

Photo 12 / Assignment 5

Selection, scanning & retouching

All of us have family photos. Some have been handled poorly over the years and need repair. In this exercise, we will work with repairing photographs and utilizing the various selection tools to accomplish this.

Above all, this project will teach you patience!

Selection and doing repair correctly is a pain-staking job that requires you determine tonal, texture and lighting differences within an image and work them through. Simply cloning something and moving it quickly show problem areas.

The other aspect that will become known is blowing up an image sufficiently to see all the flaws. This too is a painful exercise.

In this exercise, I will give you one image to repair and I want you to bring a family photo from home to repair. It must have substantial flaws in it to qualify for the project. If you do not have family photos to repair, I will supply one for you.

You will be using the scanner to translate your family image into a digital file.

PROCEDURE:

1. Go through your family albums and find an image that is really screwed up with scratches, areas of faded tone, even torn. .
2. Next week I will give you my photograph of our families last camping trip - It is a real nightmare!!!!
3. Take your time on both files. Do not hurry, do a good job on each image removing as many of the flaws and color shifts as possible. Save your work often to your flash drive.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR SELECTIONS:

- Remember there are a variety of selection tools and repair tools. Not everyone is good for all things. You need to choose wisely and try various ones out on various problems. For instance, you would not use Vanishing Point to deal with a line that has many spots along the way. That will only increase the spots. Alternatively, the clone tool or Healing brush is good, but realize the size of the brush or the sweep of the pixels will pick up unwanted spots or scratches.
- Save your work often.
- Pay particular attention to brush size, and hardness.
- Be particularly mindful of color transitions and repair not only the spots, but the color issues as well as you work the file.
- Pay special attention to the faces. This is where the eye goes in any image.

WHAT TO HAND IN WHEN DONE:

1. The two fixed files, yours that you brought from home and the "Camping" file I gave you, uploaded to the server.