of Art, Anderson, 2021-present

Created structure for the new Photography concentration within the South Carolina School of the Arts. Wrote courses and created infrastructure with a commercial practice in mind. Wrote grants and proposals and secured funding for new studio space and equipment for students. Hired and managed 5 student workers

Assistant and Associate Professor of Photography, Indiana Wesleyan University, 2016-2021

Restructured and updated curriculum to fit current industry needs. Instructed mid- and upper-level undergraduates to in a variety of courses- helped students to pursue internships and professional experience in desired career fields, advised a full load of Photography students.

Adjunct Professor of Photography, Indiana Wesleyan University, 2013-2016

Worked heavily with upper-level undergraduates to build professional photographic portfolios in desired career fields, curated and produced several full-scale exhibitions, assisted in integration of faith and learning, as well as teaching valuable conceptual and technical principles through studio courses.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Photographer (2006-present)

*Johnson & Johnson, Chick-Fil-A, Indiana Wesleyan University, Duke Divinity,
1000 Park Baking Co., The Wesleyan Church, Kosciusko County Visitor's Bureau,
Grace Brethren Investment Foundation, REAL Realty*

Professional Photo Workflow Consultant (2008-2011)

In-House Photographer/Videographer (2011-2016)

In-House Design, Indiana Wesleyan University

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE, INDIANA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

2019-20 *Intercultural Fellow, OILE*

Served as a fellow and liaison in identifying and coordinating efforts of diversity and inclusion throughout the faculty at Indiana Wesleyan University

Iceland Trip Coordinator and Leader, Global Engagement

Planned and led a trip (postponed due to COVID-19) to Iceland with 16 Art+Design students. Emphasis of the trip was self-awareness and practicing presence.

Learning Trip Coordinator

Led learning trips Fort Wayne, Chicago, Columbus for photography students to visit studios, museums, and research facilities.

Additional:

University Technology Committee, Academic Affairs

Faculty Search Committee, Illustration

Campus Scheduling Task Force, CAS Faculty

2018-19 *New Program Proposal: BFA + BA in Photography*

Wrote, tested, and proposed a new BA+BFA Program for the Division of Art + Design to keep program up-to-date and prepare for future changes and innovations within the field of Photography. Program became better-focused, and shifted learning from strictly software-and-technology technical learning to a concept-based model based on personal synthesis and field awareness/preparedness. Four new courses were written and added, eight were modified. Programs were approved unanimously.

Day of Courageous Conversations Committee

Presentation: "Marvel and (re)imaging Africa In Marion"

Collaborative presentation about global neighbors and a reimagining of the black narrative as part of Day of Courageous Conversations at IWU. Presented with Pastor Drew Morrell and Dr. Stephen Pierce.

Additional:

Intercultural Fellow, OILE

Academic Affairs Council Representative, Academic Affairs

Tenure Task Force, CAS Faculty

John Wesley Honors College Student Interviewer