

NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD



THE ART OF ROTOSCOPING

Rotoscoping: An animation technique where live-action film is traced over frame by frame, to create the effect of a filmed movie being animated.

THE BEGINNING

As a team of two, we began the assignment with two things in mind: we wanted to make a movie trailer, and we wanted to rotoscope it.

Night of the Living Dead was the movie of choice, for a number of reasons. Being a zombie movie, it has a lot of bold facial expressions which are nicer to work with when tracing over them. Also, we had intended to do an older-set scary movie that needed to be re-vamped.

Www.archive.org was the source of the movie, which is a site that showcases a number of out of copyright movies as well as newer, user-added movies.

TOOLS

Adobe Premiere- Used to create the original movie trailer.

Adobe Illustrator- Used to trace and colour frames.

Adobe After Effects- Used to animate the frames.

THE PROCESS

Having decided what we were going to work with, we divided the work up according to that which suited our abilities, and set out a timeline that we would work to spanning 14 weeks.

The video was cut up and made into a preview trailer, which was then exported as .tga files so we could work on each frame individually.

After looking at a number of tutorials online to find the style we best liked, we began the rotoscoping process. One person traced, while the other person coloured the frames in. After this process was complete, we put all the frames together the same as they were in the original file. We turned a black and white movie into a colour, animated movie trailer.

With more time, we would have been able to go into more detail in each image, however we are happy with the final product we came up with.

CREATED BY PETER SAUL AND
JOY CHRISTENSEN