

# Jay Simple

[www.JaySimple.com](http://www.JaySimple.com) | [www.PhotoGreenBook.com](http://www.PhotoGreenBook.com)

[Jay@JaySimple.com](mailto:Jay@JaySimple.com)

## **EDUCATION**

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### **Rhode Island School of Design Master of Fine Art, 2018**

- Concentration: Photography

### **University of Pennsylvania Master of Liberal Arts, 2012**

- Concentration: Visual Anthropology

### **Columbia College Chicago Bachelor of Fine Arts, 2009**

- Concentration: Photography

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **2022-present**

[The Bridge Progressive Arts Initiative](#) | [Charlottesville Mural Project](#) | [Community Chalk Board Steward](#)

#### ★ **Executive Director**

- Managed an Annual Budget of \$320,000 and raised over \$200,000 in support in the first eight months of employment.
- Head all fundraising efforts from grant research and writing to donor relations.
- Headed board recruitment of six new board members that aligned with an institutional strategic plan.
- Strategically planned and opened The Underground: A Center For Creative Collaboration, a 4300 sq/ft artist center.
- Facilitated growth in partnerships by establishing 11 official local partnerships
- Created educational and professional development offerings for non-traditional community artists.
- Facilitate the creation of murals and public art within the greater Charlottesville area through the Charlottesville Mural Project and Community Chalk Wall

### **2023-present**

[Charlottesville Albemarle Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)

#### ★ **Board of Directors**

### **2020-present**

[Photographer's Green Book](#)

#### ★ **Founder and Director**

- Online and annual publication of educational resources that promote inclusion, diversity, equity and advocacy(IDEA).
- Manage listing of over 200 organizations, institutions, collectives, blogs, and exhibition spaces that critically engage diversity.
- Collaborated with four staff members.
- Headed consultancy initiatives within nonprofit and for-profit photography and cultural institutions.
- Management of educational curriculum and administration.
- Built residency program for emerging artists and scholars to create resources for artists of the global majority.

### **2013-2022**

[TZ Production Company](#)

#### ★ **Producer, Creative Director, Cinematographer, Editor**

- Create and facilitate the creation of visual content for film shoots across the United States, Africa, and South America
- Cinematographer, Editor, and Creative Director for two award-winning feature-length documentary films.
- Producer of video content for the [University of Pennsylvania Museum's Africa Galleries](#)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **2021-2022**

The New School

- ★ **1 Year AICAD Fellow/ Assistant Professor of Photography**
- Based within the Art and Design History and Theory program

### **2018-2021**

Longwood University

- ★ **3 Year Visiting Assistant Professor of Photography**
- Head of, and Academic Advisor, for Photography Concentration
- Gallery and Exhibition Committee Member
- Courses Include: Basic Photography, Intermediate Photography, Advance Photography, Color Photography, Studio Photography, Digital Photography, What A Time(Critical inquiry into social, political, and cultural topics through multidisciplinary approaches)

### **2019-2020**

Virginia Commonwealth University

- ★ **Lecturer of Film and Photography**
- Graduate Student Visiting Critic
- Courses Include: Digital I, Cinematography and Lighting, Location Lighting, 4x5 Workshop

## **SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

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### **[Where The Young Bol's Rumble](#)**

Tilt Institute for the Contemporary Image, 2023

### **[Razed to Be Born Again](#)**

The New City Arts Initiative, 2022

### **[Cosmic Slop](#)**

Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, 2022

### **[Exodus Home.](#)**

Hampden Sydney College, 2019

### **[Whites Only!](#)**

Longwood University, 2019

### **[Rose Land.](#)**

University of Illinois Chicago, 2011

South Side Community Arts Center, 2011

## **GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

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### **[Radial Survey Vol. II](#)**

