

peer pres sure

*Eye-catching imagery that
inspires and challenges*

One thing that never fails to impress us here at *Advanced Photoshop* is not only the skill of our readers but the huge variety of different approaches that you all take. It's a healthy sign to see so many different creative styles emerging from your good selves, and this month's Peer Pressure shows off those skills better than ever before. Have you got a digital masterpiece up your sleeves that you'd like to share with your fellow readers?

Sending your images in to us for inclusion in Peer Pressure is an ideal way to get your name out there. You never know who's browsing through the magazine looking for a new Photoshop guru to front their company.

If you'd like to see your own work on these pages, please send us low-res versions to advancedpshop@imagine-publishing.co.uk – we'll get back to you for more information and higher resolution copies if we want to print them. Alternatively, please log on to our forum website at www.advancedphotoshop.co.uk/forum and scroll down to Peer Pressure in the Creative Projects section to post a link to your image samples.

**"I STARTED OFF
TAKING VARIOUS
SELF-PORTRAITS
IN ANGUISHED
POSES..."**

You'll stand a better chance of seeing your work in print if you adhere to the following criteria: make sure that your images are high-quality TIFFs or JPEGs (RGB or CMYK), 300dpi minimum, and can be printed at 15cm x 15cm minimum. Don't forget to include a short text file detailing how you created your work, too.



Ice cold

NAME: Joe Upton

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Joe Upton is a meat cutter by trade and both an amateur photographer and an avid Photoshopper in his spare time. He has been using Photoshop for about three years and is often seen with a Canon Digital Rebel XT in his hand. This image was inspired by the ice tutorial featured in *Advanced Photoshop 17*. "Choosing an image with the proper skin tones and highlights was more challenging than I originally supposed it would be. One particular problem with this image was that the right shoulder was almost all highlight and I feared it would appear blown out. This was solved by choosing a foreground ice image that would hide most of the right shoulder."



The colour of pink

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This image was created as a token gesture for Daniel's girlfriend. "I was feeling uninspired and my girlfriend told me to create something for her." To begin with a gradient overlay was created using a blend of pink and white. "I needed a background texture and found a nice wavy pattern for which I altered the blending mode and changed to an overlay. I reduced the opacity of this as I didn't want it to get the full attention." Daniel then added some text into the background and used a layer mask to hide the sides of the text to make it blend in more. Finally, he polished off the piece by adding a few marks with different brushes and the 'color of pink' text.



Purgatory

NAME: Matthew Kempton
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Matthew taught himself Photoshop and has been learning for two years. His current job as an in-house designer for a small company doesn't require much Photoshop so he tends to practice in his free time. Inspired by Vault49 and Flatliner Matthew's piece was an idea conceived from a conversation he had on purgatory. "I thought it would make for a rather interesting project, so I started off by doing a bit of home photography, taking various self portraits in anguished poses. Once I had a photo I was happy with I started working on getting the body to look as if it was about to combust." The result was achieved by working with several duplicated layers (with subtle filters applied) that were then combined with layer effects.

"The sides of the image were built up using a combination of photographs that were traced using the Pen Tool and filled with solid colour. Some brushes that were sourced from deviantART were used to add the final touches."

