



PHOTO EDITING FUNDAMENTALS

Course Leader: Tim Keane

Course Overview

⦿ Aims

- Sufficient to enter competitions
- Adobe Photoshop Software – can't do everything
- How and Why to adjust

⦿ Tim's experience



Crop & rotate





Light:
Dodge & Burn





Colour:
Convert to B&W





Colour:
Correct/ balance



Cloning &
Healing



Transforming, cloning



Colour: Selective colour





Removing distractions:
Blocking out

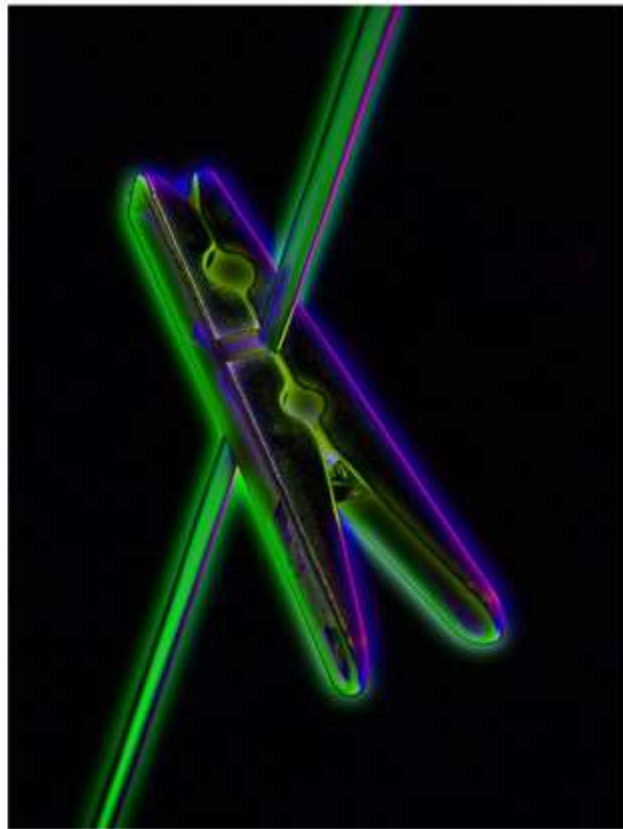
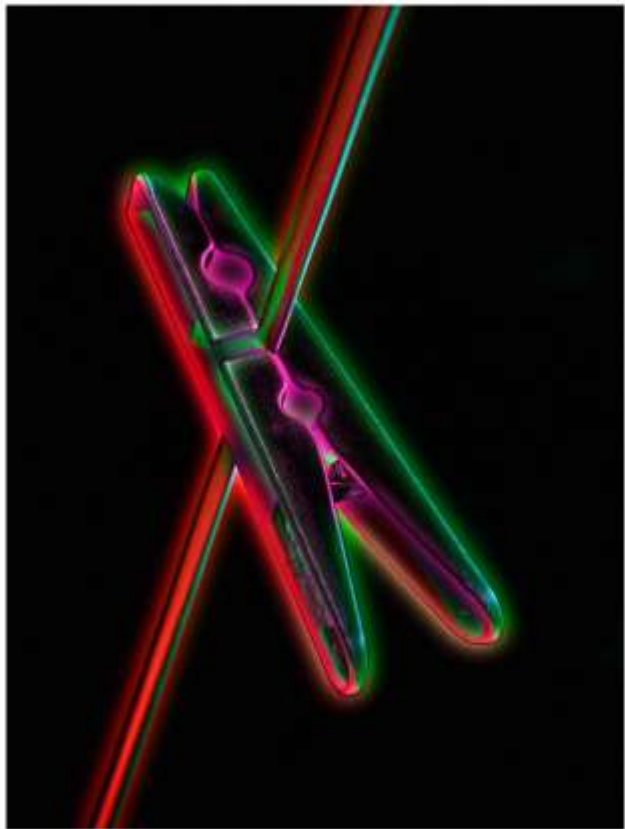


Selective Colour

Textures



Layers: Triptych



Course resources

Waverley Camera Club

A members photographic club in Mount Waverley

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 - [Geoff's Photo Doodler](#)
 - [Post Processing](#)

Post Processing for Beginners

- [Post Processing for Beginners – Slides 2018 \(7.7MB PDF\)](#)
- [Post Processing for Beginners – Screen calibration Win 10 \(1.4MB PDF\)](#)
- [Post Processing for Beginners – Software Comparison \(539KB PDF\)](#)
- [Post Processing for Beginners – Triptych in Photoshop \(967KB PDF\)](#)
- [Post Processing for Beginners – Glossary \(425KB PDF\)](#)

