

Portrait Retouching using Adobe Photoshop CS

Skin Softening

- * Duplicate your background layer > Ctrl J
- * Filter menu>Blur>Gaussian blur. Choose approx. 20 pixel blur.
- * In layers panel reduce opacity.
- * Hold Alt key and click add layer mask.
- * Zoom in and grab a medium sized soft edged brush, and paint on skin revealing the blurry layer.
- * Hold Alt key and click on the layer mask thumbnail to double check your painting and do any clean up work. Click on the layer mask again to return.
- * Hold Ctrl key and click on the layer mask, this will load it as a selection.
- * Click on background layer, then press Ctrl J, this will put it on it's own layer.
- * Hide the top and background layers (click the eye off).
- * Go to Image menu>Adjustments>Desaturate.
- * Go to Filter menu>Other>High pass. Drag High pass slider all the way to the left.
- * Move the slider to the right until details, highlights and shadows return, click ok.
- * Turn on hidden layers (click on eye), then drag the gray texture layer to the top.
- * Change the blend mode of the gray (top) layer from Normal to Soft light.
- * Adjust the opacity of this layer to taste (about 50%).

Whitening Teeth

- *Open photo, get Lasso tool and draw selection around teeth (no lips or gums).
- *Go to Select menu>Modify>Feather. Enter 1 Pixel and click ok.
- *Go to Image menu>Adjustments>Hue Saturation. Choose yellows from the Edit pop up menu.
- *Drag the saturation slider to the left to remove yellowing. Going too far makes it gray.
- *After removing yellowing, switch the Edit pop up menu back to Master, and drag lightness slider to the right. Too much and the correction will be obvious.
- *Click ok, then Ctrl D to deselect to see finished teeth retouch.

Brightening and whitening eyes

- *Open photo, go to layers panel and choose Curves from the Create New Adjustment Layer pop up menu and click ok.
- *Change the blend mode from Normal to Screen.
- *Ctrl I to invert the mask, switch foreground color to white (x) and get the brush tool.
- *Choose a small, soft edged brush, and paint over the eyes revealing the screen layer.
- *Adjust the opacity of this layer to taste.

Reducing Wrinkles

- *Ctrl J to duplicate layer.
- *Choose the healing brush from the toolbox.
- *Place cursor on a nearby un-wrinkled area, press and hold the Alt key, and click once on that area.
- *Paint a stroke over the wrinkles you want to remove.
- *Lower the opacity of the duplicate layer to bring back some of the wrinkles, usually around 40-60%.