



US009784436B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Dalsgaard et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,784,436 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** ***Oct. 10, 2017**

(54) **LIGHT BEAM FRAMING SYSTEM WITH MERGED SHUTTER BLADES**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC ... G03B 9/06; G03B 9/08; G03B 9/10; G03B 9/22; G03B 9/00; G03B 9/02; G03B 9/07;

(71) Applicant: **Martin Professional ApS**, Aarhus N. (DK)

(Continued)

(72) Inventors: **Carsten Dalsgaard**, Silkeborg (DK); **Morten Grønberg**, Skodstrup (DK)

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

3,980,407 A * 9/1976 Hill G21K 1/04 355/71
4,416,527 A * 11/1983 Okura G03B 9/07 396/509

(Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DK WO 2007134609 A1 * 11/2007 F21S 10/007
WO WO96/36384 5/1996

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

International Search Report dated Mar. 17, 2011; International Application No. PCT/DK2011/050009; International Filing Date: Jan. 14, 2011; 3 pages.

(Continued)

Related U.S. Application Data

Primary Examiner — Hargobind S Sawhney

(63) Continuation of application No. 13/522,387, filed as application No. PCT/DK2011/050009 on Jan. 14, 2011, now Pat. No. 8,911,120.

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Blank Rome LLP

Foreign Application Priority Data

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Jan. 18, 2010 (DK) PA 2010 00034

A framing system for shaping light beam comprises a frame support having a number of shutter blades surrounding said light beam, and a number of actuators that move said shutter blades in and out of said light beam. The shutter blades form a merged pile, where part of a first shutter blade is placed over a part of a second shutter blade. A first actuator rotates at least one of said shutter blades in relation to a first rotational point and a second actuator moves the first rotational point in relation to said light beam. A method of shaping a light beam is provided, and involves rotating a shutter blade around a first rotation point using a first

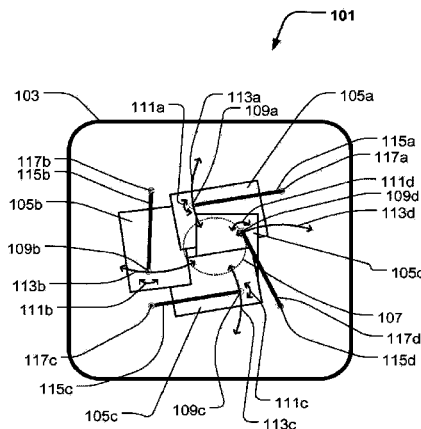
(Continued)

(51) **Int. Cl.**

F21V 11/18 (2006.01)
F21V 14/08 (2006.01)
F21W 131/406 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **F21V 11/183** (2013.01); **F21V 14/08** (2013.01); **F21W 2131/406** (2013.01)



actuator, and moving the first rotation point in relation to the light beam using a second actuator.

13 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC . G03B 17/12; G03B 2205/0069; F21V 11/10;
 F21V 11/18; F21V 11/183; F21V 11/186;
 F21V 11/08; F21V 14/08; G02B 5/005;
 F21S 48/1773; F21S 48/1778
 USPC ... 362/16-18, 277, 280, 281, 319, 321-324;
 396/449, 452, 471, 493-501, 510
 See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,043,753 A * 8/1991 Nakamori G03B 9/22
 396/449
 5,537,166 A 7/1996 Keelan et al.
 5,904,417 A * 5/1999 Hewett F21V 14/02
 362/268
 6,811,331 B2 * 11/2004 Iwasa G03B 9/08
 396/449

6,853,810 B1 * 2/2005 Fujinaga G03B 9/10
 396/269
 7,259,922 B2 8/2007 Fukasawa
 7,287,864 B2 10/2007 Shirasu et al.
 7,677,740 B2 * 3/2010 Takeuchi G03B 9/06
 353/97
 8,057,113 B2 * 11/2011 Kawamoto G03B 9/06
 396/493
 2003/0048640 A1 * 3/2003 Reinert F21V 11/18
 362/321
 2004/0218246 A1 * 11/2004 Onuki G02B 5/205
 359/234
 2005/0047148 A1 * 3/2005 Gennrich F21V 11/08
 362/321
 2005/0286889 A1 * 12/2005 Kihara G03B 9/10
 396/463
 2006/0290901 A1 12/2006 Moriyama et al.
 2009/0116832 A1 * 5/2009 Azuma G03B 9/06
 396/510

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Written Opinion dated Mar. 17, 2011; International Application No. PCT/DK2011/050009; International Filing Date: Jan. 14, 2011; 3 pages.

