

CS5245 Project Presentation

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Idea 1

- **“Easy come, easy go”**
- 3D model car flies into the air and through a wall , driver was left over
- **Idea was dropped**
- Technical **challenges** and story line is **boring**

Idea 2

- **“DedEx, we die to deliver”**
- A delivery man still can deliver even **he’s dead**
- His soul is **transparent** and **goes through door**

Tasks

- **Yang Chen**

- Shooting
- Movie Editing
- Create effect and making of movie

- **Ha Trung**

- Preparing costume, movie apparatus
- Acting
- Assist in editing

Story board



Story board



Story board



Major Effect

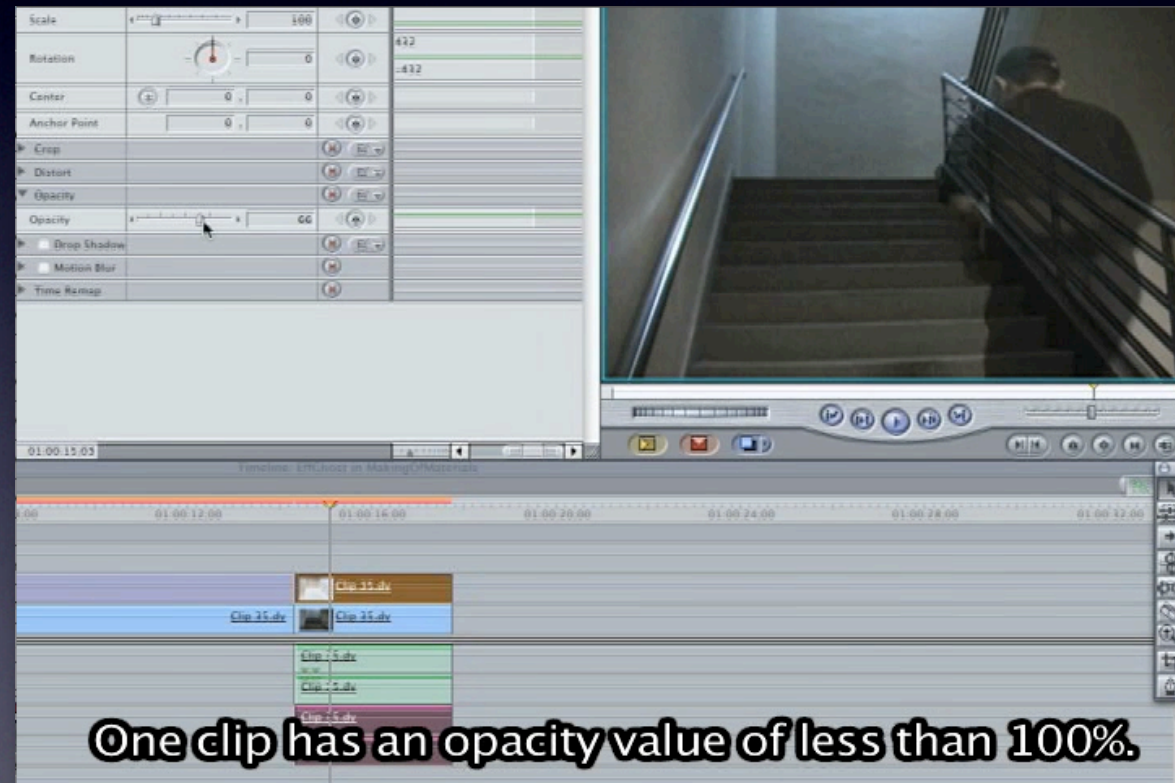
Ghost Effect

- Ghost is semi-transparent
- Ghost touches the box to make it semi-transparent too
- Ghost walks through a closed door
- Ghosts cannot be seen in a mirror (no reflection in highly reflective surfaces)

