

Start with a Scan: Using a Scanner and Photoshop to Create Original Art

1 or 2-day workshop with Janet Ashford

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Class Description

Learn how to start with a scan of almost anything—flowers, an old engraving, a "bad" photo, or a household object—and use Photoshop Elements to transform it into a lively, original image. We'll scan photos and objects and learn some of the many techniques described in the instructor's book, *Start with a Scan*.

Instructor Biography

Janet Ashford is the author of seven books on computer graphics including *The Arts and Crafts Computer: Using Your Computer as an Artist's Tool* (Peachpit Press, 2002) and *Start with a Scan: A Guide to Transforming Scanned Photos and Objects into High Quality Art* (with John Odam, Peachpit Press, 2nd ed. 2000). Her graphic design business provides services for clients in Mendocino County, California. See her web page at www.jashford.com.

Outline

Day 1—Scanning and Editing Images

Morning

Basics of scanning through Photoshop

- scanning original photos and art
- scanning copyright-free clip art
- scanning three-dimensional objects

Basic image-editing in Photoshop

Editing scanned color photos and art

- correcting contrast and brightness (using Levels)
- correcting color (using Variations, Hue/Saturation & Selective Color)
- cleaning up with Clone tool and Dust & Scratches filter
- correcting focus with Unsharp Mask
- adding and deleting objects and people

Editing scanned black-and-white clip art

- correcting contrast, brightness and focus
- detecting and stopping "leaks"
- adding color

Editing scans of three-dimensional objects

- correcting color, contrast and brightness, & focus
- creating a silhouette
- creating a drop shadow

Lunch break

Afternoon

Making art from scans

Three easy ways to turn a "scan" into an "illustration"

1. Apply "darkroom" effects

invert to a negative

high contrast

posterization

solarization (with Solarize filter and with Curves)

2. Apply graphic filters

creating a filter effects reference sheet

3. Create a photo montage

using Photoshop's Layers

using blending modes

Review of day's work

Day 2—Creating Original Art

Morning

Work on your projects

Choose a project (picture book or greeting card)

Explore image ideas and techniques

Scan images and objects

Use clip art books and the photos and art you brought to class

Lunch break

Afternoon

Complete your project

Finish scanning and editing your images

Print your images in color or black-and-white

Assemble your finished project

greeting card art

fold-and-stitch picture book

Review of final projects