



"A Portrait"
A face devoid of love or grace,
A hateful, hard, successful face,
A face with which a stone
Would feel as thoroughly at ease
As were they old acquaintances,
First time together thrown.
by Emily Dickinson

Cover image done
by Emily Snape

Dear Readers,

This month in .psd magazine we've created a series of tutorials devoted to creatively editing your portraits! Enhancing portraits using vector-based shapes and other Photoshop techniques is a demanding task. The subtle differences that make each human face unique can be a real challenge! As traditional artists know, figure drawing is the classic test of one's artistic ability. Our contest winners offer some great ideas to help you start developing your portrait retouching skills. If you're in a rut with this sort of art, we've got the solution.

On page 16, Gary Jay, the First Place winner of our contest from issue #1, reveals his methods of enhancing a portrait photograph with Photoshop and Freehand techniques and his secret ingredient, love. Our cover image (which took Second Place in the contest) is explained in a tutorial beginning on page 10, while on page 46 Third Place winner Josheb Policarpio shows how vectors can create the perfect sister. Our new photo contest (page 8) focuses on illustrating the five senses. The winners will have the chance to have their tutorials published in the magazine. On page 60 we reveal tips and tricks for using the new Photoshop CS3, while on page 62 we help you decide which 30-inch monitor is suitable for you (you know you want one!). On page 72 we've got a special interview with one of the most generous and skilled Photoshop teachers in the world, the one and only Colin Smith. Learn how Colin creates his stunning photorealistic work.

The quality of this special edition is due to the exceptional work of our contributors and editorial team who conceived, developed, pursued, cajoled, produced, directed and delivered the extraordinary content and powerful information that make up this issue. We owe these people our greatest thanks. Now that it's complete, this issue of .psd belongs to you, our readers. We hope it inspires and exhilarates you as much as it does us. So feast your eyes on these pages and enjoy the material we've created just for you. And don't forget, we love hearing from you guys, so keep the emails and images coming in.

Sincerely,
ewa.samulska@psdmag.org

Ewa Samulska

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