* cited by examiner

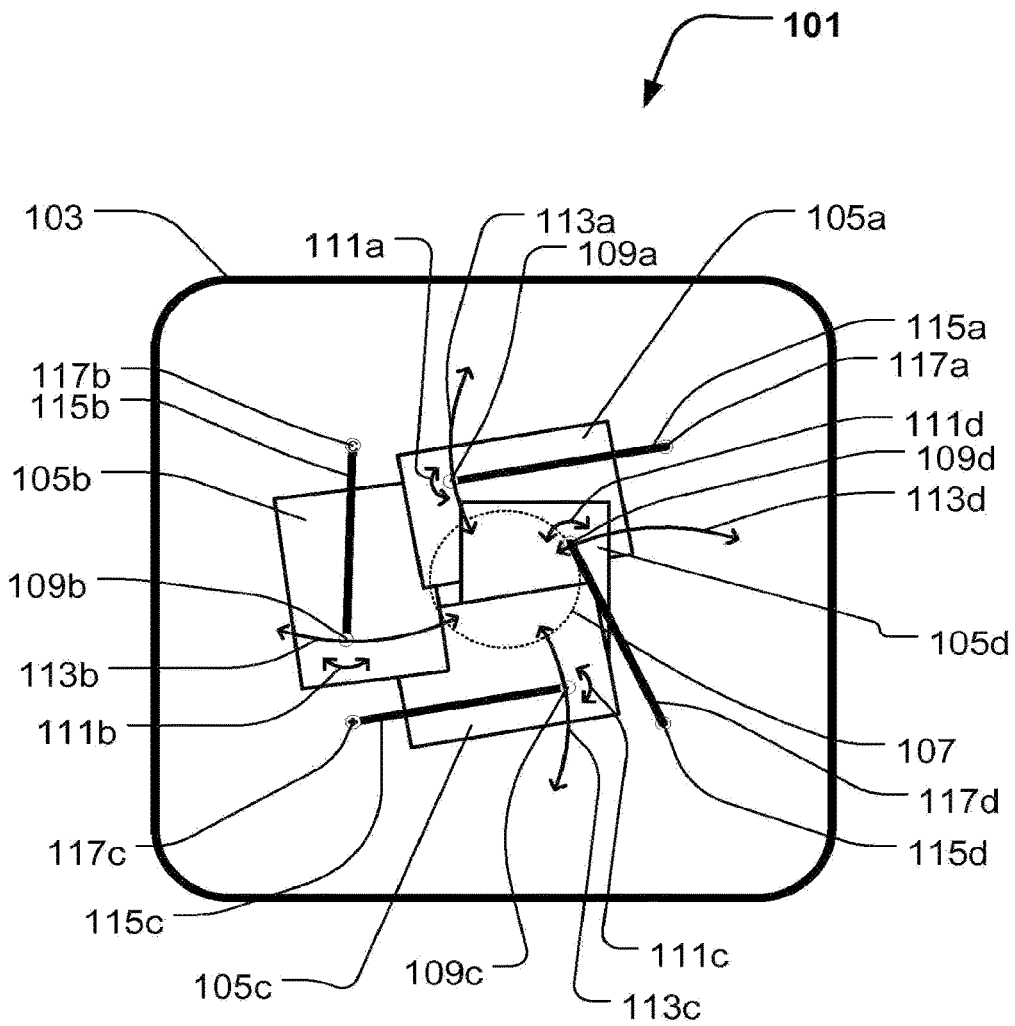


Fig. 1

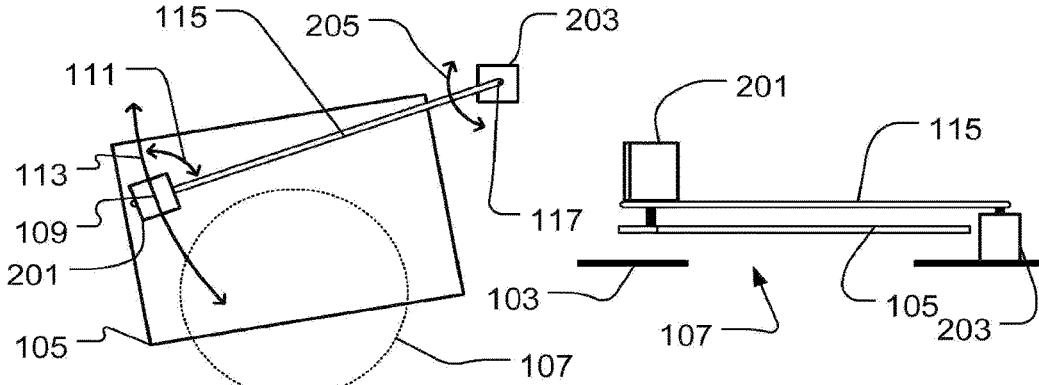


Fig. 2a

Fig. 2b

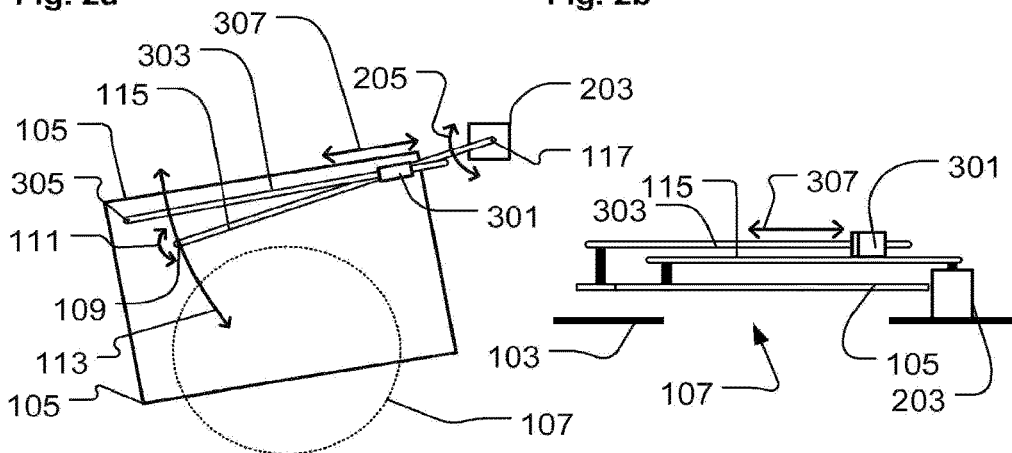


Fig. 3a

Fig. 3b

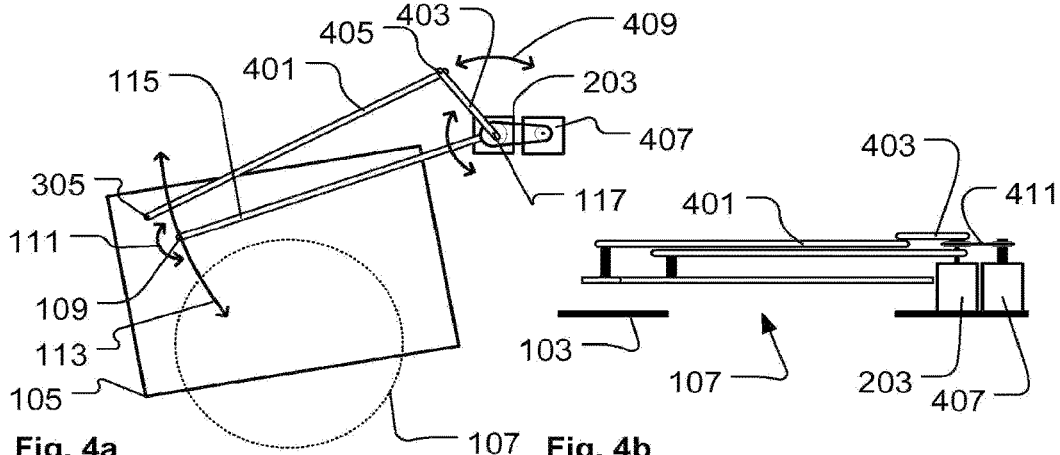
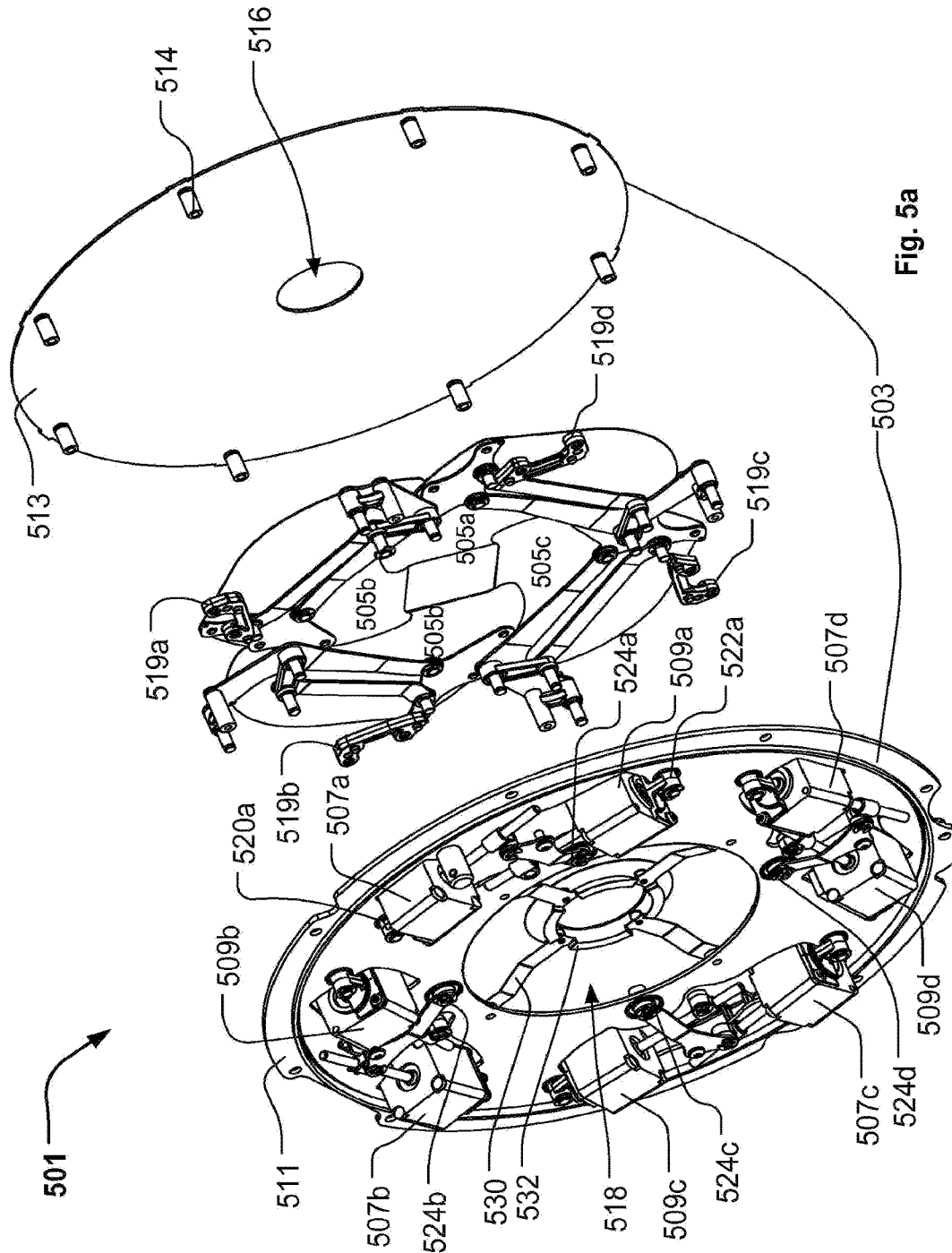