I. Semi-transparent Ghost

Visual Realism

- Same scene shot with and without actor
- The “actor” clip laid over the “no-actor” clip
- Upper layer opacity is less than 100%



I. Semi-transparent Ghost

Technical Innovation

- Fixed camera for perfect alignment between layers
- Every ghost scene was shot in a long, continuous shot, to eliminate movement of the camera

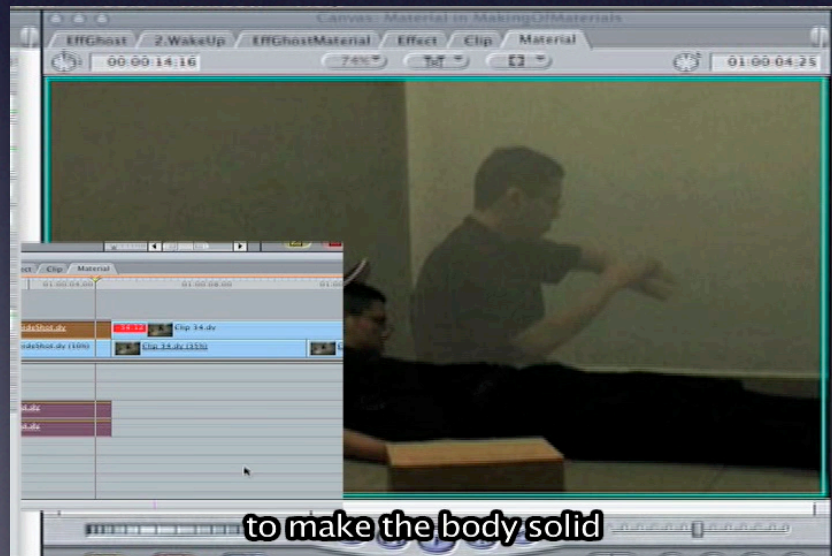
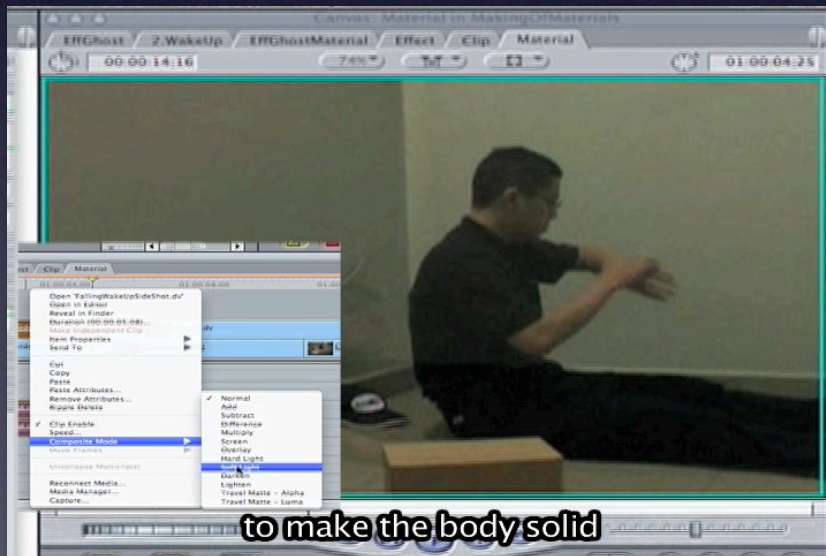
2. Ghost and Body

Visual Realism

“Soft Light” composition method
(Normal linear composition makes body transparent too)

