Photo editing with The GIMP

A guide for beginners

Overview

- Starting up The GIMP
- Selections
- Removing Red Eye
- Faded edges
- Highlighting with Color
- Wrap up
- References

GIMP Toolbox

Toolbox menus

The GIMP

File   Xtns   Help
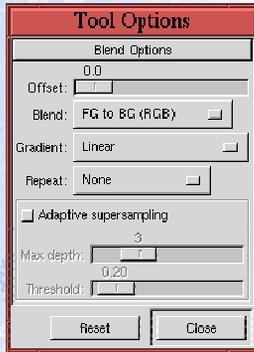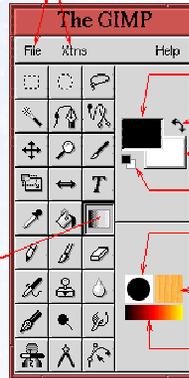
Active foreground color

Switch colors

Active background color

Default colors

Active brush

Active pattern

Active gradient

(a)

Tool Options

Blend Options

0.0

Offset:

Blend: FG to BG (RGB)

Gradient: Linear

Repeat: None

☐ Adaptive supersampling

3

Max depth:

0.20

Threshold:

Reset   Close

(b)

Image Window

Image menu

File
Edit
Select
View
Image
Layers
Tools
Filters
Script-Fu
Dialogs
AnimFrames

*image-window.xcf-16.0 (RGB) 200%

100   150

1
0
0

1
5
0

Quick mask

Status bar

99, 150   image-window.xcf-16.0   Cancel
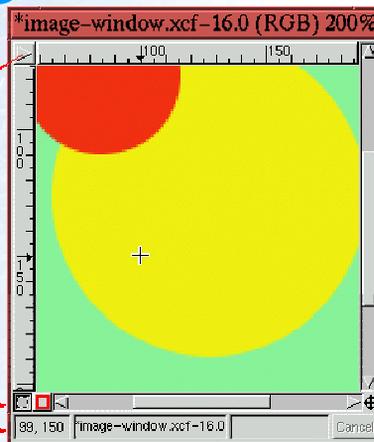
Panner
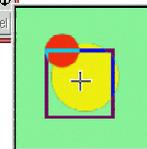
Selecting a color
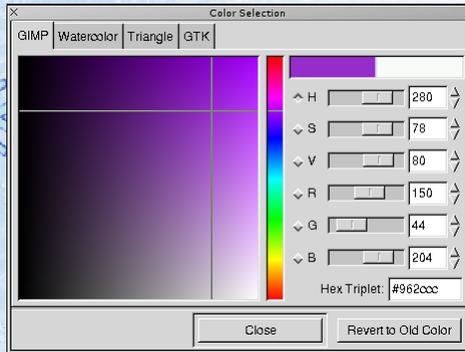
- **H**ue (which color)
- **S**aturation (how much color)
- **V**alue (brightness)
- **R**ed
- **G**reen
- **B**lue

Basic Selection Tools
(Left to right, top to bottom)

- Rectangle Select: Selects a contiguous region in the shape of a rectangle
- Ellipse select: Same as rectangle, but in an ellipse
- Lasso: Selects a free hand region defined by the movement of the pointer
- Fuzzy Select: Selects a region by matching the color that is clicked on.

Advanced Selection
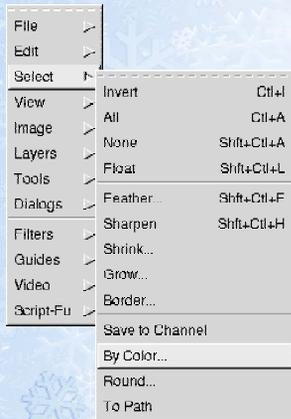
- **Invert**: Selects everything that is not currently selected
- **Shrink/Grow**: Changes the size of the selection by a fixed amount
- **By Color**: Selects everything throughout the picture with the foreground color

Selection Masks

- By clicking the small red box in the lower left hand corner the selection turns into a paintable object
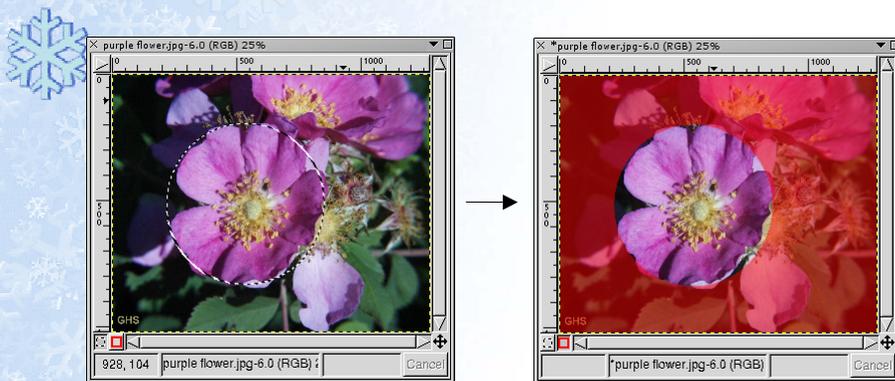
Selecting Red Eye