Fig. 4a

Fig. 4b



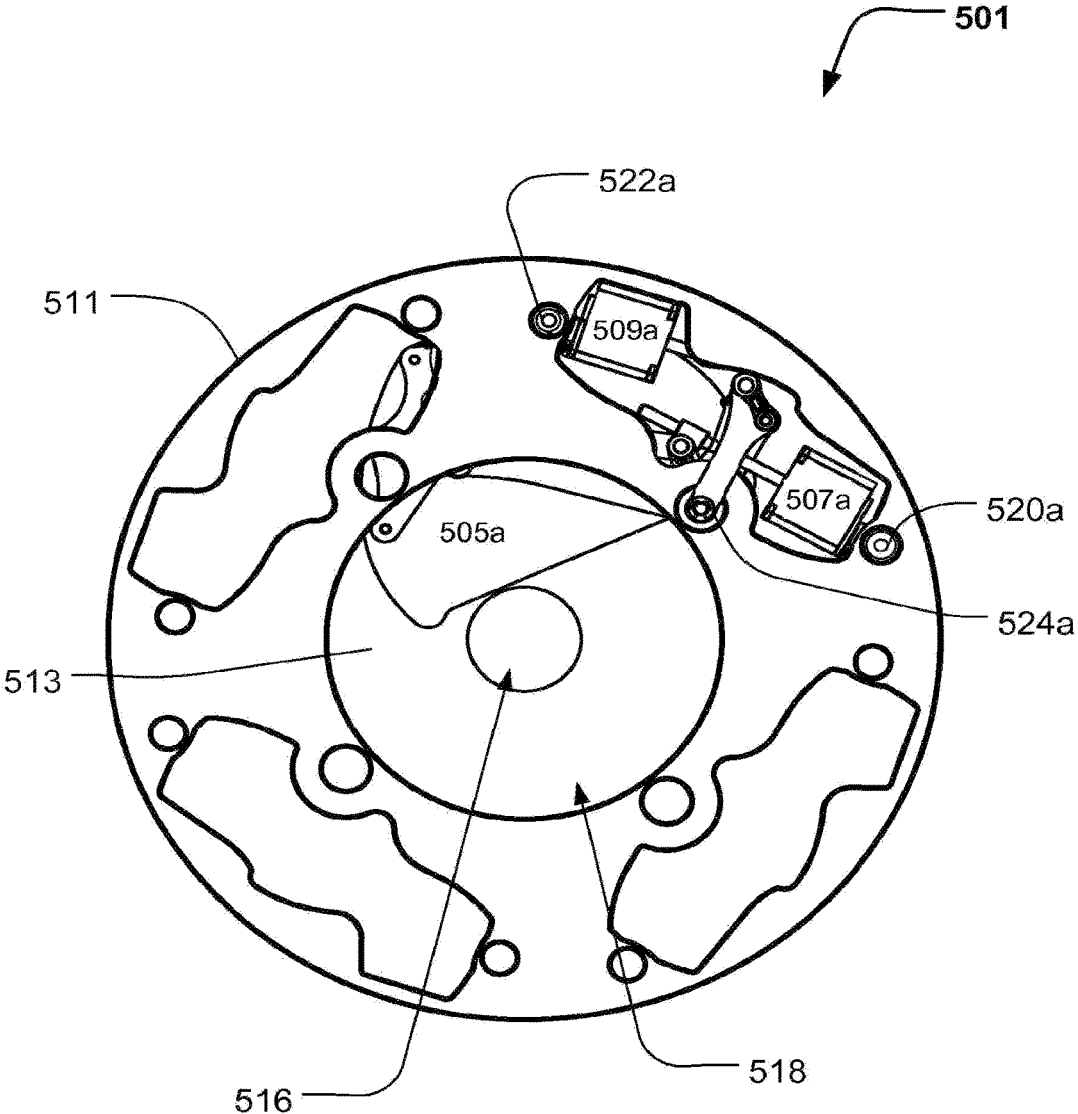


Fig. 5b

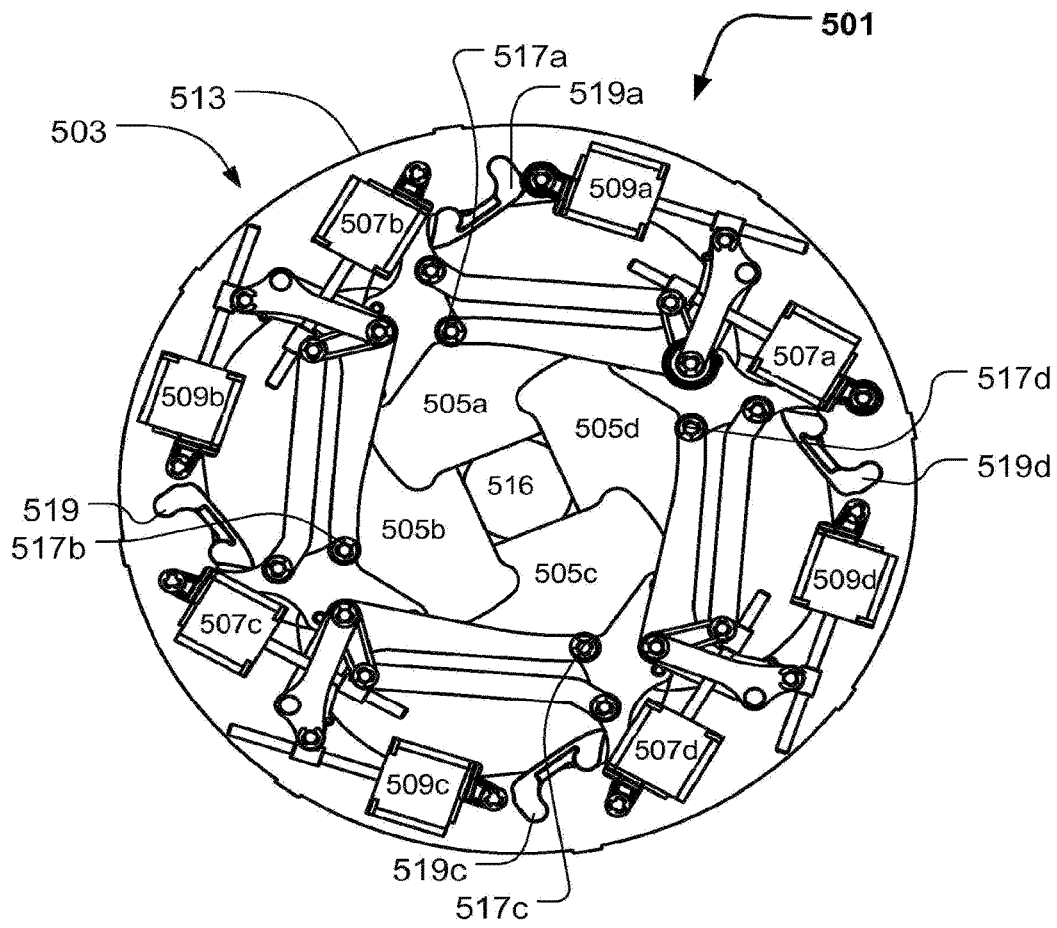


Fig. 5c

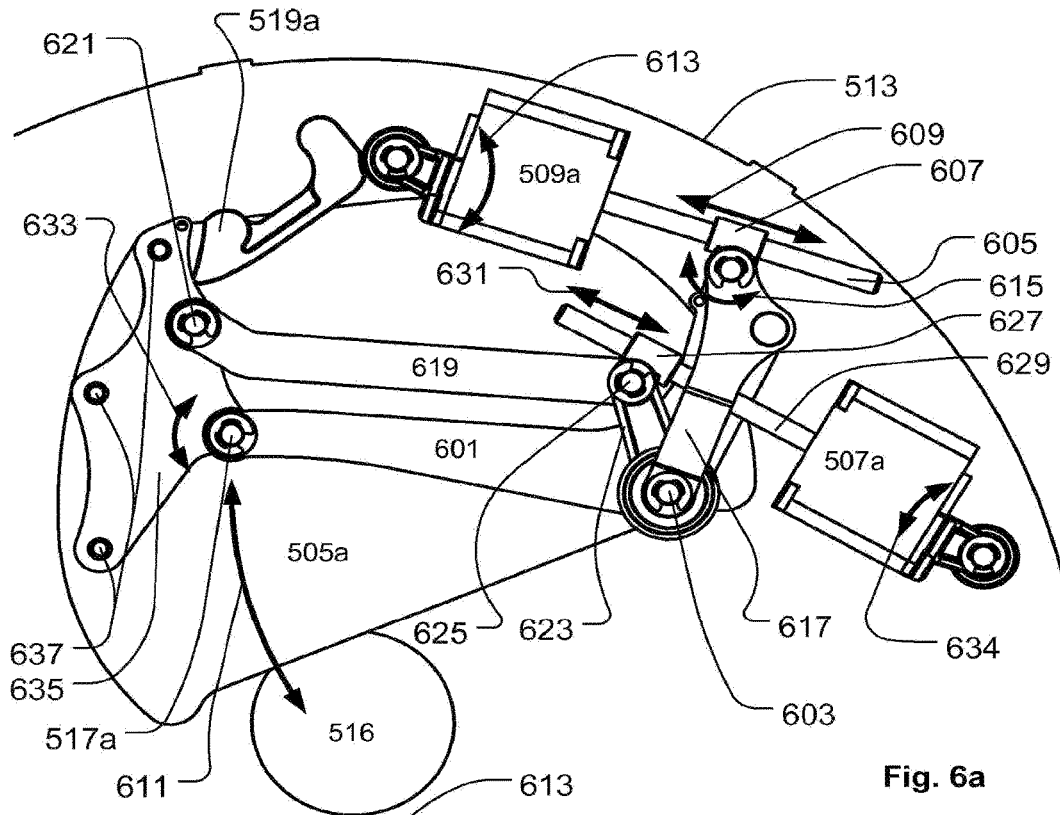


Fig. 6a

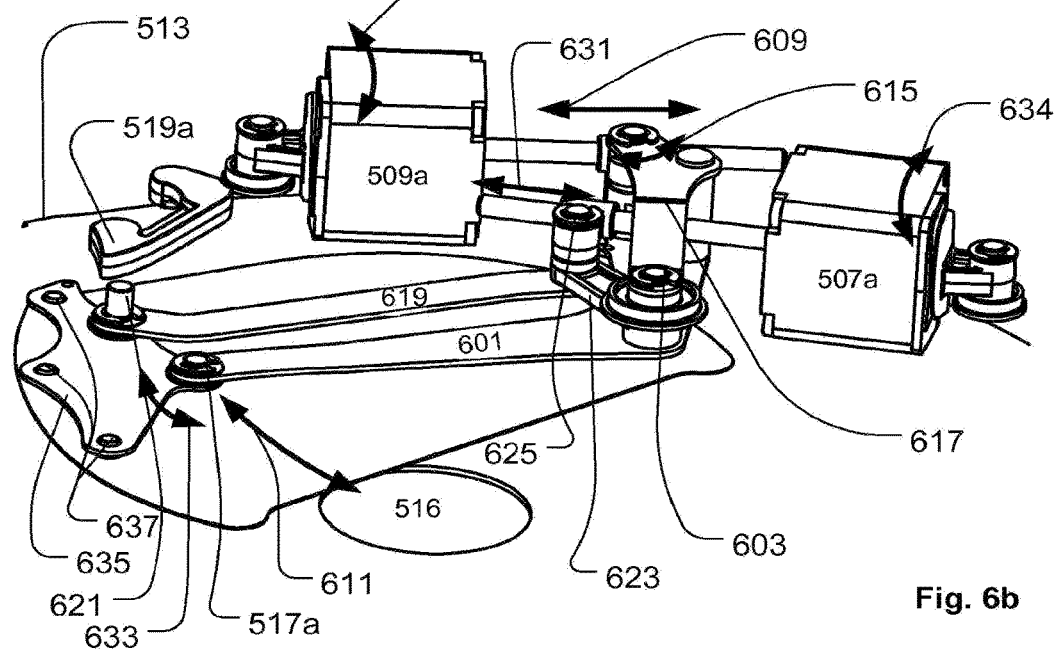


Fig. 6b

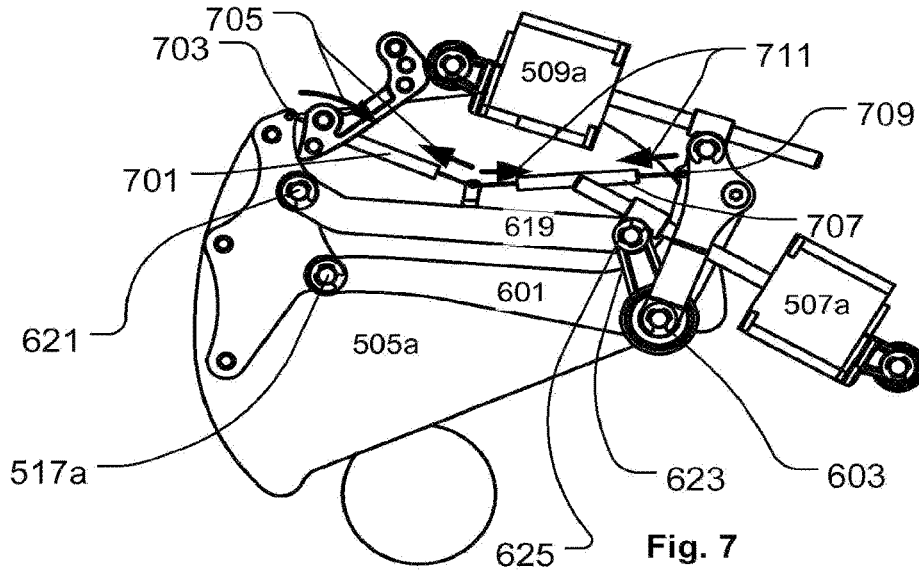


Fig. 7

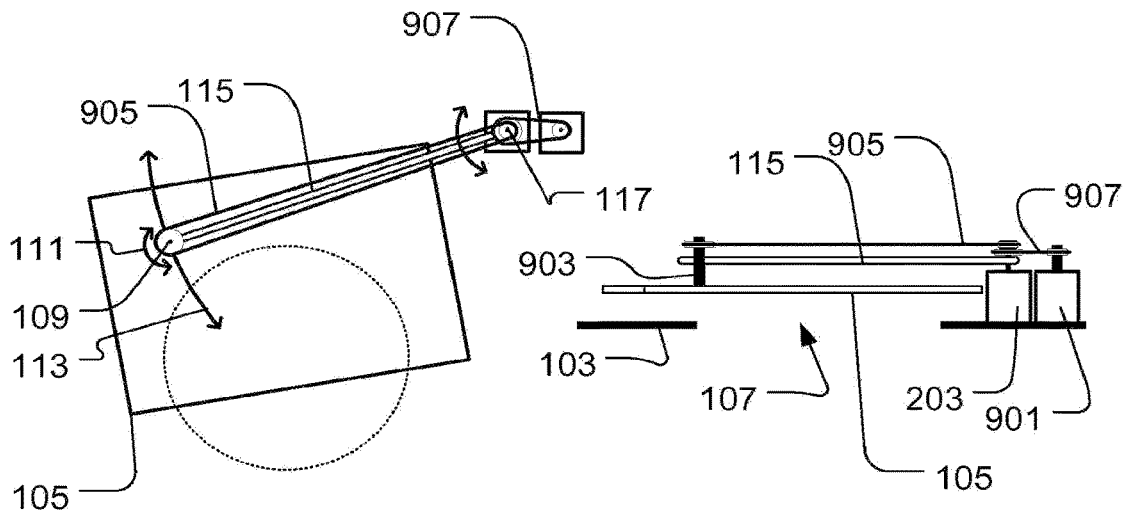


Fig. 9a

Fig. 9b

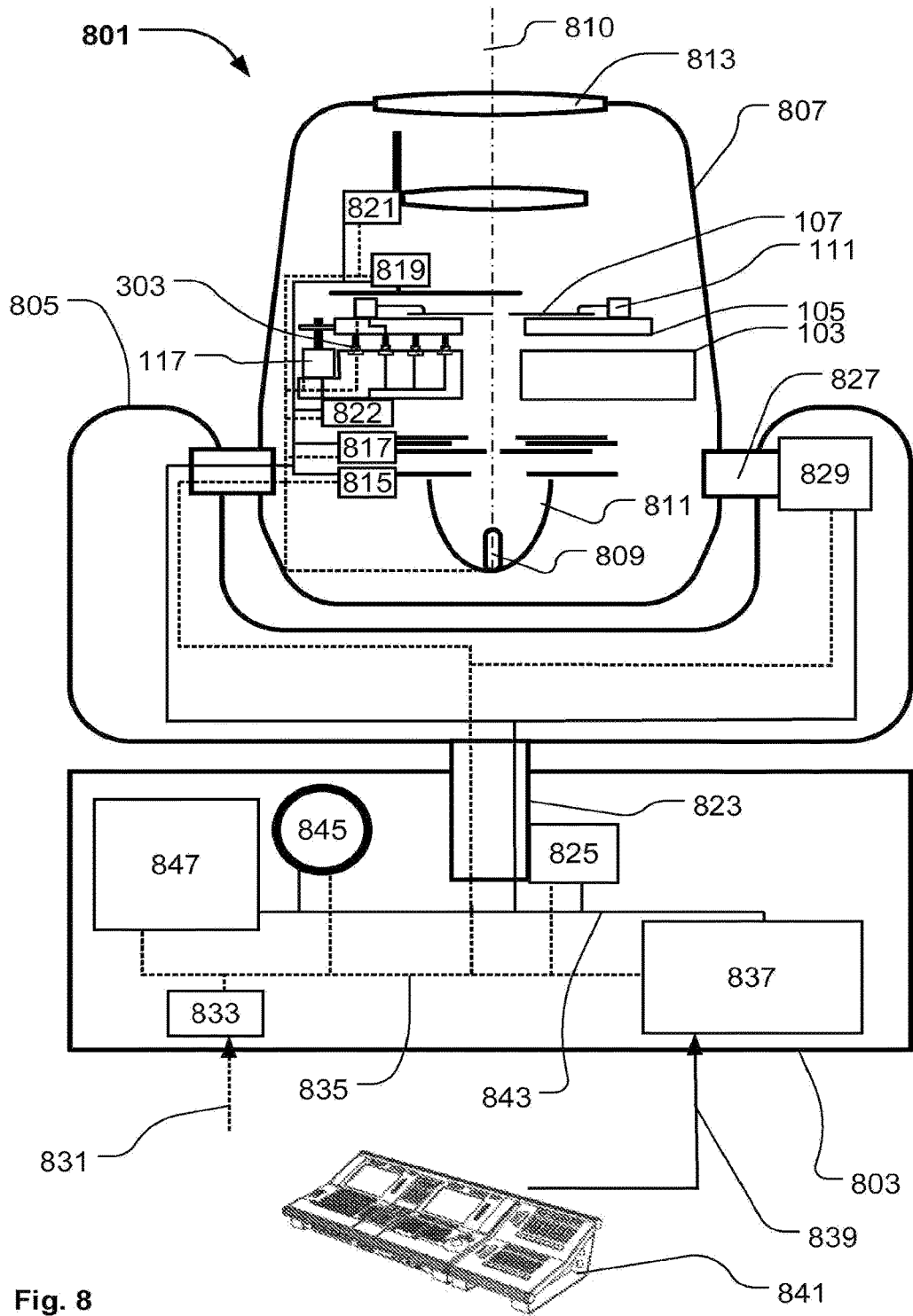


Fig. 8

LIGHT BEAM FRAMING SYSTEM WITH MERGED SHUTTER BLADES

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 13/522,387, having a §371 date of Oct. 2, 2012; which application is a National Stage Entry of PCT/DK2011/50009, filed Jan. 14, 2011; which application claims benefit of priority to DK PA2010 00034, filed Jan. 18, 2010; each application entitled "Light Beam Framing System with Merged Shutter Blades." The above-identified related applications are incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a framing system for limiting/shaping a light beam and to light fixtures comprising such framing system.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Framing systems for shaping a light beam where a number of shutter blades are moved in and out of the light beam in order to adjust the shape of the beam have been known for many years.

Typical framing systems have a number of shutter blades which can be moved in and out of the light beam by a number of actuators. The light beam is shaped/delimited/framed by adjusting the position of each shutter blade relatively to the light beam and thereby achieving the wanted framing of the light beam. The framing systems are typically used in light fixtures such as moving heads, follow spots and spotlights generating a light beam. Such light fixtures comprise a light source generating a light beam and a number of optical components generating different optical effects.

WO9636834, WO03023513, WO07134609, disclose framing systems according to prior art where a number of shutter blades surrounds the light beam and can be moved in and out of the light beam by a number of actuators. The shutter blades and actuators are mounted on a frame support rotatable carried by a base support. These framing systems are used in light fixtures having a light source generating a light beam, a lens system for focusing and/or zooming the light beam and controlling means (CPU; microprocessors, microcontrollers, PLD or the like) for controlling the components of the light fixture. The framing systems according to WO9636834 and WO03023513 do not form a sharp image of the shutter blades when projected onto a target surface by an optical system and do also take up a lot of space inside the light fixture, as the shutter blades are positioned in at least two different planes.