Before

After



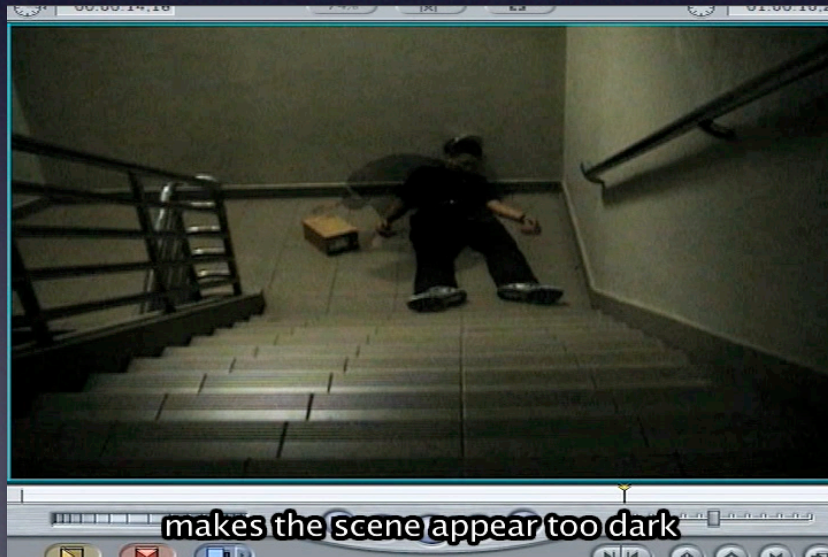
Soft Light - If the underlying color is lighter than 50% gray, the value of the overlay pixel is added to the underlying pixel. If the underlying color is darker than 50% gray, the overlay pixel is subtracted from the underlying pixel.

