

INSTANT FILM TRANSFER & LIFT RECIPES

The Instant Image Transfer Process relies on the ability of dyes in the Instant Film emulsion to migrate to an alternative receiver surface during the development process. The "normal" Instant Film process is interrupted and the "negative" is placed on another material (usually paper). *The dyes that will form the image are encouraged to transfer through the use of pressure.*

The Instant Film Emulsion Lift takes a fully-processed print and removes the emulsion from the backing material and then adheres it to some other surface. The emulsion is very thin and malleable and the inherent folds in the surface are part of the 'effect'.

These recipes are for making image transfers and lifts with a Daylab Instant Printer, the usual starting point for learning the technique. However, it is also possible to make transfers directly using a Polaroid or Fuji camera that accepts peel-apart film, or to work in a darkroom using an enlarger and a sheet-film holder/processor.

SOURCE IMAGES

In this Hybrid Photography class we will be making our source images with a computer and then printing them out and exposing copies onto Instant Film.

Set the cropping: The final print will be 3.25 x 4.25", which is a different aspect ratio than most cameras. A digital camera that shoots in 3:4 will be very close to this aspect ratio. Pictures from other camera will have to be cropped. See the Print Sizes below.

Source Images should be intensified in three ways, to compensate for losses in the process:
Add Adjustment Layers to:

- oversaturate the colors in the print [hue/saturation]
- add extra contrast [curves]
- boost the reds since the red dyes tend to get lost in the transfer process [curves]

WORKFLOWS

There are two types of Source Images for use in two different types of Daylab Printer

DIGITAL TRANSPARENCIES in DAYLAB INSTANT SLIDE PRINTER

Pictures are printed onto OHP Transparency Film and exposed onto Instant Film with a Daylab Instant Slide Printer, originally intended to be used with slide film. The digital transparency print needs to be 2.18 x 2.75" [5.5 x 7 cm]. Leave a larger border on one long side to hold onto the film in the Daylab printer.

DIGITAL PRINTS in DAYLAB COPY SYSTEM

Pictures can be printed onto Digital Photo Paper and exposed onto Instant Film with a Daylab Copy System that is a direct positive copy machine shooting positive prints on paper. The print needs to be 4 x 5.23" [10.16 x 13.28 cm].

See the '*Instant Film Source Images*' handout for all other possible ways of working.