

*The following notes are from Art Burkhalter's "How To Make Better Selections Using Photoshop" presentation at the May 25, 2006 meeting of the Valley Viewfinders Camera Club.*

## **Tools**

- Rectangle
- Ellipse
- Lasso
- Polygonal Lasso
- Magnetic Lasso
- Magic Wand
- Color Range
- <Crop tool>

## **Modifiers**

- Invert
- Add
- Subtract
- Expand
- Contract
- Feather

## **Usage**

### **Danish Guards**

Rectangle/Ellipse/Feather (40)

### **Moss-1 & 2**

Lasso/Feather (2)

### **Hull-Oakes**

Polygonal Lasso/Magnetic Lasso

### **Cherry Picker**

Magic Wand (20)/Invert/Contract (2)/Feather (2)

### **Balloon**

Color Range/Fill selection with color/Layer Mode => Multiply

## Difficult Selection Tutorial – Using Channels

### Dancers

#### Channels

Find best contrast – usually red or blue

Change color channel to alpha channel

Alpha Channel ⇔ Stored Selection

Saved => White

Black is not selected

Duplicate channel + name

Edit channel directly

1<sup>st</sup> – edit gray to more white

Image > Adj > Levels (no halos)

2<sup>nd</sup> – Clean up detail a bit with

black & white, hard edge, paint brush

3<sup>rd</sup> – Dodge (highlights – 33%) and

Burn (shadows – 33%)

4<sup>th</sup> – Return to RGB Channel

5<sup>th</sup> – CNTRL + Channel thumbnail [or]

Load Save Selection

6<sup>th</sup> – Add Curves Adj Layer

Image > Adj > Curves (Mode => Luminosity)

7<sup>th</sup> – Find color on Curve or make desired adjustment

### Snow & Rocks

#### Channels

Find best contrast – usually red or blue

Change color channel to alpha channel

Alpha Channel ⇔ Stored Selection

Saved => White

Black is not selected

Duplicate channel + name

Edit channel directly

1<sup>st</sup> – invert color

Image > Adj > Invert

2<sup>nd</sup> – edit gray to more white

Image > Adj > Levels (no halos)

3<sup>rd</sup> – Clean up detail a bit with

black & white, hard edge, paint brush

4<sup>th</sup> – Dodge (highlights – 50%) and

Burn (shadows – 50-75%)

5<sup>th</sup> – Return to RGB Channel

6<sup>th</sup> – CNTRL + Channel thumbnail [or]

Load Save Selection

7<sup>th</sup> – Add Curves Adj Layer

Image > Adj > Curves (Mode => Luminosity)

8<sup>th</sup> – Find color on Curve or make desired adjustment

<http://www.radiantvista.com/>

PDF tutorials - Sophisticated Selections (1.6 Mb)

Video tutorials - A Photoshop Reference: Sophisticated Selections (31 Mb)