2. Ghost and Body

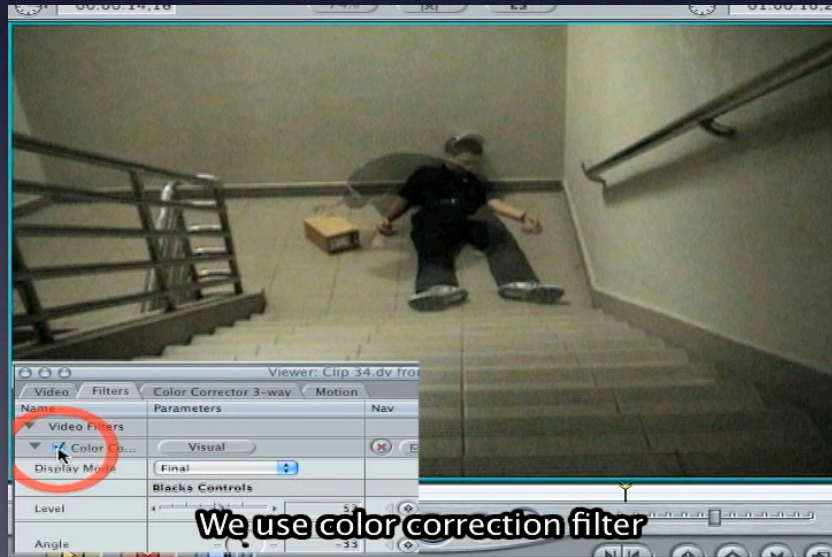
Artistic Creativity

Color-correction for over-darkened image

Before



After

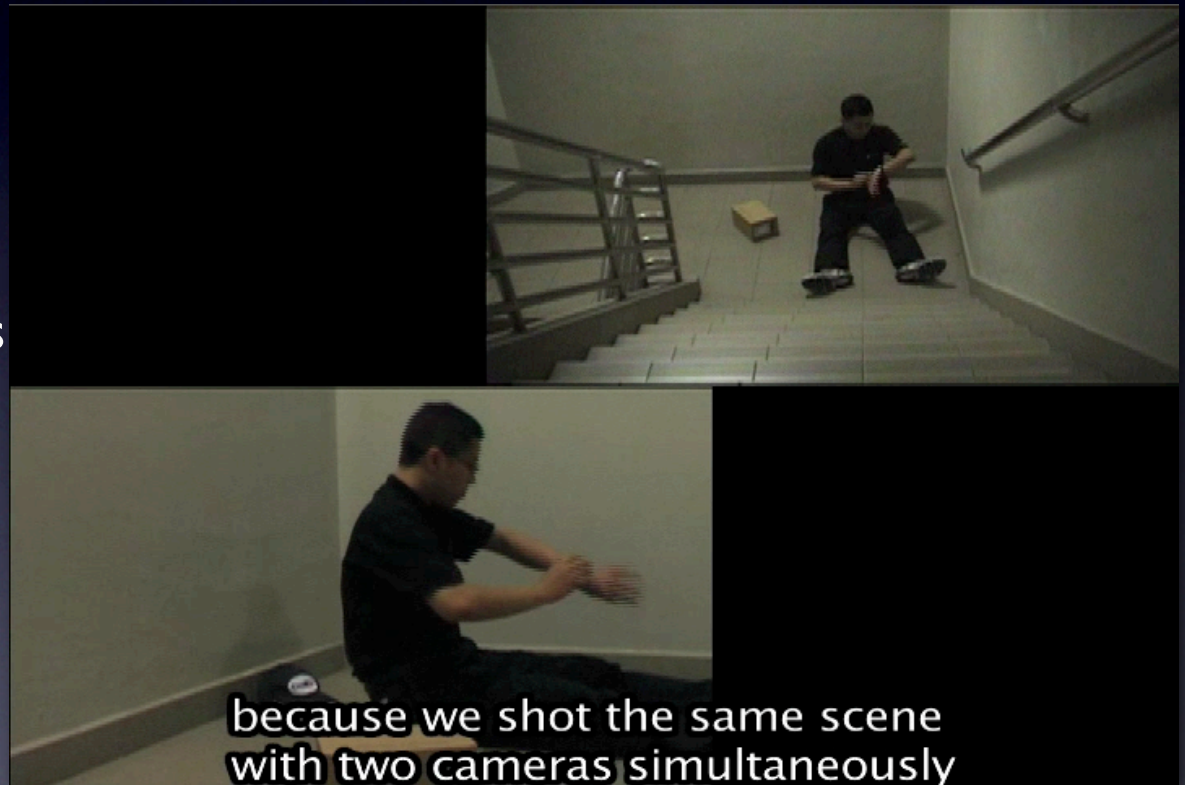


2. Ghost and Body

Technical Innovation

Continuity

Same scene shot with two cameras at the same time to achieve continuity between cuts.



3. Ghost and Box

Visual Realism

One overlay, two backgrounds



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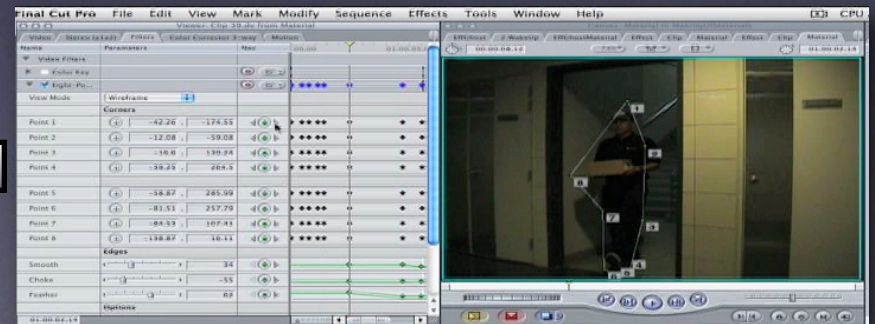
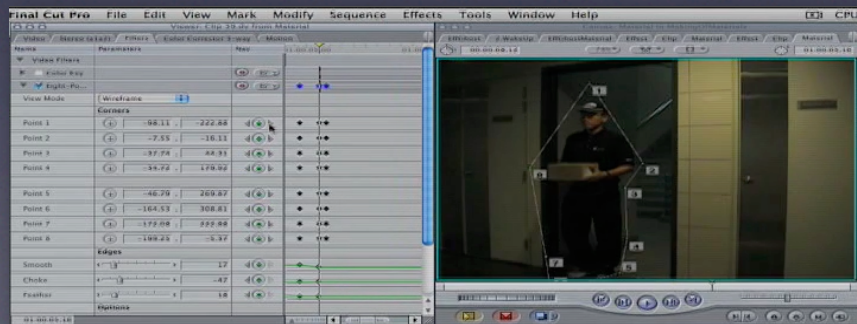
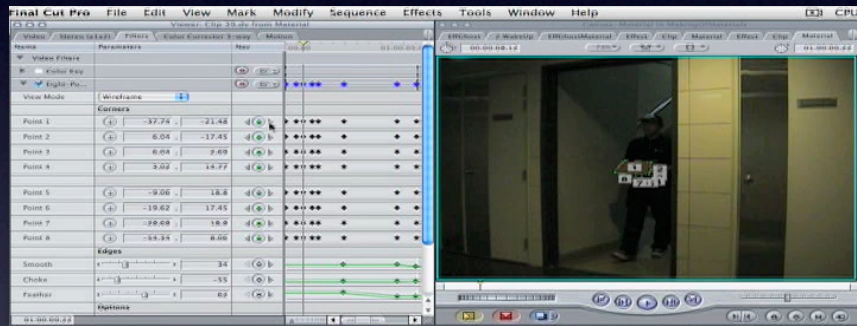
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4. Through the Door

