

Shaun Slifer

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

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*My practice is a legible hybrid of research, activism, and alternative exhibition strategies.*

b.1979: Independence, Missouri.

Currently living and working in Pittsburgh, PA, with deep roots in Nebraska and Tennessee.

**awards:**

Honorary Member United Mine Workers of America, Local 1440, District 17 – for work on West Virginia Mine Wars Museum, December, 2016

National Coal Heritage Area Authority: Achievement Award for Historical Interpretation - West Virginia Mine Wars Museum, curation/exhibition design, 2015

Artist in Residence: AS220, Providence, RI, 2010

Critical Encounters guest artist, Colombia College Chicago, 2009

Acknowledgment Award, Pittsburgh Creativity Project, Howling Mob Society, 2008

**affiliations:**

creative director/curator/exhibition designer, West Virginia Mine Wars Museum (2014-present)

owner/member, Justseeds Artists' Cooperative (2007-present)

member, Howling Mob Society (2007)

coordinator/member, Street Art Workers (2004-2008)

three-time contributor to "Celebrate People's History!" poster series

co-founder Rule of Thirds art space (2001-2004)

**selected lectures & presentations:**

Art, Heritage and Quality of Life: Lessons from the Venice Biennale, 2013 National Preservation Conference (Howling Mob Society)

guest educator, Bucknell University, 2013 (w/ Marshall Weber, Brooklyn Artists Alliance)

Open Sourcing the City: Invited and Uninvited Participation (Not An Alternative/No-Space), Brooklyn, NY 2010 (Howling Mob Society)

Critical Encounters guest artist, Colombia College Chicago, IL 2009

multi-city speaking tour with artist/filmmaker Bill Daniel, June 2009

Working Class Studies Association Conference, Pittsburgh PA 2009 (Howling Mob Society)

Visible Memories Conference, Syracuse, NY 2008 (Howling Mob Society)

Allied Media Conference, Detroit, MI 2008 (Howling Mob Society)

### **solo & collaborative exhibitions:**

upcoming untitled exhibition of redacted historical marker rubbings – 159 Sutton, Providence, RI,  
Sept.2019

"Commission for Treasonous Strategies" w/ Claire & Tesar Freeman - 707 Penn, Pittsburgh, PA 2016

### **selected group exhibitions:**

2019:

"Boots on the Ground: General H.H. Bandholtz and Federal Troops at Blair Mountain" - w/ Chuck Keeney, PhD, West Virginia Mine Wars Museum, Matewan, WV

"An exhibition of 1,921 brand new, never-seen-before photographs by 87 Pittsburgh artists." - curated by Brett Yasko, SPACE, Pittsburgh, PA

2016:

"Checks & Balances" - curated by Murray Horne, SPACE, Pittsburgh, PA

"John Riegert" - curated by Brett Yasko, SPACE, Pittsburgh, PA

2015:

"Gathering Autonomy: Justseeds Artist's Cooperative" - Pacific Northwest College of Art, Portland, OR

2014:

Sidewall Project - public temporary mural series (December artist) - Pittsburgh, PA

2013:

"Crowdsourced" - SPACE, Pittsburgh, PA

"Word on the Street: Image, Language, Signage" Center for Book and Paper Arts - Colombia College Chicago, Chicago, IL

"Uprisings: Images of Labor" (w/ Justseeds) - Union Art Gallery (University of Wisconsin), Milwaukee, WI

2012:

"Ten New Historical Markers (Howling Mob Society)" U.S. Pavilion at the 13th International Architecture Exhibition - la Biennale di Venezia, Italy

"Lake-Effect: Rurality + Ecology in the Great Lakes" - (Scene)Metrospace, East Lansing, MI

2011:

"Refuge", 29th Biennial of Graphic Arts: International Centre of Graphic Arts - (w/ Justseeds), Alkatraz Gallery, Ljubljana, Slovenia

2011 Pittsburgh Biennial - Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon University (w/ Justseeds), Pittsburgh, PA

### **selected publications:**

"So Much To Be Angry About: Appalachian Movement Press (1969-1979)", *Signal: A Journal of International Political Graphics and Culture*, issue #6, 2018, now a forthcoming book on West Virginia University Press (autumn 2019)

"Smashing Pennies to Protest Industrial Capitalism", *Hyperallergic*, Rachel Elizabeth Jones, July, 2017

"Museums From Below", *Souciant*, interview by Zach Furness, June, 2015

*A Guidebook of Alternative Nows* (The Journal of Aesthetics and Protest Press, 2012)

*Firebrands: Portraits from the Americas*, author, co-editor with Bec Young (Microcosm Publishing, 2010)

*Proximity Magazine*, review, Howling Mob Society (January 2009)

*Reproduce & Revolt* (Soft Skull Press, 2007)

*Realizing the Impossible: Art Against Authority* (AK Press, 2007)

**education:**

Watkins College of Art and Design, Nashville, TN:

Bachelors Degree in Fine Art, concentration in sculpture, December 2003