TAP Animator Creed: Virtual Learning Edition

1 we show respect

We are a team. We live up to the same expectations as we would in person.

2 we take care of our technology

We respect all equipment. We mute ourselves when we are not speaking. We do not talk over our teammates.

3 we focus

We have a lot to learn. ALL our attention is focused on the class. We do our best to limit distractions around us. We wear headphones if possible.

4 we participate

We speak up; we ask for help when we need it.

5 we own the content

This is our class. This is our opportunity to learn more about the animation field.

6 we attend class

Our voices and ideas are valued. We log into class on time and stay until the end whenever possible.
Welcome to The Made In New York Animation Project NeON Summer Edition!

Session 11 - Compositing
Opening

We’re all made up of layers, like an onion. Shrek taught us that. In animation, some of those layers include: background elements, assets/objects, light/shadow, hue, characters, special effects, etc. Let's start brainstorming a group scene by putting together, or compositing, a layer from each of us.

Share Verbally or in the Chat:
If you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would you be? What would it look like? How would it feel? We’ll return to these responses later to include in our group composition.
Technical Lesson: Compositing
Does anybody know what compositing is in animation? Would anybody like to take a guess?
Terminology
Terms and Definitions

**Compositing** - The process of combining multiple visual elements, to create an illusion that all the elements are part of the same scene.

**Mask** - A mask is when you isolate parts of an image, to show that part of it in a higher layer.

**Channels (RGB)** - Channels are color layers in digital images. RGB means Red, Green, Blue. Channels can be greyscale and transparent.
Terms and Definitions Continued

Channels (Alpha) - The transparent Channel.

Tracking - You select a point in a shot, then you can add an image and it’ll follow the camera movement.

Color Balancing - Color balancing is taking the layers and matching the white and black points of an image so that all the layers colors balance correctly. If an image is bright and the footage it’s being placed into is dark, you would color balance the image to match the footage so that it looks more blended.
TAP Film:

Frog Legs
TAP Film:
Granny Wars
Advanced Examples
Digital Matte Painting Reel - Liane Li
Reflections on TAP Films and Advanced Examples

What did you notice?

What did you see?

Did anything look out of place?

How many different layers do you think went into a single composition?

What elements stand out and set the tone for the piece?
Video Demonstration
Career Opportunities

Rotoscoper
An animator who specializes in the process of tracing over footage, frame by frame, to produce realistic action. In the VFX industry, it layers over a live-action plate so it may be composited over another background.

Matte Painter
Paints a landscape or set, allowing filmmakers to create the illusion of an environment that is not present at the filming location.

Environment Artist
A 3D modeler, specializing in outdoor & indoor locations for a game's setting.
Resources

**Pluralsight**
Technical skills learning resource. Go to Course > Creative Professional

**Autodesk Maya Learning Channel**
A Youtube channel where you can get started to learning Maya, a 3D modeling, animation, and rendering program

**Nuke**
industry standard compositing software

**Blender**
Free software for node compositing
Question & Answer
Frequently Asked Questions

How do you know how to order the layers?
Like a painting: base layer, pencil outline/sketch, underpainting
(values/light/shadow), shapes, place on background, figures, masking

How many layers are in a typical shot?
It depends on how much work needs to be done. Sometimes good compositing is when you don’t notice anything at all.

How do you showcase what you want the viewer to see?
Magic! When you’re watching a magician, you only pay attention to what the magician wants you to see, and you miss what’s going on.
Creative Engagement:

Layers and Impact of One’s Personal Environment

Link to Aggie.io

A link to our drawing will be shared in the chat momentarily.
If you could imagine compositing the different layers of your own life, which layer would you put on top?
Materials needed for next group:

Paper, Pencil
If you would like to share your **ARTWORK** and have the chance to have your work featured in our Mega Groups, send submissions to:

submissions@theanimationproject.org

If you have **QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SUMMER PROGRAM** that are not answered on the FAQ page of our website, reach out to:

neonsummer@theanimationproject.org

If you have **QUESTIONS ABOUT INCENTIVES** that are not answered on the FAQ page of our website, reach out to:

tapincentives@theanimationproject.org
Thank you for attending this group!


Check out our social media for more information about the TAP Weekly Challenges!