WO07134609 tries to solve this by providing a light assembly comprising at least one light source for generating a beam of light and a framing system. The framing system comprises a number of shutter blades cooperating with a number of motors to move the shutter blades in and out of the light beam. The shutter blades form a merged pile, where the shutter blades in the merged pile are placed with the front area placed over the front area of a first neighboring shutter blade and the front area placed below the front area of the second neighboring shutter blade. Forming the shutter blades in a merged pile leads to a thin assembly, where the operating edges of the shutters are operating substantially in the same plane. The shutter blades are movable mounted and co-operates with motors to move the shutter means in and

out of the light beam. The shutter blades comprise a front end to delimit the beam of light and the two toothed sides and interacting with pinions on the motors. One motor is placed in a fixed position, and second motor is movable in a sideward direction. The two motors allow movement and adjustment of the individual shutter blades in order to delimit the light beam.

The framing system disclosed in WO07134609 is however not very useful as it is very hard to manufacture. The toothed sides of the framing blades tend to break during use, especially during longtime use. The shutter blades must further be moved in a very controlled manner, as the shutter blades can be moved in and out the merged pile causing crucial failure of the framing system. This can for instance occur if the corners of two adjacent shutter blades are moved too far away from each other, which results in fact that the shutter blades get mixed up and will not work properly. It is possible through the software or by introducing mechanical stops to limit this movement but this will also limit the framing system's flexibility and degree of freedom.