

# Photoshop Color Correction, Layers and Layer Masks Seminar



For those of you who don't already know me, I am Chuck Williams. In the '90s, I traveled the North American seminar circuit presenting a very popular class designed to help print designers make the changeover from old style paste-up and camera ready art, to the newer desktop electronic prepress technology. Since then I have been a trainer and consultant for graphic design firms, newspapers, and printing companies throughout the U.S. I have trained thousands of designers and photographers in the techniques needed to create computer files that will deliver top quality results in high end offset printing.

A number of the skills that I teach involve the use of Adobe Photoshop, and now I have put together a program specifically aimed at photographers. I will be presenting this class in Cozumel, in the near future, and you are invited to attend.

If you are a digital photographer, you probably know that the greatest advantage offered by the new technology is the ability to manipulate your images. The knowledgeable use of Photoshop can allow you to maximize the impact of your photos in ways that were never possible in the days of photographic film. No matter what kind of equipment you shoot with, from a pocket point and shoot, to an expensive digital SLR, virtually EVERY image that you take can be improved using the techniques that I will be demonstrating.

My upcoming class will consist of two parts. First a 1½ to 2 hour lecture and demonstration. Then, after a short break, a hands-on "lab" session as a bonus for anyone who brings their computer to the class. This session will allow you to practice the techniques that I demonstrated, with me leading you through them and answering questions as we go.

Subjects covered will include:

## The Photoshop tools

I will explain and demonstrate the use of the Levels and Curves controls, then move into the more complex subjects of Layers, Adjustment Layers, and Layer Masks.

## Basic Color Correction and Image Maximization

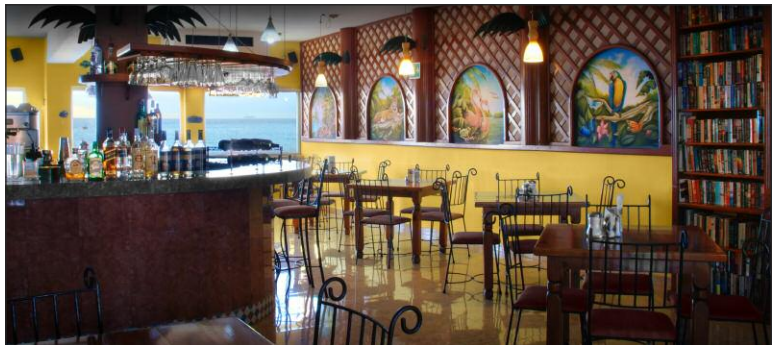
In most cases you can correct color, contrast and brightness by the numbers. Get a perfect flesh tone. Make sure that your images use the entire available dynamic range, without losing any detail in the highlights or shadows. Using the numbers takes all the guesswork out of it.



Basic color correction - fleshtones by the numbers

## Beyond The Basics

Now we will use the basic color correction techniques combined with Layers and Layer Masks to make adjustments to specific areas of the image. Layer Masks allow you to use a brush tool to "paint" in your corrections where they are needed. Fine tune each part of the image separately. You could never do this with film!



The three photos to the left were combined in Photoshop to make the final image above. This demonstration makes full use of layers, and layer masks, to create a product that could not, in any way, be captured in a single exposure.

## Way Beyond...



Original image



Basic color correction & image optimization



Anything worth doing is worth overdoing.

**Interested? Please contact me for more info. [cw@chuckwilliams.com](mailto:cw@chuckwilliams.com)**