



MEETING NOTES

11th February 2004

Peter kicked off this meeting with a demonstration of the colour pass filter showing the use of compositing, filters and the cookie cutter to get a really clean key. Effectively the technique revolved around 3 copies of the same footage with the first 2 in a parent child relationship. Peter demonstrated this using vision of a breakfast table laid for a meal with remarkable results.

Peter then took us into the realms of generated media showing how keyframes can be added to generated media to provide movement. This coupled with changing opacity over time and layering more generated media tracks on the timeline gave rise to some very interesting effects such as motion backgrounds. These could be made to loop by ensuring the end keyframe matched the first keyframe.

As an aside Peter explained how to make a copy of an event on the timeline. Basically you hold down the CTRL button and drag the event to a new location. When you release the mouse a dialog will pop up asking if you wish to create a reference to the source event or a copy of the source event.

Roger then took over and gave a wonderful insight into the use of the cookie cutter and track motion in the form of a bouncing ball moving along a line of text in the manner of a karaoke machine display. Softening the edges of the ball was also covered using the feather option from the cookie cutter dialog. He then adapted this method to generate a spot of colour moving along a map to show a journey in progress.

Scrolling text was also covered using the placement options in the text dialogs with the placement keyframed to give a ticker tape style movement along the screen.

Roger finished with a well thought out demonstration of the typewriter effect so popular in various films and television shows. He added extra interest by the use of an audio file representing the noise of a key being pressed. All the action was keyframed and by moving the keyframe positions it was possible to simulate the natural pauses seen when viewing a typist actually typing a document.

As seems to be usual for our meetings, the time simply flew by and the general consensus seems to be that our new format allowed more time to learn a technique and ask questions.

Thanks again to Roger and Peter for their outstanding work and to the team of helpers who assisted carrying gear in and out and assisting at our supper break.

See you next month.

Dave

Secretary Perth Vegas User Group