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The object of the present invention is to solve the above described limitations related to prior art framing systems. This is achieved by a framing system, light fixture and method as described in the independent claims. The dependent claims describe possible embodiments of the present invention. The advantages and benefits of the present invention are described in the detailed description of the invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 illustrates a top view of a framing system according to the present invention;

FIG. 2a illustrates a top view and FIG. 2b illustrates a side view of an embodiment of a single shutter blade;

FIG. 3a illustrates a top view and FIG. 3b illustrates a side view of another embodiment of a single shutter blade;

FIG. 4a illustrates a top view and FIG. 4b illustrates a side view of another embodiment of a single shutter blade;

FIG. 5a-5c illustrate another embodiment of the framing system according to the present invention, where FIG. 5a is an exploded perspective view, 5b is a front view of showing only one shutter blade and FIG. 5c is a front view excluding the top plate;

FIG. 6a and FIG. 6b illustrates respectively a top view and perspective view of a single shutter blade used in the embodiment shown in FIG. 5a-5c;

FIG. 7 other possible features of a single shutter blade used in the framing system shown in FIG. 5a-5c;

FIG. 8 is a structural diagram illustrating a moving head light fixture including a framing system according to the present invention;

FIG. 9a illustrates a top view and FIG. 9b illustrates a side view of another embodiment of a single shutter blade.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

FIG. 1 illustrates a top view of a framing system 101 according to the present invention. The framing system 101 comprises a frame support 103. The frame support comprises a number of shutter blades 105a-105d surrounding an aperture 107 where through a light beam (not shown) propagates. A number of actuators (not shown in FIG. 1) are

3

adapted to moved the shutter blades in and out of the aperture **107** and thus also in and out of the light beam the light beam. The shutter blades are each moved in and out of the light beam by two actuators (not shown in FIG. 1) where a first actuators rotates the shutter blade in relation to a first rotational point **109a-109d** as illustrated by arrows **111a-111d**, and where a second actuator moves the first rotational point **109a-109b** in relation to the light beam as illustrated by arrows **113a-113d**.

