

USING A PHOTO TO PAINT A FINE ART IMAGE

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by
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***PhotoShop 101 in 30 minutes
(as explained informally by a considerate,
caring, and resourcefully pragmatic instructor)***

To have a source image with high resolution (300 pixel/inch) and 10 mp digital camera, if possible, is the key to being able to work with any photo's or combined set of photos' components satisfactorily in Paint Shop Pro or other photo editing or painting software program.

After taking your photos with your digital camera, you download the photos from your camera's storage to your computer either by inserting the memory chip or using a USB connection from your camera to the computer. If you just have a photo print or other image then you can scan that into your computer to use.

To begin with it is a digital photo or scanned image but after working with the photo and applying effects then it becomes a digital painting depending on how many effects and how much topical layer drawing and brush painting is applied. It is really difficult sometimes to determine where the source digital image (photo or scan) ends and the painting begins. Anything in the photo underpainting can be modified and to what ever level of detail you want to modify it resulting in the final art image.

I always highlight eyes of my Pekingese images and do further modifications to enhance the photos. One terminology for this type of art is "Computer Software Art" since a lot depends on the art tools available with any particular program you are using and your knowledge and ability to use those tools and effects artistically.

There is a computer and programs skill level required to be learned, and a working knowledge of using the computer and its programs in order to do what you want to do with the photo to create fine art images suitable for printing, frame finishing, and showing. The nice thing about computer software art is that there are minimal cost of supplies and consumables in the making of your art image.

I think a good understanding of fine art fundamentals is also required in order to create something you can be proud of and of course you always continue to learn as you go. I read and study daily and am creating something all the time because I enjoy working with the computer and love working with the images of my Pekingese.