- Use an ellipse selection to select the two eyes on the picture (shift allows addition of the second selection)
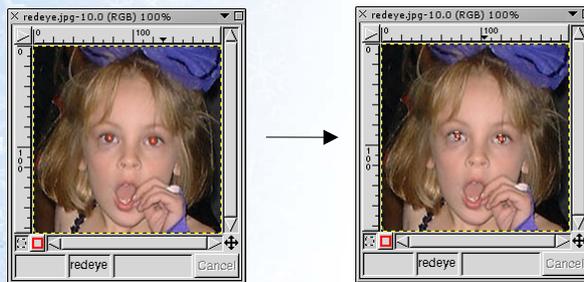
Using the image menu

- The image menu contains commands to adjust the colors in the picture (in this case the selection)
- Select Image->Colors->Hue-Saturation...
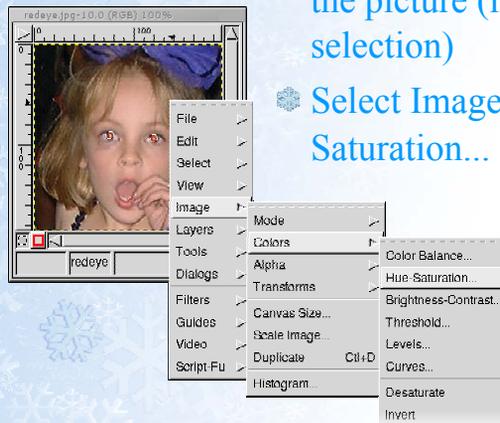
Using Hue-Saturation

- Reducing the saturation removes all of the color (the red)
- Reducing the Hue and Lightness lowers the brightness of the eyes
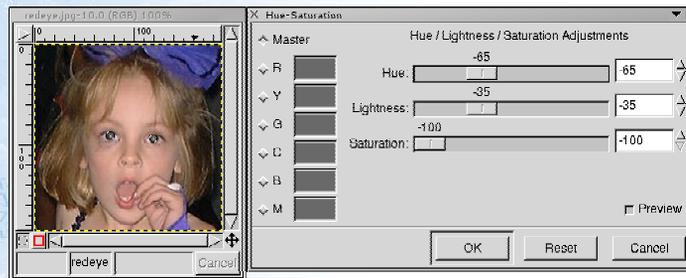
Final Red Eye Reduction
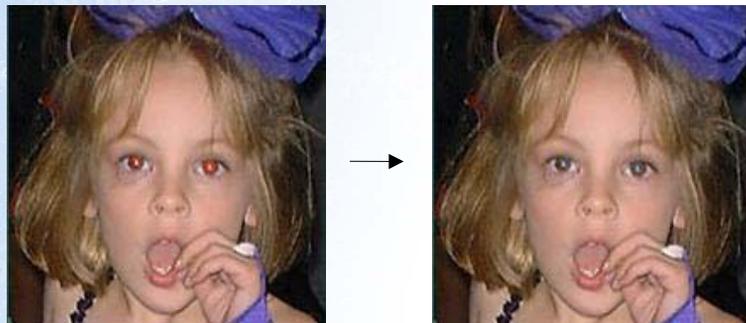
Select the edge