This setup makes it possible to construct a very flexible framing system with a large degree of freedom; meaning that each shutter blade can be positioned in many different positions and than the light beam can be shaped in many different shapes. The framing blades can in this embodiment be moved over the entire area of the aperture and angled at any angle. Shutter blade **105d** is, in the illustrated framing system **101**, for instance nearly moved across the entire aperture **107** whereas shutter blade **105b** only covers a small part of the aperture. The consequence is that a light beam passing through the aperture can be shaped in large many different shapes. It is further possible to merge the framing blades in a pile where at least a part of a first shutter blade is in placed over at least a part of a second shutter blade and where at least a part of the first shutter blade is placed below at least a part of a third shutter blade. The shutter blades are hereby positioned in substantially the same plane whereby it is possible to provide a very sharp image of the shutter blades at a target surface a distance from the framing system. The image can for instance be constructed by using an optical system as known in the art. It is further possible to form the shutter blades such that they can not be mixed up in any position and simultaneously maintain a very flexible framing system.

The shutter blades **105a-105d** comprise in the illustrated embodiment a first arm **115a-115d** pivotally connected to the first rotational point **109a-109d** and pivotally connected to the frame support at a frame pivot point **117a-117d**. The second actuator moves the first rotational point by pivoting first arm **115a-115d** around the frame pivot point **117a-117d**. This makes it possible to reduce the size of the framing system, as the shutter blades, due the fact that the shutter blade can move below the arm of neighboring shutter blades, can be positioned very close together.

FIG. **2a** illustrates a top view and FIG. **2b** illustrates a side view of an embodiment of a single shutter blade **105** and illustrates how the first actuator **201** can rotate the shutter blade around the first rotational point **109** and how the second actuator **203** can move the first rotational point **109** in relation to the light beam which propagates through the aperture **107**. The first actuator **201** is in this embodiment mounted on the first arm **115** and is coupled to the first rotational point of the shutter blade **109** through an axis. The first actuator **201** can thus rotate the shutter blade around the first rotational point as indicated by arrow **111**. The second actuator **203** is mounted on the frame support **103** and connected to the first arm **115** through an axis. The first rotational point **109** is fixed in relation the first arm and the second actuator **203** can thus move the first rotational point in relation to the light beam as illustrated by arrow **113** by rotating the first arm as indicated by arrow **205**. The second actuator is illustrated as a rotational actuator which moves the first rotational point in relation to the light beam by a rotating movement, but the skilled person realize that the second actuator also can any kind of actuator moving the first arm, e.g. a linear actuator which pushes/pulls the first rotation point in relation to the light beam.

4

FIG. **3a** illustrates a top view and FIG. **3b** illustrates a side view of another embodiment of a single shutter blade **105**. The second actuator **203** can move the first rotational point **109** in relation to the light beam which propagates through the aperture **107** in a similar way as described in FIG. **2a** and FIG. **2b**. The shutter blade comprises in this embodiment a second arm **303** pivotally connected to the shutter blade at a blade pivot point **305** offset the first rotational point **109** and first actuator **301** rotates the shutter blade by interacting with said second arm. The first actuator **301** is in the illustrated embodiment as a linear actuator mounted on the first arm **115**. The linear actuator **301** is adapted to move the second arm in a linear direction as illustrated by arrow **307** and the second arm will as a consequence push/pull the blade pivot point in relation to the first rotational point, whereby the shutter blade is forced to rotate in relation to the first rotational point **119** as illustrated by arrow **111**. The first actuator can also be a rotational actuator adapted to rotate the second arm **303** and can also be positioned on the frame support. The second actuator **301** can also be adapted rotate in relation to the first arm in order to eliminate the mismatch between linear movement of the second arm an the rotation of the blade pivot point **305** around the first rotational point **109**.

FIG. **4a** illustrates a top view and FIG. **4b** illustrates a side view of another embodiment of a single shutter blade **105**. The second actuator **203** can move the first rotational point **109** in relation to the light beam which propagates through the aperture **107** in a similar way as described in FIG. **2a** and FIG. **2b**. The second arm comprises in this embodiment a first part **401** and a second part **403** pivotally interconnected at an arm pivot point **405**. The first part **401** is pivotally connected to the blade pivot point **305** and the second part is pivotally connected to the frame pivot point. The first actuator **407** is adapted the move the arm pivot point **405** in relation to the frame pivot point **117** as illustrated by arrow **409** whereby the first arm **401** pushes/pulls the blade pivot point **305** causing the shutter blade to rotate around the first rotational point **109** as illustrated by arrow **111**. This is in the illustrated embodiment achieved by coupling the second arm **403** rotatable to the axis of the second actuator using a center gear and driving the center gear by the first actuator for instance through a belt **411** coupling as illustrated or another mechanical coupling. The second arm can alternatively be coupled to a second frame pivot point which is offset the frame pivot point **117**.

FIG. **9a** illustrates a top view and FIG. **9b** illustrates a side view of another embodiment of a single shutter blade **105**. The second actuator **203** can move the first rotational point **109** in relation to the light beam which propagates through the aperture **107** in a similar way as described in FIG. **2a** and FIG. **2b**. The first actuator **901** is in this embodiment coupled to an axis **903** through the first rotational point **109** and the first arm **105** using rotation belt **905** rotatable coupled to the axis of the second actuator **203**, a center gear coupled to the rotation belt **905** and a driving belt **907** coupled the first actuator and the center gear. The belt coupling will cause the shutter blade **105** to rotate around the first rotational point **109** as illustrated by arrow **111** when the actuator interacts with the belt coupling.

FIG. **5a-5c** illustrate another embodiment of the framing system **501** according to the present invention, where FIG. **5a** is an exploded perspective view, **5b** is a front view showing only shutter blade **505a** and FIG. **5c** is a front view without the top plate. The framing system **501** comprises a frame support **503** and 4 shutter blades **505a-505d**, where each shutter blade are controlled by a first actuator **507a-**

5

507d and a second actuator 509a-509d. The frame support 501 comprises a top plate 511 (shown in thick lines FIG. 5b and not shown in FIG. 5c) and a bottom plate 513. The shutter blades 505a-505d are positioned between the top plate 511 and bottom plate 513. The first and second actuators are pivotally mounted on the top plate using bearings, where only bearings 520a and 522a respectively related the first actuator 507a and the second actuator 509a are labeled in FIG. 5b. The actuators are arranged in a hole in the top plate and can rotate in relation to the top plate in a manner as described in FIGS. 6a and 6b. The shutter blades are also pivotally connected to the top plate using a bearing 524a-524d and a mechanical arm system as described in FIGS. 6a and 6b. The top plate 511 and bottom plate 513 are interconnected by a number of spacers 514 (not shown in FIGS. 5b and 5c). The bottom plate 513 comprises an aperture 516 where through a light beam can pass when the framing system is positioned in a light fixture generating a light beam. The skilled person realizes that the top plate also comprises an aperture 518, but that this is larger than the aperture of the bottom plate. The first actuator 507a-507d related to each shutter blade is adapted to rotate the shutter blade around a first rotational point 517a-517d and the second actuator 509a-509d related to each shutter is adapted to move the first rotational point 517a-517d in relation to the light beam. The fundamentals of the mechanical systems used to move the shutter blades of the framing system illustrated in FIG. 5a-5c are described in further detail in FIGS. 6a and 6b.

