

The Art and Science of Digital Imaging

CS 197, fall 2005

Project two: "Alphabet Book"

The class is going to create a children's book about the alphabet. You will be responsible for producing one of its pages.

Letters will be randomly assigned. Once you have your letter, you have a week to produce a draft layout of your page and then one more week to produce the final version.

It's important the book be coherent and consistent, so each page will have the following structure:

1. Your page must feature your letter in both upper and lower case, somewhere on the page.
2. Your page must contain original, simple, rhyming text related to your letter that adheres to this rough structure:

"When I think of letter (letter), I think of (noun/plural noun phrase),
(active verb phrase) (preposition like in, on, or around) (another noun phrase)"

For example: "When I think of letter F, I think of flying fish,
soaring over plates of food in sunny Bangladesh."

Another example: "When I think of letter T, I think of tangerines,
tumbling through a tunnel past a cadre of Marines."

3. You will composite the letters and text over a background image that itself will be a composite.
4. You need to create the composite background image from at least 3 different source images, doing your best to *integrate* the disparate elements into a coherent final image. It doesn't have to be believable, but it does have to look as much as possible like the image was created with a single exposure. In other words, you need to matte and adjust the elements until they "fit" together effectively.

Some technical specs:

1. Your rough draft must have a spatial resolution of 1024 x 768.
2. Your final image must have a spatial resolution of 2048 x 1536. I want them this big so we can print the book!
3. You must work in 8-bit per channel RGB space.
4. Your final image must be an **unflattened** Photoshop document (in other words, your layers must remain separated).
5. You must name your layers and use **layer masks** to generate your mattes. Do NOT apply the layer masks or delete any RGB data from your source layers to create transparency!

PART ONE due Wednesday October 12th at the beginning of class

Hand in your rough draft as a Photoshop document to the handin folder on urza. There should be roughed-in versions of all elements (even sketches are fine at this stage) showing your composition. Your text should be legible.

PART TWO due Wednesday October 19th at the beginning of class

Your final page as a Photoshop .psd file (see specs above).

When you scan your elements (source images), be sure to use the **descreen** feature of the scanner software if the elements come from a magazine or book or other non-photographic form. Also, it's a good rule of thumb to scan at roughly two times the spatial resolution you think you'll need for your composite.

Remember the help that's available to you:

- The class email list: cs197f05@lists.hampshire.edu
- Evan is in the lab Monday and Wednesday nights.
- My office hours are Wednesdays from 1:30-3:00 and Thursdays from 10:30-12:00.