Technical Innovation

- Cropped out the actor using matte, then overlay it on the close door
- Manually adjusted matte on keyframes only



4. Through the Door

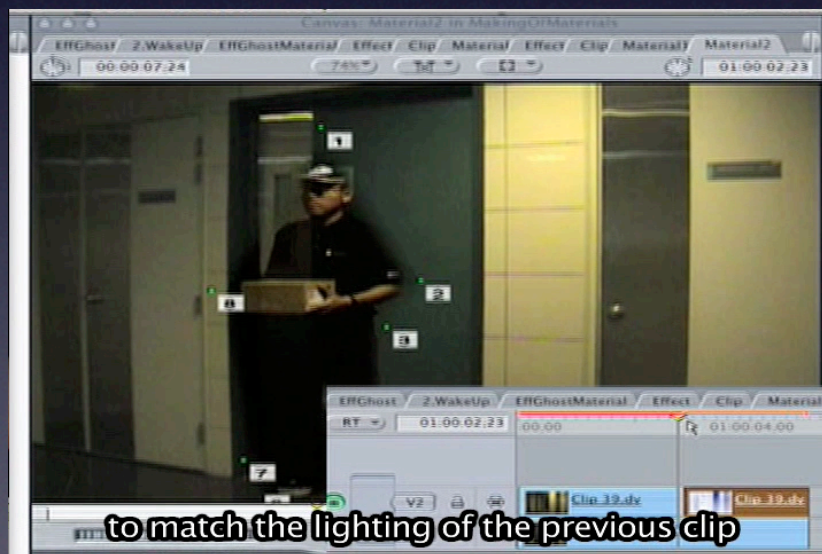
Visual Realism

Applied matte to actor in the “door closed” clip to avoid sudden change

Before (No matte)



After (With matte)