The shutter blades are in this embodiment merged in a pile such that each shutter blade overlaps a part of a second shutter blade and such that a part of the shutter blade is overlapped by a part of another shutter blade. However, the person skilled in the art realizes that it is possible to position the shutter in two or more planes instead of merging the shutter blades. The frame support 503 comprises also a mechanical stop 519a-519d for each shutter blade. The mechanical stop is adapted to limit the movements of the shutter blades and prevents the shutter blades from moving into a position where the shutter blades can move out of their mutual positions.

The top plate comprises also blade tensioning means providing tension to the shutter blades whereby the shutter blades are hereby squeezed together and kept in substantially the same plane. Displacement of the shutter blades, for instance due to thermal expansion of the shutter blades, is hereby avoided. The blade tensioning means (not shown in FIGS. 5b and 5c) are embodied as a number of tensioning arms 530 (only one labeled) connected to the top plate 511 at one end and to a tensioning ring 532 at a second end. The shutter blades are positioned between the tensioning ring 532 and the bottom plate 513 and the tensioning arms push the shutter blade towards the bottom plate by providing force to the shutter blades (through the tensioning ring). Tension is hereby provided to the shutter blades and the tensioning ring reduces displacement of the shutter blades in a direction along the light beam. This ensures that a sharp image of the light beam can be provided at a target surface along the light beam for instance by focusing the shutter blades using an optical system as known in the art of projecting light fixtures.

FIG. 6a and FIG. 6b illustrates respectively a top view and perspective view of a single shutter blade 505a and its corresponding mechanics.

The shutter blades 505a comprise in the illustrated embodiment an approximately L-shaped first arm 601 where a first leg is pivotally connected to the first rotational point 517a and the corner end is pivotally connected to the top

6

plate 513 at a frame pivot point 603 (using bearing 524a in FIG. 5a-5c). The second actuator 509a comprises a rotatable spindle 605 and the second end of the L-shaped arm is connected to the rotatable spindle through a threaded cylinder 607. The threaded cylinder will move along the rotatable spindle 605 as illustrated by arrow 609 when the second actuator rotates the spindle. This will cause the L-shaped arm 601 to rotate around the frame pivot point 603 and the first rotational point 517a will rotate as indicated by arrow 611 and thus move in relation to the light beam. The threaded cylinder 607 is pivotally connected to the second leg of the L-shaped arm and the second actuator 509a is pivotally connected to the top plate in order to eliminate the mismatch between linear movement of the threaded cylinder along the spindle and the rotation of the L-shaped arm. The second actuator will thus rotate in relation to the top plate as illustrated by arrow 613 and the threaded cylinder will rotate in relation to the L-shaped arm as illustrated by arrow 615. The second leg of the L-shaped arm comprises an upper bridge 617 which is mounted on a number of spacers and connected to the frame pivot point 603. The upper bridge serves to strengthen the second leg of the L-shaped arm.

The shutter blade 505a comprises also a second arm having a first part 619 pivotally connected to the shutter blade at a blade pivot point 621 and a second part 623 pivotally connected to the top plate at the frame pivot point 603. The first part 619 and a second part 623 are pivotally interconnected at an arm pivot point 625. The arm pivot point comprises a threaded cylinder 627 connected to the rotatable spindle 629 of the first actuator 507a. The second actuator 509a is thus adapted to move the threaded cylinder 627 of the arm pivot point as illustrated by arrow 631. The first part 619 of the second arm will as a consequence push/pull the blade pivot point 621 in relation to the first rotational point causing the shutter blade 505a to rotate around the first rotational point 517a as illustrated by arrow 633. The second actuator 509a is like the first actuator pivotally connected to the top plate and can pivot as indicated by arrow 634 in order to eliminate the mismatch between linear arm movement and rotational transitions in the mechanical system.

The shutter blade comprises further an overhang 635 which is elevated from the shutter blade 505a by a number of spacers 637. The first rotational point 517a and the blade pivot point 621 are positioned at the overhang 637. The result is that a neighboring shutter blade can move into the area beneath the overhang whereby the degree of freedom of the shutter blades is increased. The overhang is illustrated as one single overhang to which both the blade pivot point and the first rotational point is connected. The person skilled in the art realizes that it is possible to provide a single overhang for each pivot point.

The length of the first part of said second arm is substantially equal to length of the first arm and the length of the second part of the second arm is substantially equal to the distance between the blade pivot point and the first rotational point. The first rotational point, blade pivot point, frame pivot point and arm pivot point constitutes thus the corners of a parallelogram.

FIG. 7 illustrates another possible feature of the framing system shown in FIG. 5a-5c and illustrates a top view of a single shutter blade 505a. The shutter blade 505a comprises in this embodiment first tensioning means 701 connected to the second arm 619 and to the shutter blade at a point 703 offset from the blade pivot point 621 where the second arm is connected to the shutter blade. The first tensioning means is

adapted to tension the shutter blade and second arm in relation to each in order to eliminate play is the mechanical system. The tensioning means can either push the shutter blade and second arm away from each other or pull them together around the blade pivot point. The tensioning means can be any kind of means providing tension between the shutter blade and the second arm for instance a spring or elastic band. The first tensioning means can alternatively be embodied as a rotational spring integrated into the bearings of the blade pivot point. The first tensioning means **701** pulls in the illustrated embodiment the second arm and the shutter blade together as indicated by the arrows **705**. The shutter blade comprises also second tensioning means **707** connected to the second arm **619** and to the first arm **601** at a point **709** offset the first rotational point where the first arm is connected to the shutter blade. The second tensioning means **707** pulls in the illustrated embodiment the second arm and the first arm as indicated by the arrows **711** and eliminated thereby play related to the first rotational point **517a**. The second tensioning means can also be embodied as a rotational spring integrated into the frame blade pivot point.

The length of the first part **619** of the second arm substantially equals the length of the first arm **601** and in that the length of the second part **623** of the second arm substantially equals the distance between the blade pivot point and the first rotational point. The first arm **601**, first part **619** of the second arm, the second arm **623** of the second arm and the distance between the blade pivot point and first rotational point constitutes thus a substantial parallelogram, where the first rotational point **517a**, blade pivot point **621**, arm pivot point **625** and frame pivot point **603** constitutes the corners of the parallelogram. The consequence is that the angle of the shutter blade in relation to the light beam (aperture) will not change during movement of the first rotational point **517a**. The control system controlling the movement of the shutter blades can in this way be simplified as the first actuator does not need to compensate for the change in angle of the shutter blade in relation to the light beam when the second actuator moves the rotational point in relation to the light beam. This is achieved as the frame pivot point **603** and the arm pivot point **625** is fixated in relation to each other during rotation of the first arm **601** if the first actuator is not moved. The first rotational point **517a** and the blade pivot point **621** are, due to the properties of the parallelogram, also fixated in relation to each other and the shutter blade will thus not rotate in relation to the light beam if the first arm and the first part of the second arm are rotated. A linear movement of the shutter blade will as a consequence appear inside the light beam.

The framing system can for instance be embodied in a framing system as described in our Danish pending patent application filed Sep. 11, 2009 and having application number DK PA200901015 incorporated herein by reference. The patent application DK PA200901015 describes in short a framing system for shaping a light beam. The framing system comprises a base support rotatable supporting a frame support. The frame support comprises a number of shutter blades surrounding the light beam and a number of actuators adapted to move the shutter blades in and out of said light beam. The framing system comprises further rotatable electric connecting means, the rotatable electric connecting means enabling transferring of electric energy between the frame support and the base support during rotation of the frame support in relation to said base support. The bottom plate of the framing system disclosed in the present invention for instance be embodied as the base support of DK PA200901015 and the upper plate can be

embodied as the frame support. The framing system according to the present invention can thus be rotated more than 360 degrees around the light beam.

FIG. 8 is a structural diagram illustrating a moving head light fixture **801** with a framing system according to the present invention. The framing system has further been integrated into the framing system according to our Danish patent application DK PA200901015. The moving head light fixture **801** comprises a base **803** connected to a yoke **805** and a head **807** carried in the yoke. The head comprises at least one light source **809** which generates a light beam (not shown) propagating along an optical axis **810**. The light beam is reflected by a reflector **811** and passes through a number of light effects before exiting the head through a lens **813**. The light effects could for instance be any light effects known in the art of intelligent lighting for instance a dimmer **815**, a CMY color mixing system **817**, color filters (not shown), gobos **819** and/or a zoom system **821**.