Work flow overview

- Importing/ opening
- Assessing
- Basic global edits
- Selective edits
- Finishing
- Output

File Management

- ⦿ Folder structure
- ⦿ Tim's structure:
 - Dogs
 - Family
 - Holidays
 - WCC
 - Creative
 - Current
 - Outings
 - Submitted

Culling your shoot

- ⦿ On SD or on a copy on computer
- ⦿ Tag and/ or delete
 - Know your editing skills
- ⦿ Private interest or wider interest
- ⦿ Be brutal!

Assessing

- ⦿ What did you see during the shoot
- ⦿ What do you see now
- ⦿ What are you pointing at
- ⦿ Are you trying to say too much
- ⦿ Strengths & weaknesses
- ⦿ What are the lines & relationships doing
- ⦿ What will you (try to) enhance

The Basic edit – in order

- ⦿ Auto enhance – accept or undo
- ⦿ Exposure
- ⦿ Contrast & clarity; Shadows & highlights
- ⦿ Colour correction
- ⦿ Spot removal
- ⦿ Final crop
- ⦿ Vignette
- ⦿ Save As

The Basic Edit

- Demonstration in Microsoft Photos



Entering WCC Competitions

- ◎ Files must be:
 - JPEG in sRGB colour space of 5MB or less
 - No more than 1920 pixels wide and 1080 pixels tall (these dimensions can NOT be switched around) to fit on the screen
 - Submitted via upload site:
<https://upload.waverleycameraclub.org>
 - Know your Member number
 - Have a title for your image

Raw vs Jpeg



More detail
retained in
RAW

Assessing practice

- Do you like the image? Why?
- What visual aspects make you feel this way?
- How are contrasts and colours working?
- What are the lines & relationships doing?
- Strengths & weaknesses
- What can you learn

Next Session...

- ⦿ Assessing
- ⦿ Software comparison
- ⦿ Rotating & cropping
- ⦿ Transforming
- ⦿ Healing & Cloning out distractions



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Software: Quick comparison

Feature	Photoshop	Lightroom	PSE	MS Photos
Cost AUD 2022	15/month incl. LR	15/month incl. PS	130 Outright	Free
For Beginners	No	Yes	Best	Easiest
Basic edits	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Selective Basic	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Selective advanced	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Layers	Yes	No	Yes	No
File management	No	Best	Yes	No
Text	Yes	No	Yes	Drawing
Many files	Limited	Best	Limited	No
Support Tutorials	Best	Very Good	Good	No

Quick tour of PsE & Ps

- ◉ Modes
- ◉ Menus
- ◉ Panels
- ◉ Main tools
- ◉ Find Auto and Undo
- ◉ **SAVE as you go: PSD or TIFF**

Assessing

- ⦿ What did you see during the shoot
- ⦿ What do you see now
- ⦿ What are you pointing at
- ⦿ Are you trying to say too much
- ⦿ Strengths & weaknesses
- ⦿ What are the lines & relationships doing
- ⦿ What will you (try to) enhance

Rotating & Cropping

⦿ Rotating

- Straightening: Horizon, buildings
- How does it look upside down/ sideways/ flipped

⦿ Cropping

- What are you pointing at?
- Output needs, aspect ratio
- Room to move or unimportant space
- Image within an image
- Diagonals

Transforming

- ◉ Stretch
- ◉ Perspective
- ◉ Skew
- ◉ Free transform

Cloning out distractions

- Copying and pasting with a brush
- Spot removal, healing – program chooses where to copy from
- Cloning – you choose where to copy from
- Can build/ fill with stuff which wasn't there
 - Watch out for creating patterns which draw the eye

