

Dara Taylor

Digital Media | Online Producer | Videographer

Email: dara@greyzones.com

Websites: <http://www.greyzones.com>
<http://www.sevenfoldskateboards.com/>

Education

- School of Visual Arts (NYC), MFA Computer Art, Video concentration
- University of Maryland, Baltimore County (MD) BA Digital Imaging and Arts
- Maryland Institute College of Art (MD) Photography Portfolio Preparatory

Professional Experience

Anne Arundel Community College

Apr 2011 – present

Professor of American Film

- Provide classroom instruction on American Film Studies in accordance with the college's requirements. Lecture and communicate effectively with students of diverse backgrounds.
- Work closely with peer professors and colleagues in higher education and film industry to bridge the gap from textbook to real world experience.

Smithsonian Institution

Feb. 2009 – present

AV Technician

- Perform A/V installation, design, support, consultation on repair, transport and technical operation services for sound systems, audio recording devices, videotape live programs, live streaming webcasts, broadcast type closed circuit teleconferences, computer data video production, slide shows, stage lighting, 16mm & 35mm film projection and related.
- Document lectures, live performances, panel discussions and symposiums on-site and off- site for Smithsonian archival purposes.

Sevenfold Skateboards

Feb. 2009 – present

Technical Director

- Audio visual systems administration, website design and maintenance, content production, social networking
- Develop and implement production pipeline, quality control, technical support
- Production, videography, graphics, photo editing, video editing, DVD authoring, podcasting

Freelance Assignments

Dec. 2006 – present

- Develop high-end, fast-paced segments for broadcast media as the Final Cut Pro Editor for Interface Media Group. Clients included PBS, National Geographic, the Special Olympics, Hudzee and ARINC's Summer at City Dock.
- Create dynamic visual effects for commercials, music videos and other media at Quietman Visual Effects. Work on campaigns for BBDO, Avon, ESPN Monday Night Football, NYC Lotto, Dove and Lowes. Archived all projects.
- Digitize footage, edit video, photos, author DVD's as a production consultant for HitSpot TV
- Install & manage lighting, audio & live video elements for the off-Broadway production of "Maria the Korean Bride"
- Photographer for Diaspora Newspaper, Martha's Place fundraiser
- Design and code website for www.sevenfoldskateboards.com, www.jarrydlowder.com, www.backtonaturewellness.com, www.auroragallery.net

Untwist Technology, LLC

May 2006 – Apr 2009

Systems Administrator

- Install and configure production hardware and software to support complex IT services
- Conduct system audits, updates and configuration changes to maintain system performance, security and reliability, metadata entry, database management, web management
- DVD authoring, video compression, production support and video archive management

Freelance Video Editor

- Digitize, optimize and encode footage including HDV-SD pipeline and converting Hi-8 from PAL to NTSC
- Edit video as well as design and author DVD's for Italian Glass artist Pino Signoretto
- Manage systems administration including troubleshooting and software installation

PBS

Aug. 2006 – Dec. 2006

Production Intern – American Masters Series: Annie Leibovitz: "Life Through a Lens"

- Conduct background research for the series, photo editor
- Assist the Director and Editor with high resolution scanning and video/photo archiving
- Transported and digitized content from the Rolling Stone Magazine archives

School of Visual Arts, New York

Jan. 2006 – May 2007

DVD Author

- Digitize and encode footage as well as author DVD for the 2006 Thesis Exhibition and Open Studio

Photographer

- Selected by faculty to document exhibition reception for “A Line of Investigation”, Jan 2006

Audio Visual Lab Assistant

- Selected by faculty to serve as lab apprentice, which is considered as a scholarship, to teach students to use the equipment
- Assist Systems Administrators with install, maintenance and repair of patch bays, HD equipment, monitors, database management and other special projects
- Author in-house DVDs used for student exhibitions, recruitment, faculty lectures and archival purposes

Software Skills:

Video: Final Cut Suite 6.0, After Effects, BTV Pro, Cleaner, HDV Pipeline, ProTools, Quicktime Streaming Server, VR and Broadcaster, Signal Flow, Sorenson Squeeze, Soundtrack Pro, Toast and Podcasting.

Web: Dreamweaver, Video encoding, CSS, HTML, DHTML, PHP/MySQL, XML and Blackboard.

Other: MAC and PC Operating Systems, Adobe Design Suite CS4. Microsoft Office Suite, installation, maintenance and repair of audio-visual equipment. Strong organizational skills, production pipeline efficiency, quality control, color correction for film and photos, digital scanning for film and photos, handling archival materials, Stokes Imaging Archival System, database management.

Film – Wrote, directed, shot and edited award winning short film “Opiated: Life Beneath the Eyelids” which is currently featured on IMDB.com’s Beta, invite only streaming web video. <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1280702/>

Awards and Exhibitions

Film – “Opiated: Life Beneath the Eyelids”

- Invited to participate in Internet Movie Database (IMDB.com) beta streaming video program
- 2007 Adobe Design Achievement Awards Live Action Semi-Finalist
- School of Visual Arts Selected Works DVD 2007
- School of Visual Arts Selected Works DVD 2006 – Experimental Audio
- Busboys and Poets Washington, DC Premiere Party, October 2007
- Denver Underground Film Festival, September 2007
- Chelsea Gallery, New York, May 2007

Video – Installations of “Black Lady Hair”, “Koan”, “SoyMilk”, “Bat Kol”, Artificial Organix”

- Think Tank: Space for Performing and Visual Arts, August 2007
- Hell on Reels Film Festival, New York, June 2007
- GLOW Salon “Awakenings: Inner Strength & Beauty”, December 2007

Photography – Exhibition at Release, Bethesda’s premier restaurant, Summer 2006

Web – Certificate of Appreciation presented by Major General, F. C. Wilson at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, August 2005

Interviews

- The Chronicle of Higher Education Magazine Interview, October 2007
http://greyzones.com/txt/chronicle_10_26_07.pdf
- Anne Arundel Community College Alumni Magazine
“Looking through the Lens”, Winter 2007
www.aacc.edu/aboutaacc/file/community0107.pdf

Lectures/ Panels

- Featured Speaker for Widening Horizons, Roosevelt High, DC. November 2007 (ongoing)
Spoke about my scholastic and professional career and instructed a video workshop.
- Anne Arundel Community College, Fall 2008
Communication Arts Technology Careers Panelist
<http://www.aacc.edu/catsite/careers/dara.cfm>