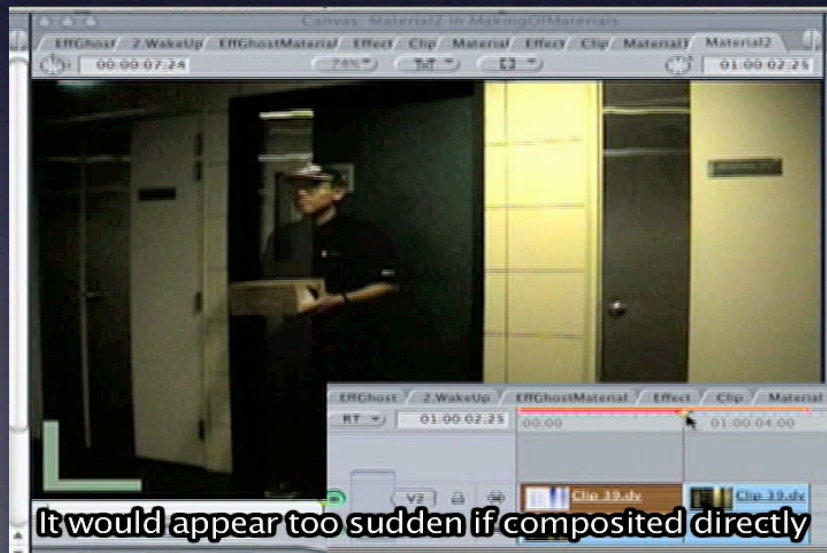


4. Through the Door

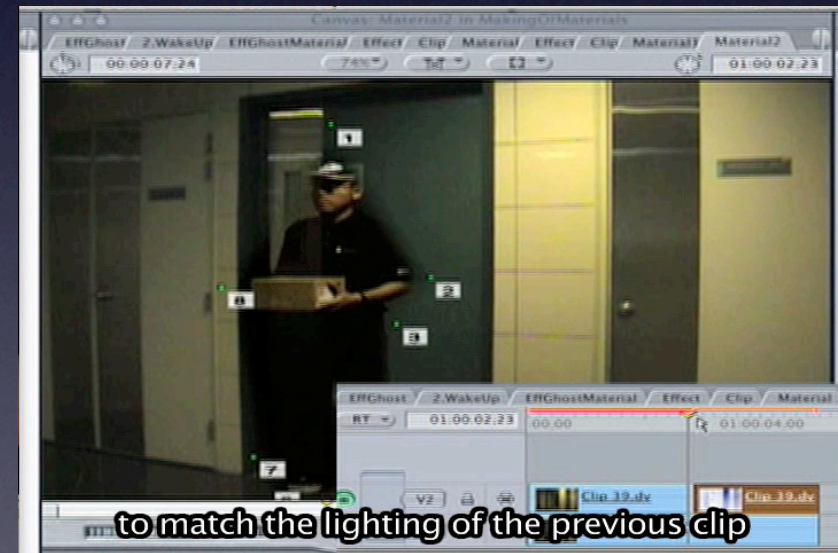
Visual Realism

Applied matte to actor in the “door closed” clip to avoid sudden change

Before (No matte)



After (With matte)

