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The Photoshop Elements 5 Restoration & Retouching Book

Adding Color to B&W Photos, p. 210

Erratum: The photo that the author uses for this exercise is not made available along with all the other images. You can use the image called "Adding Vignette.jpg" that is located in the Chapter 9 folder.

Bonus Technique #1 (Not in Book): Towards the end of this exercise, where we have the various layers for coloring the skin, hair, scarf, etc., the question comes up: "What if you want to change the color of the scarf after you painted it in?"

This is where a useful technique called ***"Group Layer With Previous"*** comes in. Here's what you do:

1. Be sure the "Scarf" layer is selected (Active)
2. Make a new ***Hue/Saturation Adjustment Layer***
3. Make no changes to Hue/Saturation yet. Just click ***OK*** to close the Hue/Saturation panel. You should now have this new Adjustment Layer just above the "Scarf" layer.
4. Here's the secret step: with the Adjustment Layer selected (Active), go to **menu:LAYER>GROUP WITH PREVIOUS.** You should now see this layer "indent" to the right with a little arrow pointing down to the "Scarf" layer beneath. Essentially, this indicates that the adjustments you make here will only affect the "Scarf" layer. If you didn't use this command, any hue/saturation adjustment would affect all layers, all colors... NOT what you want!
5. With the Adjustment Layer grouped with the "Scarf" layer, go ahead and double-click the Hue/Saturation control thumbnail in the Adjustment Layer to open up the Hue/Saturation panel. Make changes to the HUE slider, and click OK. Remember that with an Adjustment Layer, you can always return later to make any changes.

Bonus Technique #2 (Not in Book): At the very end of this exercise, I placed a thick black "stroke" around the photo. First, I did a ***"Stamp Visible"*** command by first making sure that the very top layer was selected, then pressing SHIFT-CONTROL-ALT-E (Windows) or SHIFT-COMMAND-OPTION-E (Mac). This creates a ***new layer*** just above, containing a ***merged*** version of all visible layers beneath.

To make the actual stroke then, with the "Stamp Visible" layer selected, you go to **menu:EDIT>STROKE SELECTION.** In the stroke panel, select 8pt., black, and INSIDE stroke. Click OK.

NOTES

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