Demonstration



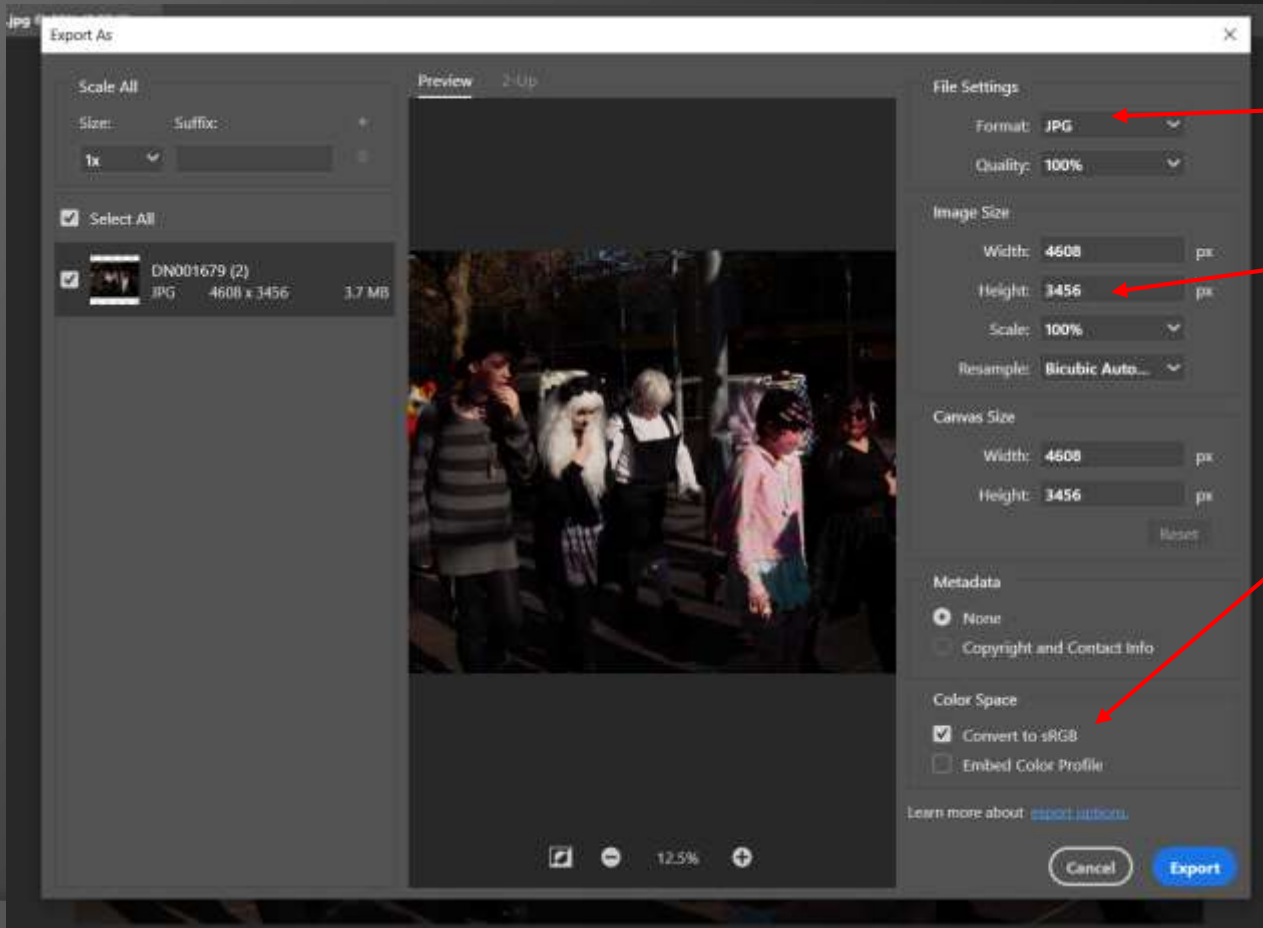
Entering WCC Competitions

- Files must be:
 - Named – no punctuation or special characters (Tim's system)
 - JPEG in sRGB colour space of 5MB or less
 - No more than 1920 pixels wide and 1080 pixels tall (these dimensions can NOT be switched around)
 - Submitted via upload site at:
<https://upload.waverleycameraclub.org/>
 - Change the title from the file name (default) to just the title

Tim's File Naming

- (year) two digits for the year
 - (month) two digits
 - (section) one or two digits; P=Print, ES=EDI Set subject, E=EDI open, C=Creative.
 - - (hyphen)
 - (title) the name of your entry. Please use upper and lower case as you see fit.
- When you put it all together it should look like:
 - 2203P-Best Print Ever.jpg

File>Export as...



Check these
items,
change as
needed

Next Session...

- ⦿ Monitor Calibration
- ⦿ Editing Light – Global and selective
- ⦿ Editing Colour– Global and selective



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Monitor Calibration



Monitor Calibration

- Get a device - Spyder or Colour Munki
- Rough – use Windows
 - Windows > Settings > search for calibration

Light – Global Adjustments

- ⦿ Brightness (not Exposure) & Contrast
- ⦿ Highlights & Shadows
 - Watch out for Halos
- ⦿ Levels
- ⦿ Curves

Light - Selective

- ⦿ Dodge & Burn
- ⦿ Vignettes

Colour

- Hue & Saturation
- Vibrance
- Neutralise – Image > Adjustments > Colour
match: tick Neutralise
- Conversion to B&W
- Selective colour
- Chromatic Aberration

Chromatic Aberration



Purple & Green fringes near edges of image.