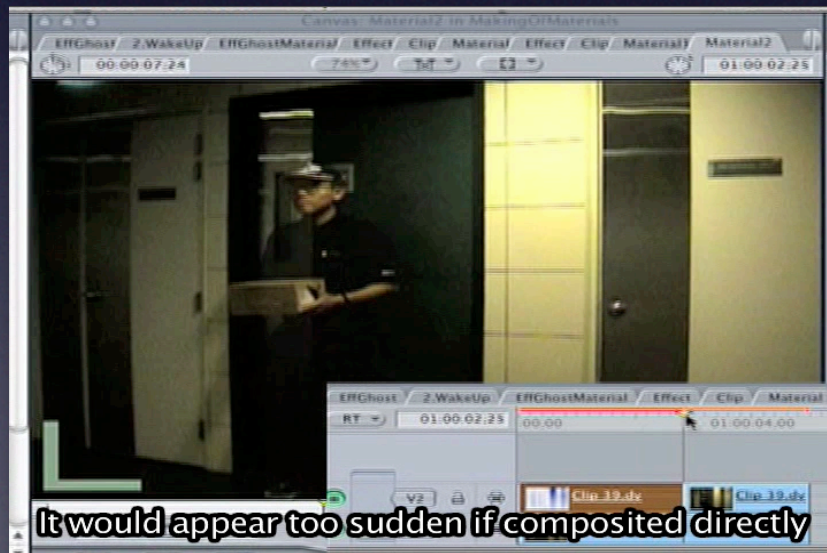


4. Through the Door

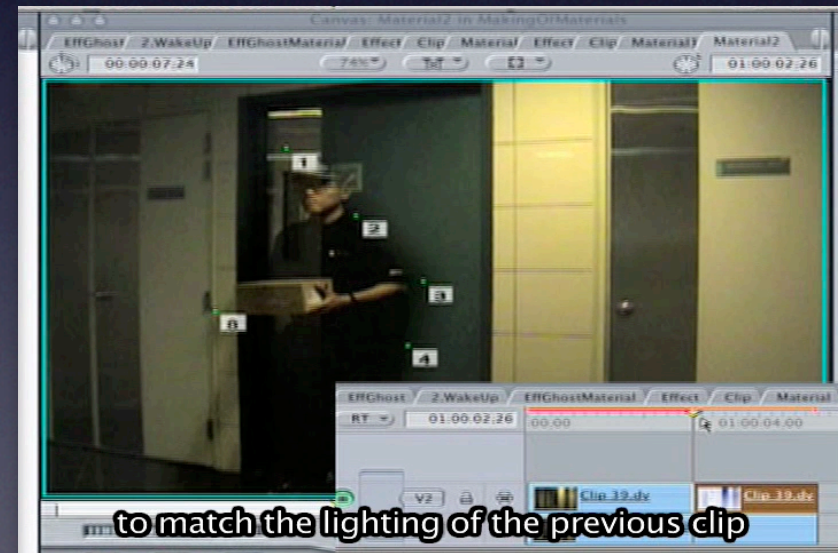
Visual Realism

Applied matte to actor in the “door closed” clip to avoid sudden change

Before (No matte)



After (With matte)



4. Through the Door

The Innovative “No-Blue-Screen” Approach

No blue screen was used because...

1. Not easy to fit bright blue-screen shots into the low-light actual scene (shadows, lighting, etc)
2. Not easy to extract the figure without edges
3. Blue spill...
4. The actual scene is the most “real” scene

5. No Ghost in Mirror

Visual Realism

Same matte effect to remove reflections and keep only ghost

Before (No matte)



After (With matte)



Summary

Technical Innovations

- Fixed camera for perfect alignment between layers
- Every ghost scene shot in a long, continuous shot, to eliminate movement of the camera
- Innovative use of matte for through-the-door effect
- Reflection-removal
- Innovative “no-blue-screen” approach to avoid unnecessary side-effects (such as unrealistic lighting, shadows, edges, and blue-spills)

Artistic Creativity (I)

- Creative camera usages for continuity and story telling
 - Bottom-up and top-down shots for every run-up-stairs scene
 - Side-shot for running up the stairs
 - Multiple quick cuts for the “accident” scene:
 - Side-shot (running-up)
 - Close-up shot and change of angle (missing steps)
 - Frontal top-down wide shot (falling back)
 - Medium side shot (falling back)
 - Close-up shot (head knocking wall)
 - “Jumping” cuts of ghost movement

Artistic Creativity (2)

- Interesting story, parody of real FedEx commercials
 - Slogan “We die to deliver” to make fun of “We live to deliver”
 - “DedEx” logo to mimic “FedEx” logo, even with “The Arrow” kept between “E” and “x”.
 - Identify the correct font by trying many times: **Helvetica**



Artistic Creativity (3)

- Details fine-tuned to make every scene look real and continuous
 - Color-correction for over-darkened image
 - Reduction of “sudden change” in the “thru-the-door” scene
 - Removal of reflections for more “ghostly” effect
 - Matching of music and shots to build atmosphere

Lessons Learned

1. Simple methods can generate convincing results.
2. Composition, color-correction, and matte are powerful tools.
3. Realistic composition can be achieved without using blue-screen and chroma-keying.
4. It takes effort to fine-tune every small detail.

The End.
Thank You.