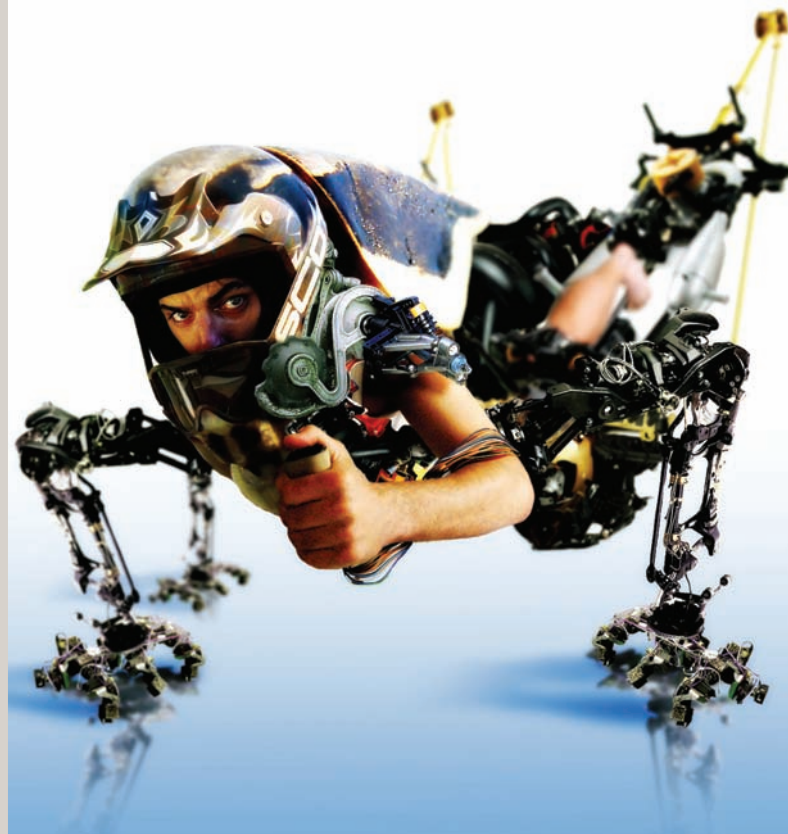
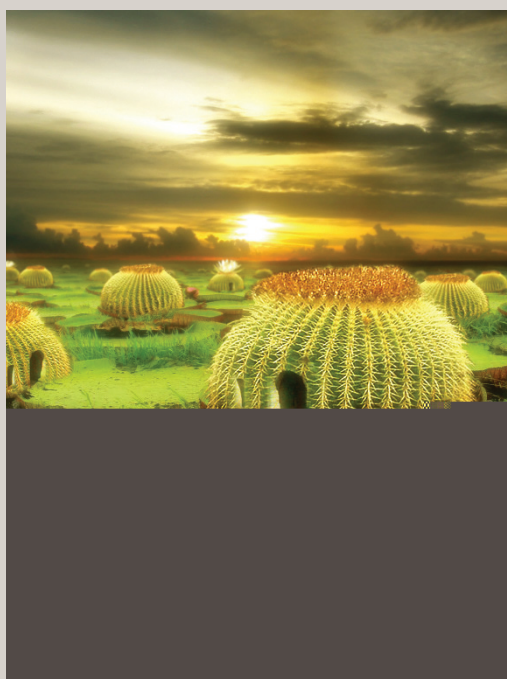


**BEST
IN SHOW**
Advanced
Photoshop

SHOAL OF APARTMENTS: "I tried to think of how our great-grandsons would live in harmony with nature and went for a 'shoal of fish' analogy. As often with my pictures this looked quite dull before the very last few steps. It only came together after I added distance blur, light rays, small dithers and a global colour retouch"



ASIMO RIDE: "A recurring theme in my pictures is the depiction of everyday scenes in a futuristic and mechanical world. I wanted to show the robot having a good time, riding his new hover car." Joan used a motion blur on the background to spice up an otherwise static scene. "I also turned the car into a convertible to suit the overall feeling"



CITY HOPPER: The picture was created using a grasshopper as the main source image and replacing each part with a mechanical element. "I couldn't find sources for the limbs of the pilot so I photographed myself in the position and incorporated this into the image. Sometimes it's the only way to get a weird perspective to match"



SUNRISE ON LILYVILLE: "The piece combines several key approaches I had used previously. I created a deep perspective by the multiplication and blurring of elements in the background. A dreamy light was important as sunshine and sunrise always makes for a nice ambience. As for sense of scale, the man on the boat is there for a reason – it ties the whole thing together. It's very important in pictures to give the viewer a way to understand the proportions of the elements"

Visions Of The Future

NAME: Joan Charmant
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Joan has been dabbling with Photoshop for just under two years. With previous experience in graphical arts he knew that photo-montage would be the right style for him. "It's something that combines the freedom of illustration with the impact of photography. The possibility of developing my imaginary worlds into convincing pictures instantly attracted me." Joan has learned a lot about his digital imaging by "trial and error" constructions in the daily competitions on www.worth1000.com. It may surprise some to learn that despite his terrific Photoshop skills Joan isn't interested in going professional. "I work for the software industry. I do Photoshop as a hobby and I wouldn't want it otherwise. I sometimes feel that having an art director can spoil the fun of creation. I want to keep it pure leisure, even if it means I'm not getting any money out of it."

BUNCH OF GEARS: *This was one of Joan's earliest works and is one of the first pictures he was happy with. "I did this over the course of an afternoon, with a pretty simple concept in mind. I replaced each and every flower with a gear of the same size and perspective. There are a couple of things I would definitely do differently today, but I guess its symbolism still works quite well"*

"I DO PHOTOSHOP AS A HOBBY AND I WOULDN'T WANT IT OTHERWISE"



World Cup Fury

NAME: Gareth Julien

Gareth is a 26-year old project manager and multimedia student from London. "I've dabbled with Photoshop since the days of the Apple Mac Classic and would probably be a guru by now if I'd stuck at it." He tells us that this was quite a simple piece to create, but "involved a lot of playing about to achieve the correct blending results." Gareth painted the red flag strips onto the material and adjusted the opacity and the different blending options until he had a convincing result. The Warp and Brush tools were used to manipulate the 'England' text and the German strips.



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