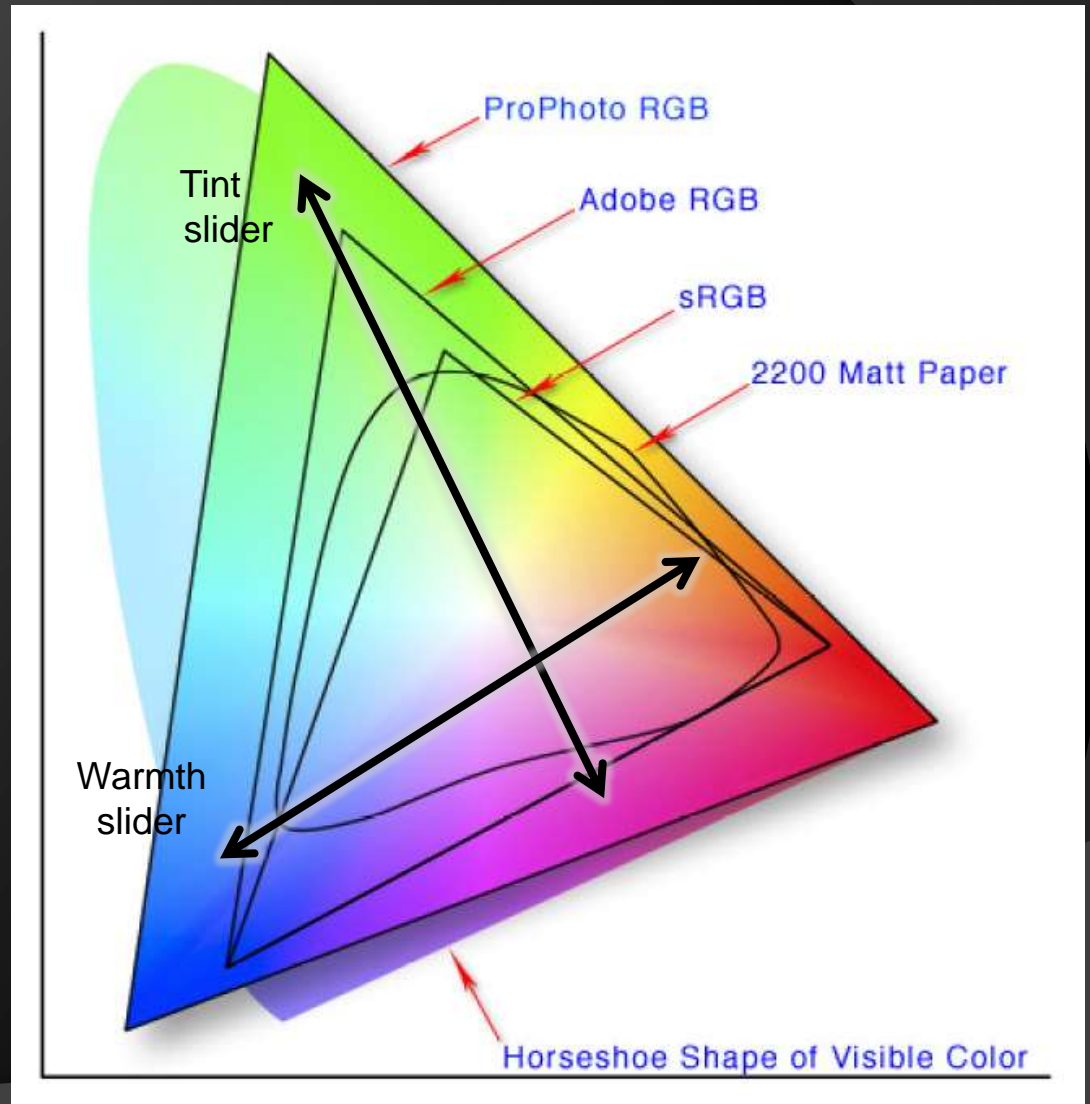
Caused by Refraction in lenses.



