

Mike Soucek

FILM-4151

March 14<sup>th</sup> 2013

### Team First Image Report

The purpose of this image was to yet again visualize flow phenomena. This assignment was to be completed by a group in order to visualize more complex flows, but it should be noted that this image was realized without the assistance of my group. I was unable to meet with my group during the times they were able. With the academic aim aside, I wanted to try once again to use household objects to create a flow, but I wanted to focus more on the post-production aspect of the imaging, specifically in Photoshop. This image was realized with the assistance of Siobhan Sullivan, a non-student.

The flow setup was fairly simple. The receptacle was a large fishbowl filled with corn syrup. The flow visualization was created by using food coloring and liquid potpourri, agitated with swizzle sticks. The fishbowl, 12x12x12, was room temperature as well as all of the fluids involved. The generally, the forces that are making the image are gravity and the agitation made by the solid object. The colored fluids were introduced to the corn syrup with no expressive force, and in many ways didn't flow very well at all. It was here that the swizzle sticks were used, swirling the fluid and moving it to make the flow more visible. The less viscous fluid interacted with the corn syrup, resisting it quite intensely, but with physical intervention the fluid was accepted into the syrup.

The image was made with available light, in my kitchen. Overhead lights were used, totaling to 100 watts of fluorescent lighting. The image is lit from above, and a white poster board is used both as a backdrop and a reflector to better light the subject as a whole, and thus the built in flash on the cam. The food coloring is of the neon variety, although the original image does not reflect that due to low level of lighting. The liquid potpourri was acquired from Wal-Mart's clearance section. The corn syrup was also acquired at Wal-Mart.

The fishbowl was filled with water, set out at room temperature throughout the duration of the camera setup process. Blue and green food coloring was added to the water 3 inches above the top of the water line, while the potpourri was added at the waterline. A ruler set vertically next to the fishtank, out of the frame, controlled this. The frame of the image encompasses the whole of the cubic bowl, 12 inches across and 11 inches in height, and a tripod was used to ensure no camera shake and the camera was set 10 inches from the glass wall of the bowl. An 18-55mm focal length zoom lens was used, set at full zoom extension (55mm), and set at a focal point in the center of the tank, six inches from either side. A Canon EOS Rebel T3 digital camera was used and the final image dimensions were  $2587 \times 2848$ , while the original image dimensions were  $4272 \times 2848$ .

The image's exposure specs were as follows:  $1/25$  of a second exposure time, 5.6f for the aperture. The image was heavily post-processed. First, the air bubbles were removed with the "healing" tool, and blended to the surrounding colors. The colors of the original image were completely inverted, and the dark colors were intensified, giving the image a very harsh contrast. The image was cropped, of

course, to make the subject of the image all of the image, and to eliminate the less crucial parts of the image.

The artistic goal of the image was realized for I was able to learn quite a lot about Photoshop and its tools, but more importantly the image created was one that I find very artistically interesting. My initial thought was to do color isolations and boring things like that, but instead I pushed the envelope further and created an image that pops colors and has harsh contrast. I would not change anything about the image for I feel it does have some artistic merit, even though the product is something entirely outside of my standard artistic styles.