

KINETIC PHOTOGRAPHY with AFTEREFFECTS – QUICK GUIDE

CREATE the PICTURES

shoot series of 5 to 16 pictures
 where most things are stationary,
 and some thing(s) are just barely moving
save-for-web in Photoshop
resize the SHORT side to 1084 pixels [HD QUALITY]

OPEN Adobe AfterEffects

CREATE a NEW PROJECT & COMPOSITION

create a new project with FILE> NEW> NEW PROJECT [CMD] [OPT] N
create a new composition with COMPOSITION> NEW COMPOSITION [CMD] N
 set the height and width
 set the duration to 5 seconds
*concept: the starting duration should be the length each frame will play
 it will be changed later to the full length of the piece*

IMPORT the PICTURE FILES

with FILE> IMPORT FILE
shift-click to select all pictures files in the sequence

SET the STAGE

drag each pictures into the TIMELINE window, under SOURCE NAME
drag the first picture again to the bottom

RESET the COMPOSITION DURATION

with COMPOSITION> COMPOSITION SETTINGS [CMD] K
set it to the number of frames x the duration of each frame,
e.g. 10 frames x 5 sec = 50 sec

SETUP the ANIMATION

select all layers with EDIT> SELECT ALL [CMD] A
set up the sequence with ANIMATION> KEYFRAME ASSISTANT> SEQUENCE LAYERS
click on OVERLAP
set the duration to half the frame length, e.g. 2:15
set TRANSITION to DISSOLVE FRONT LAYER

PREVIEW the ANIMATION

The Animation will now work, but it will not loop properly.
turn on LOOPING
hit the PLAY button in the PREVIEW palette

TRIM the LOOP

deselect the frames by clicking anywhere outside
cut the top layer in half, move the starting point to the right
 leave the fade out at the top of the stack
cut the bottom layer in half, move the ending point to the left
 leave the fade in at the bottom of the stack
move all layers back to time 0
select all [CMD] A and then drag

EXPORT the ANIMATION

This is the file that you will show at the Critique.

with FILE> EXPORT> ADD TO RENDER QUEUE

set OUTPUT MODULE:

click on the TRIANGLE and select H.264

set OUTPUT TO:

click on the YELLOW TEXT and select *your project folder*

hit the RENDER button in the top left corner of the RENDER QUEUE window

name the files "*your_nameC5W.mp4*"

SAVE the PROJECT FILE

The AfterEffects Project File will be needed to make tweaks or to use as a template for other projects. Use the same naming scheme as above.

with FILE> SAVE [CMD] S

CREATING NEW PROJECTS from EXISTING PROJECTS

It is possible to replace footage and make a new animation from an existing one if you want to use the same timing.

Select a picture to change

select only one picture in the Library Window

use FILE> REPLACE FOOTAGE> FILE [CMD] H

repeat this for each picture to be replaced

Use 'Save As...' and give the new project a different name, e.g. *your_nameC5W2.mp4*
so as to not overwrite the original project