Chromatic Aberration

- Filter > Camera Raw... > Optics > Defringe
 - Zoom in
 - Adjust purple/ green amount and hue until fringes just disappear
 - Zoom out to check that other purple and green objects have not been affected too much

Colour Space



Source Wikipedia: The original uploader was Cpesacreta at English Wikipedia - Transferred from en.wikipedia to Commons by aboalbiss., CC BY 2.5, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8359333>

Next Session

- ◎ Bits & Pieces...
 - Sharpening
 - Stroke
 - Text
- ◎ Introduction to layers
 - What are layers
 - Making a Triptych



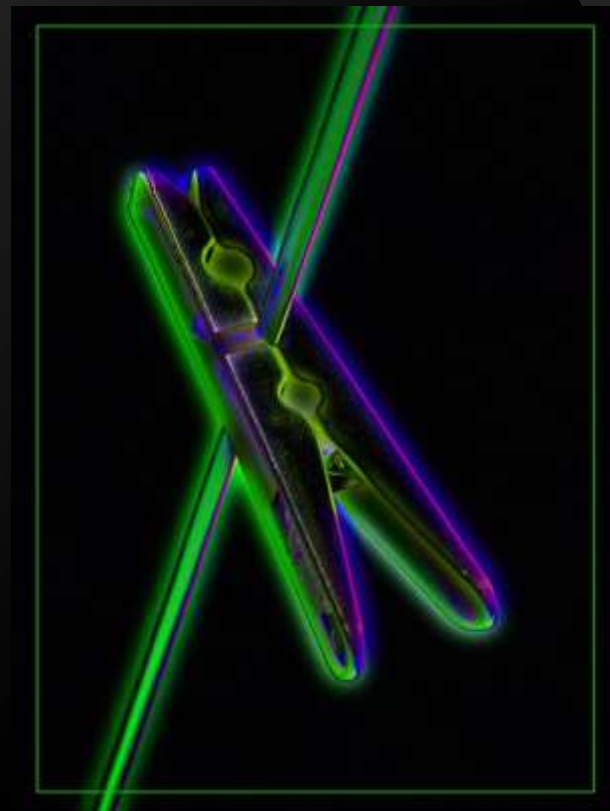
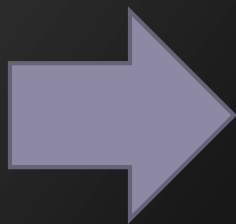
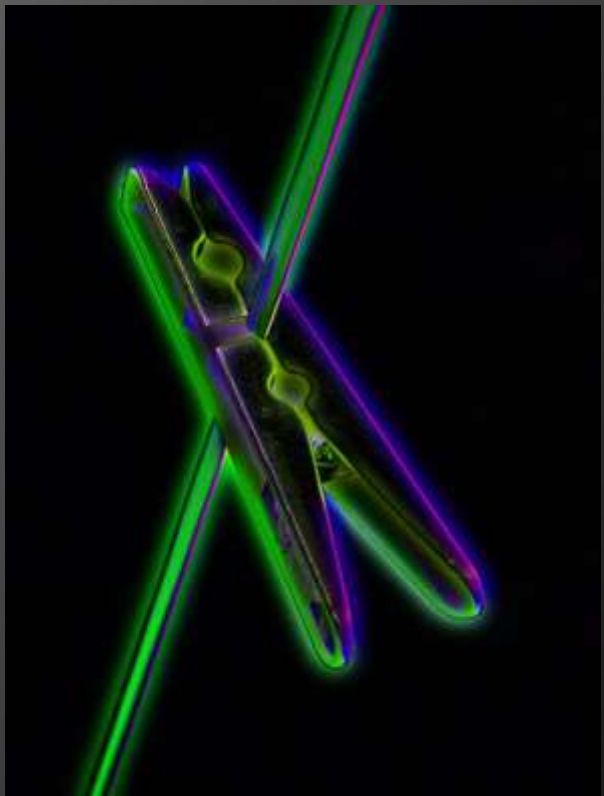
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Sharpening - subtle



Stroke



Text



Working with Layers

Layers are not like tools which do things...
They are **places** to do and manage your work.