- Use a rectangle selection to select the center of the picture, and switch to a selection mask
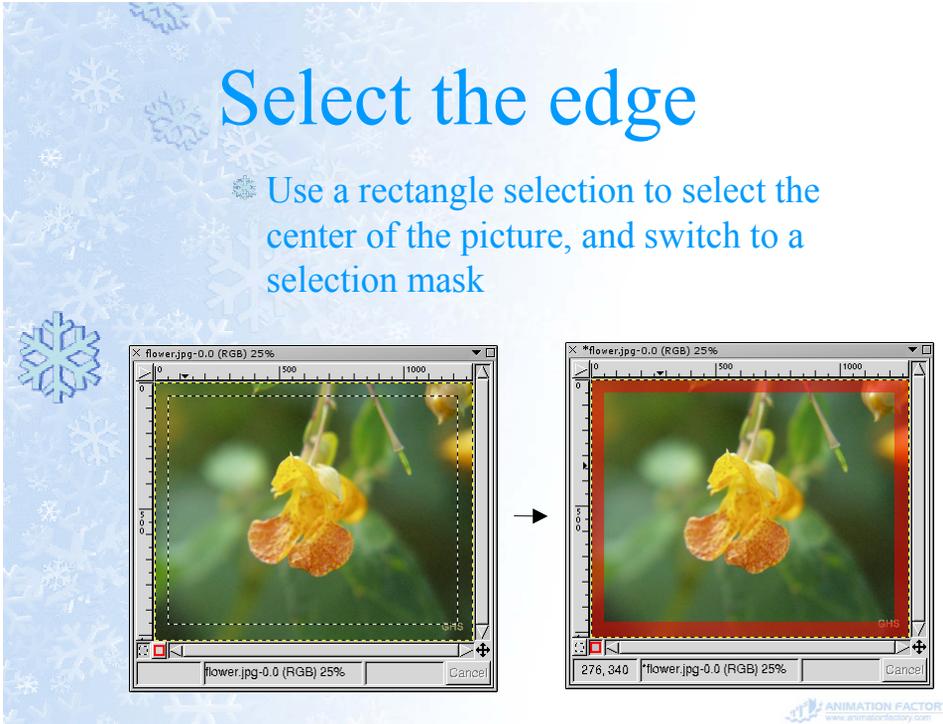
Blur the mask

- Select a gaussian blur and adjust the horizontal and vertical for the size of your image
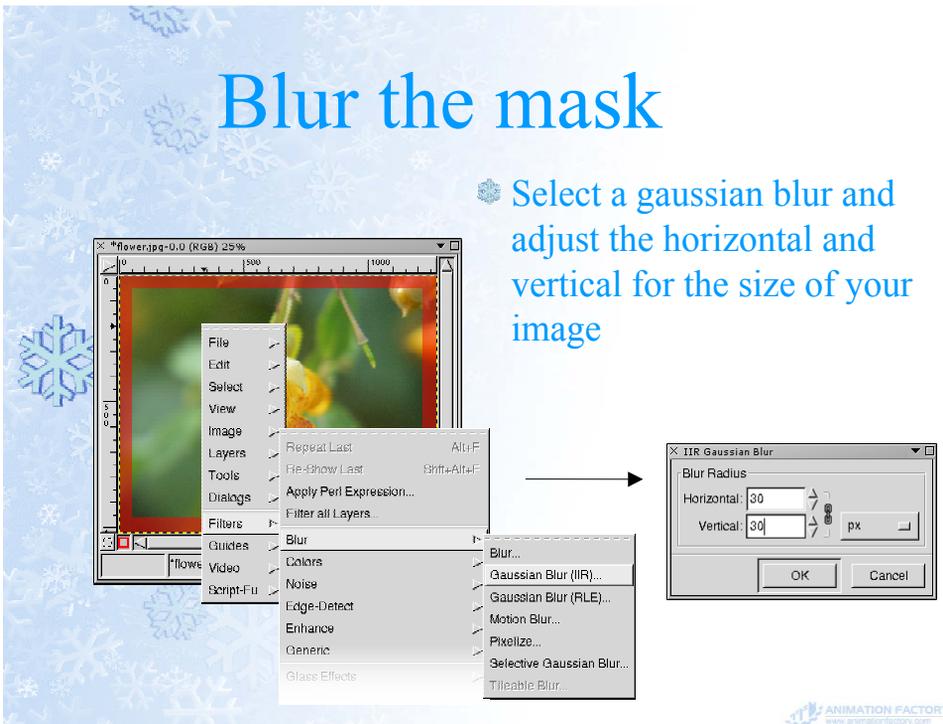
Filling the Edge

- Inverse the selection (we want the edge) and fill the selection
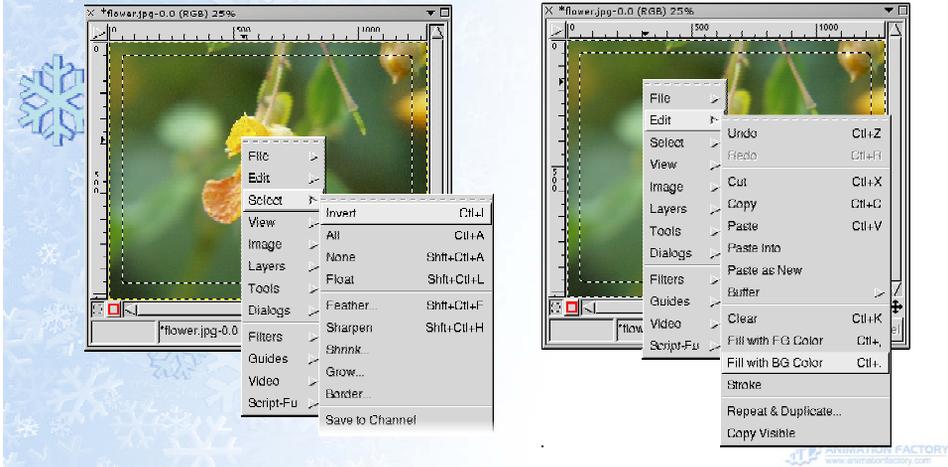
Final Product