One light effect is a framing system according to the present invention. The framing system comprises a base support **103** rotatable supporting a frame support **105** and an actuator **117** adapted to rotate the frame supports described in DK PA200901015. The frame support comprises a number of shutter blades **107** surrounding an aperture, through which the light beam passes and number of actuators **111** are adapted to move the shutter blades in and out of the aperture and thus also in and out of the light beam the light beam as described in FIG. 1-7. The framing system comprises also controlling means **822** adapted to control the framing system based on a received control signal as described below. The framing system comprises also a number of rotatable electric connecting means **303** for transferring power and controls signals from the base support to the frame support.

The light source can be any known light sources e.g. discharge lamps, LEDs, OLEDs, plasma lamps, lasers etc. The reflector can be any kind of reflectors and in some applications also be embodied as optical lenses such as TIR lenses. It is also possible to include a multiple number of light sources and mixing the light from these light sources into a light beam.

The moving head light fixture comprises first rotating means for rotating the yoke in relation to the base, for instance by rotating a shaft **823** connected to the yoke by using a motor **825** positioned in the base. The moving head light fixture comprises also second rotating means for rotating the head in relation to the yoke, for instance by rotating a shaft **827** connected to the head by using a motor **829** positioned in the yoke. The skilled person would realize that the rotation means could be constructed in many different ways using mechanical components such as motors, shafts, gears, cables, chains, transmission systems etc.

The moving head light fixture receives electrical power **831** from an external power supply (not shown). The electrical power is received by an internal power supply **833** which adapts and distributes electrical power through internal power lines **835** (dotted lines) to the subsystems of the moving head. The internal power system can be constructed in many different ways and the illustrated power lines is for simplicity illustrated as one system where all subsystems are connected to the same power line. The skilled person would however realize that some of the subsystems in the moving head need different kind of power and that a ground line also can be used. The light source will for instance in most applications need a different kind of power than step motors and driver circuits.

The light fixture comprises also a controller **837** which controls the other components (other subsystems) in the

light fixture based on an input signal **839** indicative of at least one light effect parameter and at least one position parameter. The controller receives the input signal from a light controller **841** as known in the art of intelligent and entertainment lighting for instance by using a standard protocol like DMX, ArtNET, RDM etc. The light effect parameter is indicative of at least one light effect parameter of said light beam for instance the amount of dimming and/or the dimming speed of the light beam, a color that the CMY system **817** should mix, the kind of color filter that a color filter system (not shown) should position in the light beam and/or the kind of gobo that the gobo system **819** should position in the light beam, the divergence of the light beam that light fixture should create using a zoom system **821**, a focus distance that indicate the distance from the lens to a surface where a gobo effect should be imaged, etc.

The light effect parameter can also be indicative of how the framing system should frame the light beam and can therefore comprises information of how each shutter blade should move in relation to the light beam, how the frame support should be rotated in relation the base support. The controller **837** receives the light parameter and sends commands to the controlling means **822** adapted to control the framing system. The controlling means **822** adapted to control the framing system will then instruct the actuators to activate the relevant parts as instructed and the described framing effect is achieved.

The controller is adapted to send commands and instructions to the different subsystems of the moving head through internal communication lines **843** (solid lines). The internal communication system can be based on a various type of communications networks/systems and the illustrated communication system is just one illustrating example.

The position parameter is indicative of rotation of at least said yoke in relation to said base and/or rotation of said head in relation to said yoke. The position parameter could for instance indicate a position whereto the light fixture should direct the beam, the position of the yoke in relation to the base, the position of the head in relation to the yoke, the distance/angle that the yoke should be turned in relation to the base, the distance/angle that the head should be turned in relation the base etc. The rotation parameter could also indicate the speed and time of the rotation.

The moving head could also have user input means enabling a user to interact directly with the moving head instead of using a light controller **841** to communicate with the moving head. The user input means **845** could for instance be bottoms, joysticks, touch pads, keyboard, mouse etc. The user input means could also be supported by a display **847** enabling the user to interact with the moving head through menu system shown on the display using the user input means **847**. The display device and user input means could in one embodiment also be integrated as a touch screen.

The present invention relates also to a method for shaping a light beam using a framing system comprising a frame support comprising a number of shutter blades surrounding the light beam and a number of actuators adapted to move said shutter blades in and out of said light beam. The method comprises the step of said method comprises the step of:

moving at least one of said shutter blade in and out of said light beam using said actuator; where the said step of moving the at least one shutter blade comprises the steps of:

rotating said shutter blade around a rotation point using a first actuator and;

moving said rotation point in relation to said light beam using a second actuator.

The framing system comprises in a further embodiment also a base support where the frame support is rotatable connected to the base support the method comprises in this embodiment the steps of:

rotating the shutter blades around blade around the light beam by rotating said frame support in relation the base support; where the step of rotating the shutter blade around the light beam comprises the steps of rotating the frame support at least 360 degrees and transferring electric energy between said frame support and said base support. It is hereby achieved that several light effects can be created as the shape of the light beam can be changes and continuously/ endless rotated.

What is claimed is:

1. A framing system for shaping a light beam, said framing system comprising a frame support, said frame support comprising:

a number of shutter blades surrounding said light beam; and

a number of actuators adapted to move said shutter blades in and out of said light beam;

wherein a first of said actuators rotates at least one said shutter blade in relation to a first rotational point and a second of said actuators moves said first rotational point in relation to said light beam.

2. A framing system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said shutter blades comprises a first arm pivotally connected to said first rotational point and pivotally connected to said frame support at a frame pivot point, and said second actuator moves said first rotational point by pivoting said first arm around said frame pivot point.

3. A framing system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said shutter blades comprises a second arm pivotally connected to said shutter blade at a blade pivot point offset said first rotational point, and said first actuator rotates said shutter blade by interacting with said second arm.

4. A framing system according to claim 3, wherein said second arm comprises a first part and a second part pivotally interconnected at an arm pivot point where said first part is pivotally connected to said blade pivot point and said second part is pivotally connected to said frame pivot point, and said first actuator rotates said shutter blade by moving said arm pivot point in relation to said frame pivot point.

5. A framing system according to claim 4, wherein the length of said first part of said second arm substantially equals the length of said first arm and in that the length of said second part of said second arm substantially equals the distance between said blade pivot point and said first rotational point.

6. A framing system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said shutter blades comprises at least one overhang, and said first rotational point is positioned at said at least one overhang.

7. A framing system according to claim 3, wherein at least one of said shutter blades comprises at least one overhang, and said blade pivot point is positioned at said at least one overhang.

8. A framing system according to claim 4, comprising a first tensioner and a second tensioner providing a torque to least two of:

said first rotational point;

said blade pivot point;

said frame pivot point or

said arm pivot point.

9. A framing system according to claim 1, further comprising a blade tensioner adapted to squeeze said shutter blades together.

11

10. A framing system according to claim 1, further comprising a base support rotatably supporting said frame support.

11. A framing system according to claim 10, further comprising a rotatable electric connector, said rotatable electric connector enabling transferring of electric energy between said frame support and said base support during rotation of said frame support in relation to said base support.

12. A method for shaping a light beam using a framing system, said framing system comprising a frame support, said frame support comprising

- a number of shutter blades surrounding said light beam;
- a number of actuators adapted to move said shutter blades in and out of said light beam;

said method comprising the step of:

- moving at least one of said shutter blades in and out of said light beam using said actuator;

12

wherein said step of moving said at least one of said shutter blades comprises the steps of:

- rotating said shutter blade around a rotation point using a first actuator and;
- moving said rotation point in relation to said light beam using a second actuator.

13. A method for shaping a light beam according to claim 12, wherein said framing system also comprises a base support rotatably supporting said frame support, said method comprising the steps of:

- rotating said shutter blades around said light beam by rotating said frame support;

where said step of rotating said shutter blade around said light beam comprises the steps of:

- rotating said frame support at least 360 degrees; and
- transferring electric energy between said frame support and said base support.

* * * * *