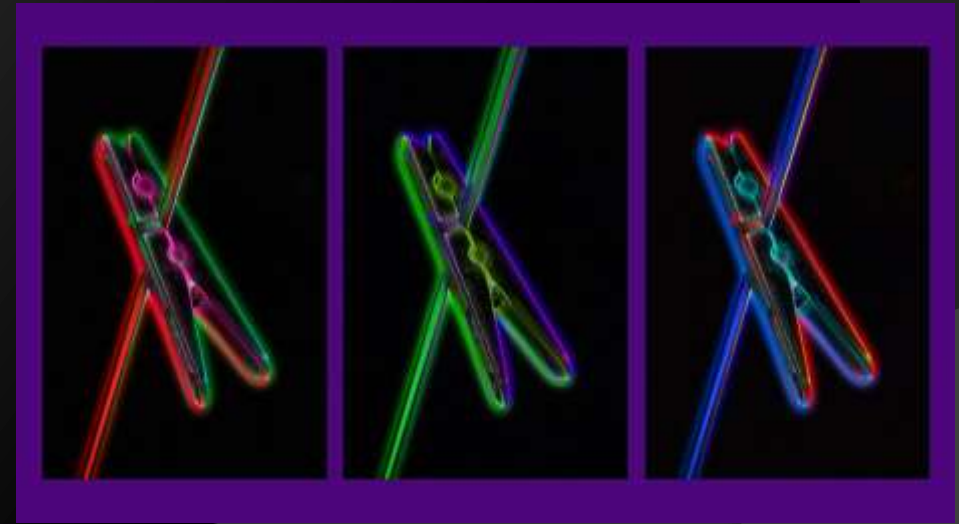
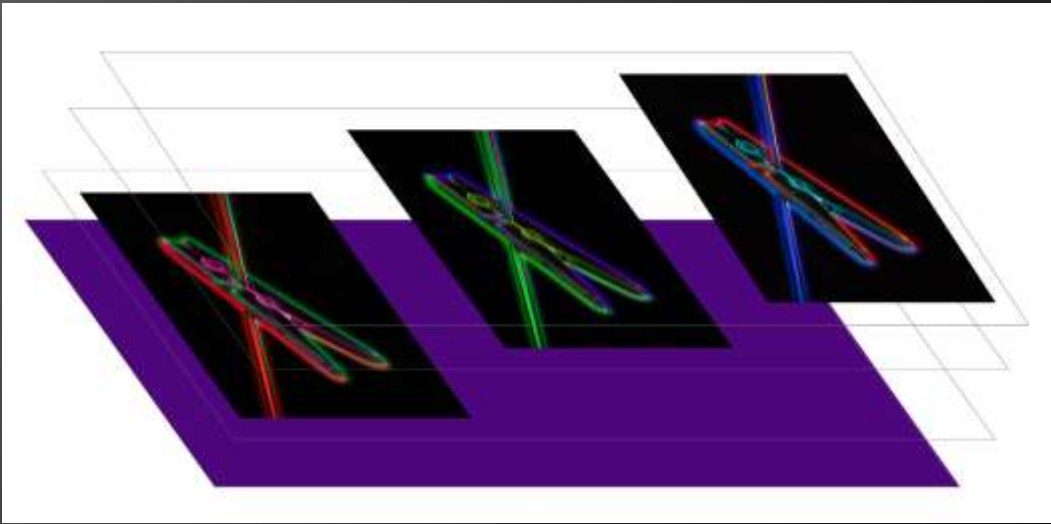
- ◎ 2 broad types:
 - Pixel layers (Images, solid colour layers, textures, overlays)
 - Adjustment layers (Brightness & contrast, Hue & saturation, etc.)

Working with Layers

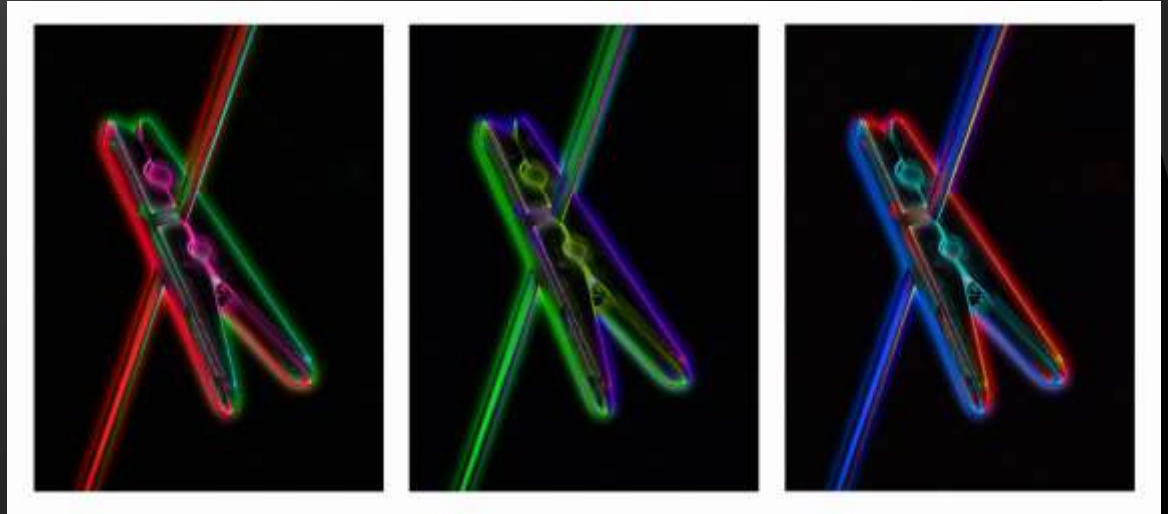
- Pixel layers (images or parts of images)
 - Think of these as transparencies
- Adjustment layers
 - Think of these as rooms to apply treatments (adjustments)