Other Ideas

- Filters ->
  Artistic ->
  Cubism...
- Filters ->
  Distorts ->
  Scratches...

Selecting a Flower

- Use the fuzzy select tool to start grabbing colors, work on edges
- Switch to mask, lots of red
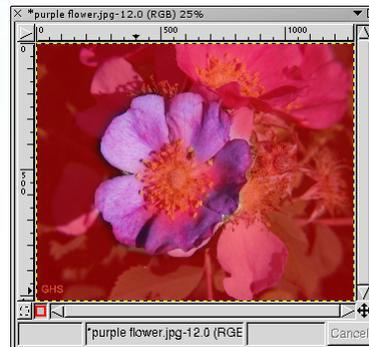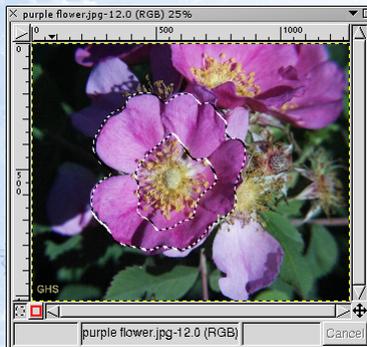
Cleaning up the mask

- Clean up your selection mask using the fill routines (by first selecting large rectangular areas) and using the paint tool
- Black = Red
- White = Clear
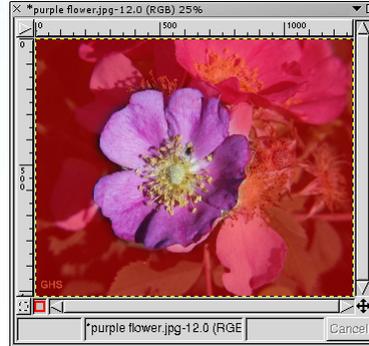
Finishing it off

- Now go back to the selection, invert your selection (we want everything but the flower) and desaturate (like on the red-eye)
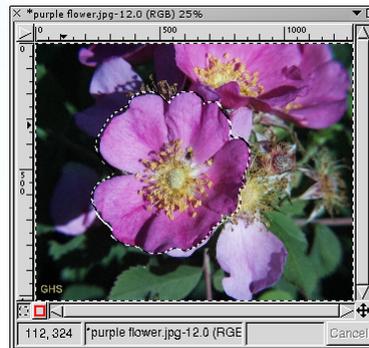
Purple Flower Final
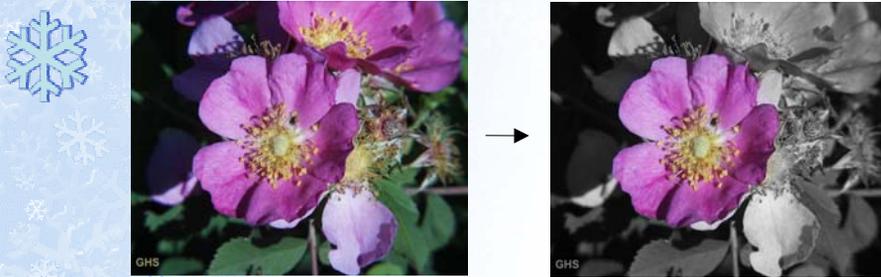
Conclusions

- The various selection tools allow you to specify where your grabbing
- Selection masks allow you to clean up where your grabbing and add some effects (blurring)
- Fix red-eye by removing the red
- Highlight objects by removing color on everything else
- HAVE FUN WITH THE GIMP!!!

References (1 of 2)

- Websites
  - http://www.gimp.org The GIMP
  - http://www.gimp-savvy.org Website for "Grokking the GIMP"
  - http://www.gimp.org/win32 The GIMP for Windows
  - http://fink.sf.net The GIMP for Mac OS X
  - http://gould.cx/ted/projects/photogimp/ This presentation

References (2 of 2)

- Books
  - "The Artists' Guide to the Gimp" by Michael J. Hammel
  - "Grokking the GIMP" by Carey Bunks
  - "GIMP the Official Handbook" by Olof Kylander and Karin Kylander