Silver Eye, 2021

### **[Archives Reimagined](#)**

Philadelphia Photo Arts Center, 2021

### **[Sculpting Reality.](#)**

Jamestown Art Center, 2020

### **[Roots & Roads](#)**

Franklin Street Works, 2020

**[Betwixt and Between: Photography, Time and Place](#)**

*Jamestown Arts Center, 2018*

**[Monument Lab: Sweet Chariot: The Long Journey To Freedom Through Time](#)**

*Mural Arts Philadelphia, 2017*

**FILM SCREENINGS AND AWARDS**

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**["Decolonizing the Conversation: A 10 part Web Series"](#)** (Producer)

*Philadelphia Independent Film Festival, 2021*

*Dubai Independent Film Festival, 2021*

**["Decolonizing the Narrative"](#)** (Producer)

Permanent Installation at The University of Pennsylvania

*Dubai Independent Film Festival, 2021*

*Seattle Black Film Festival, 2021*

*LASA International Film Festival, 2021*

*Capital City Black Film Festival, 2020*

*Montreal Independent Film Festival, 2020*

**["Before Things Fell Apart"](#)** (Creative Director, Cinematographer, Editor)

*Philadelphia Independent Film Festival, 2021*

*Capital City Black Film Festival, 2020*

*Seattle Black Film Festival, 2021*

**["African Independence"](#)** (Cinematographer, Editor)

*San Diego Black Film Festival, 2013 -Best Documentary*

*San Francisco Black Film Festival, 2013 -Best African Film*

*175th Anniversary of Emancipation, 2013 -National Televised Screening in Guyana*

*The 36th Annual Philadelphia International Film Festival & Market, 2013*

*BlackStar Film Festival, 2013*

**AWARDS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, RESIDENCIES**

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**[The 30: New and Emerging Photographers to Watch](#)**

*Emerald (Formerly known as Photo District News), 2022*

**[2022 Silver List](#)**

*Silver Eye Center for Photography, 2022*

**[Artist In Residency](#)**

*Philadelphia Photo Art Center, 2020*

**[PAGE Fellow](#)**

*Imagine America, 2017-2018*

**CURATORIAL**

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**[Asterisks in the Grand Narrative of History](#)**

*Longwood Center for Visual Arts, 2021*

**[Beauty in the Ugliness](#)**

*The Curated Fridge, 2021*

## **SELECTED WRITING**

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Center for Art, Research and Alliances, [Where is Africa](#), 2023

Aperture ["Zora J Murff: True Colors\( or Affirmations in a Crisis\)"](#), 2022

Photographer's Green Book ["Why Intent Matters"](#), 2021

Photographer's Green Book ["Vol 1"](#), 2021

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

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### **Keynote Lecturer**

Eye South and Society for Photographic Education Regional Conference  
Columbus State University, Oct 2023

### **Decolonizing Eyes**

Bauhaus Universität Weimar, 2022

### **Representation and Resistance Lecture Series**

Brandeis University, 2021

### **[Thursday Night Photo Talk: Move, Daniel](#)**

Philadelphia Photo Art Center, 2021

### **[Becci Davis and Jay Simple: The Intersection of Art and Activism](#)**

Burlington City Arts, 2021

### **[Revolutionary Practices of Black Photographers](#)**

Duke University, 2020

### **[Thursday Night Photo Talk: Who Trod Through Great Tribulation](#)**

Philadelphia Photo Art Center, 2020

### **Exodus Home**

Hampden Sydney College, 2019

### **Transformative Imaginations: Decarceration and Liberatory Futures**

Imagine America National Gathering, 2018

## **SELECTED PRESS**

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Vinegar Hill Magazine, ["Jay Simple and The Bridge"](#), 2023

C-Ville Weekly, ["Art From The Future"](#), 2022

Shade Podcast, ["Shade Shorts: The Photographer's Green Book"](#), 2022

Bunker Project, ["Radial Lineage, Pittsburgh Roots by Nick Drain"](#), 2021

Humble Arts Foundation, ["When Freedom Never Came: The Photography and Activism of Jay Simple"](#), 2020

Lenscratch, ["Jay Simple: Exodus Home and Photographer's Green Book"](#), 2020

Dear Dave Magazine, [Issue #27](#), 2020

Oxford America ["A Way Home"](#), 2020

Farmville Magazine, ["Artist In Residence: Be Skeptical"](#), 2018