Working with Layers

- Pixel layers (images or parts of images)
 - Think of these as transparencies



Triptych – 3 images side by side



Learnings:

- Increase Canvas size
- Add an image
- Position/ resize layer
- Using Grids
- Solid colour layer

Portfolio – Multiple image layout



Learnings:

- As for Triptych
- Drop Shadow

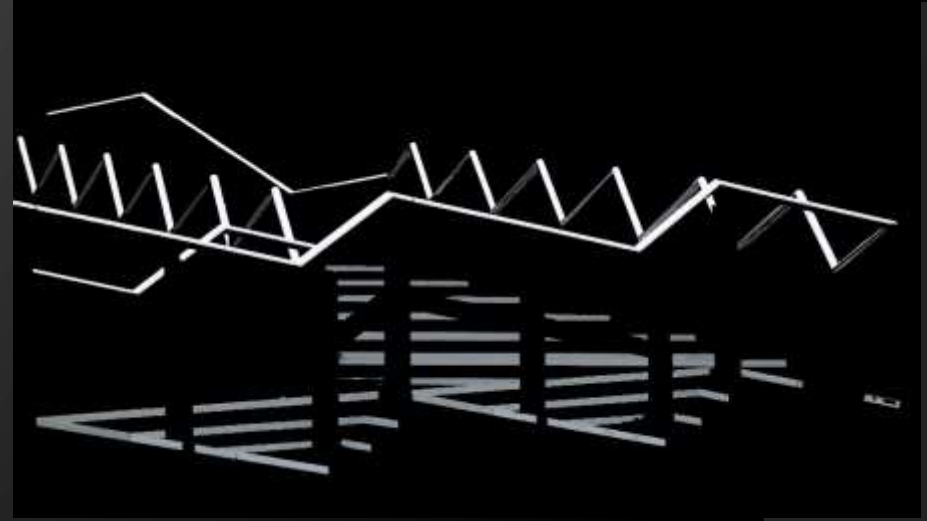
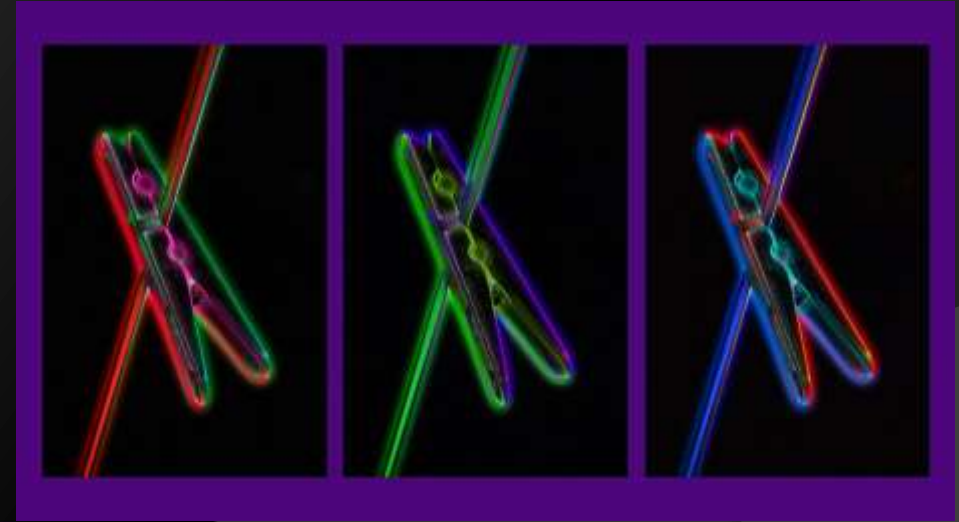
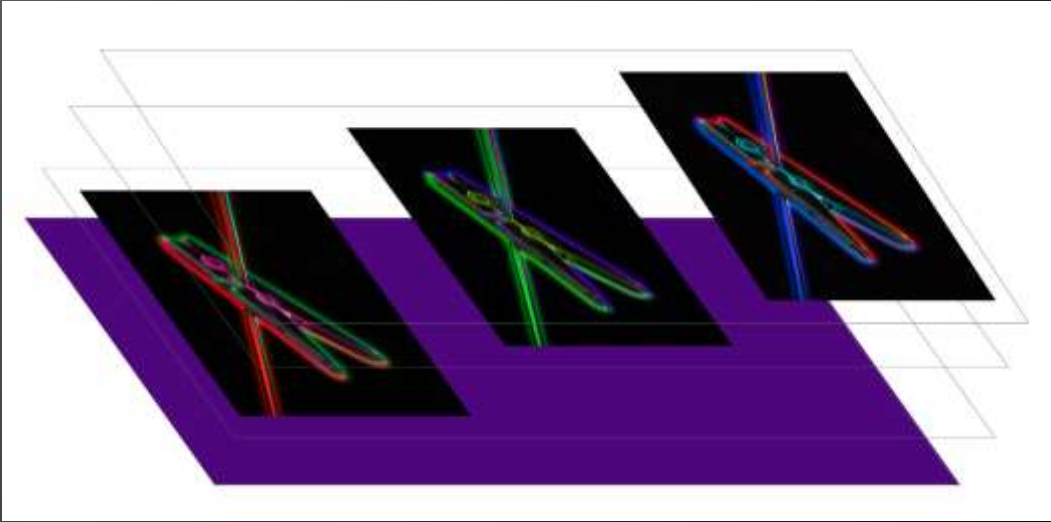


