

PHOTOSHOP

Project 2.9

Name _____

LAYER MASKS

You can edit the contents of a layer with the eraser tool or by selecting an area and then deleting it, but such editing is only reversible via the history. We are going to use a method that hides the layer contents rather than erasing it by creating a *Layer Mask*. This method enables us to bring the masked out areas back into view at a later date, making it very easy to correct mistakes.

I provide you with 30 JPGs, your task is to combine a variety of features from different people to create a 'hybrid' image. To view the images create a contact sheet of the folder 'faces', at 300ppi, 5 columns by 6 rows. From the contact sheets select the images you are going to use.

You are to find and use at least one image from the internet, try going to Google Images and search for 'head and shoulders' or 'portraits' or something similar. Be careful not to get images that are too small, look out for the pixel dimensions underneath the thumbnails, I believe anything under 400 pixels along its longest length is too small to work with. Ensure that you then go to the full size image by clicking on the thumbnail and then going to 'see full-size image'.

Bring your images into one document. Create a Layer Mask for each layer. You now have two elements to each layer, the mask and the underlying pixels. If you want to work on the mask ensure the mask is active; if you want to work on the pixels, to adjust the colour balance or levels for example, activate the image.

When working on the mask just use the paint brush (appropriate size and hardness), paint the mask in with black (effectively erasing) paint the mask out with white (effectively bring that area back into view).

Print out your final version with the original unchanged images alongside on an A4 sheet.

Objectives -

- Researching & evaluating images
- Adjusting Levels & Colour Balance
- Layer Mask & Transformations
- Setting images on a page

Lecturer's Comment: _____