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Working with Layers

- Pixel layers (images or parts of images)
 - Think of these as transparencies



Adding part of an image

Learnings:

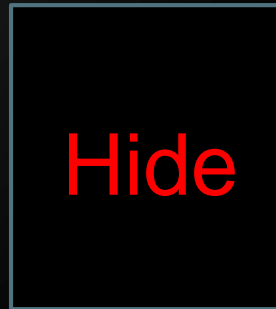
- Simple selection
- Layer via copy
- Turning layer off/
deleting



Masking

Masks are used to hide or show areas of the layer

- White = Show this area of the layer
- Black = Hide this area of the layer
- Grey = Partly show this area (transparent)



Masking – Selective Colour



Learnings:

- Duplicate layer
- Adding Mask
- Painting in/ out

Masking – Cutting out

Learnings:

- Cutting out
- Adding a background
- Light direction
- Flip a layer



Masking – Blending similar images

Nice composition, no detail in sky



Lovely detail in sky



Best of both

Learnings:

- Select & mask out sections
- Align new layer
- Basic Mask
- Painting in/ out

Texture – Add texture, mask out subject



Learnings:

- Add a texture
- Layer Transparency
- Masking subject from Texture



Change background – select/ cut something out and add a new sky/ background



Learnings:

- Quick selection tool
- Refining a selection
- Layer via cut/ copy
- Reorder layers
- Turning on/off layers

Go Crazy...



Next week

- Adjustment Layers
- Putting it all together
- Managing Layers

- End of course

- ...Keep doing & learning



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Working with Layers

- Pixel layers (images or parts of images)
 - Think of these as transparencies
- Adjustment layers
 - Think of these as rooms to apply treatments (adjustments)

Adjustment layers

- Think of these as rooms for types of adjustment – e.g:
 - Brightening room
 - Darkening room
 - Hue & Saturation Room
 - Healing & cloning room
(Actually a pixel layer)



Masking – Selective Colour



Learnings:

- B&W adjustment layer
- Basic Mask
- Painting in/ out

Reflections & Shadows

Learnings:

- Duplicating & flipping
- Gradient mask
- Painting a shadow in soft light
- Shadow in hard light



Blending Modes – using Overlay mode to add a coloured tone to a B&W image.



Learnings:

- Range of blending modes (demo)
- Use of Overlay mode
- Vignettes

Managing layers

- Naming
- Moving
- Grouping
- Pinning
- Merging
 - Ctrl+Alt+E = selected layers
 - Ctrl+Alt+Shift+E = all layers below
- Applying filters – (merge then) apply to new layer & mask



That's all Folks!
- Questions?

