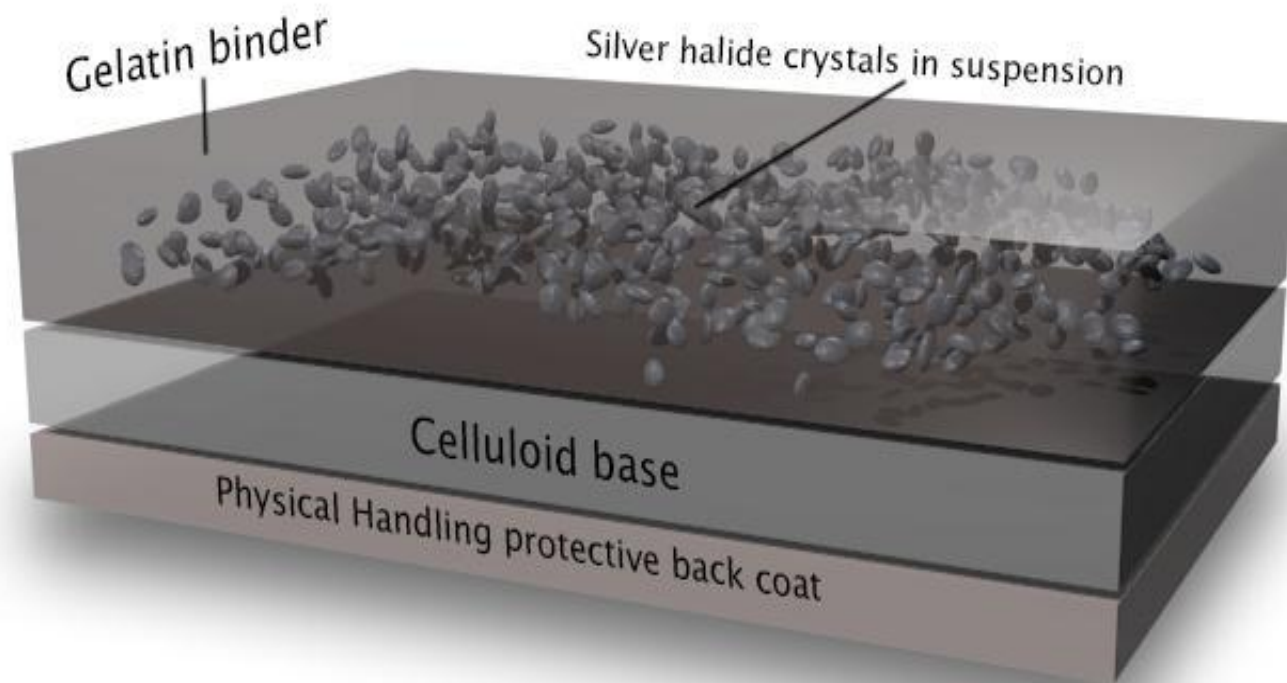


Introduction to (un)intentional errors in analog film and photography

Ejla Kovačević & Anita Budimir (Klubvizija SC)

/‘fu:bar/ 2016

The Basic Structure Of Film



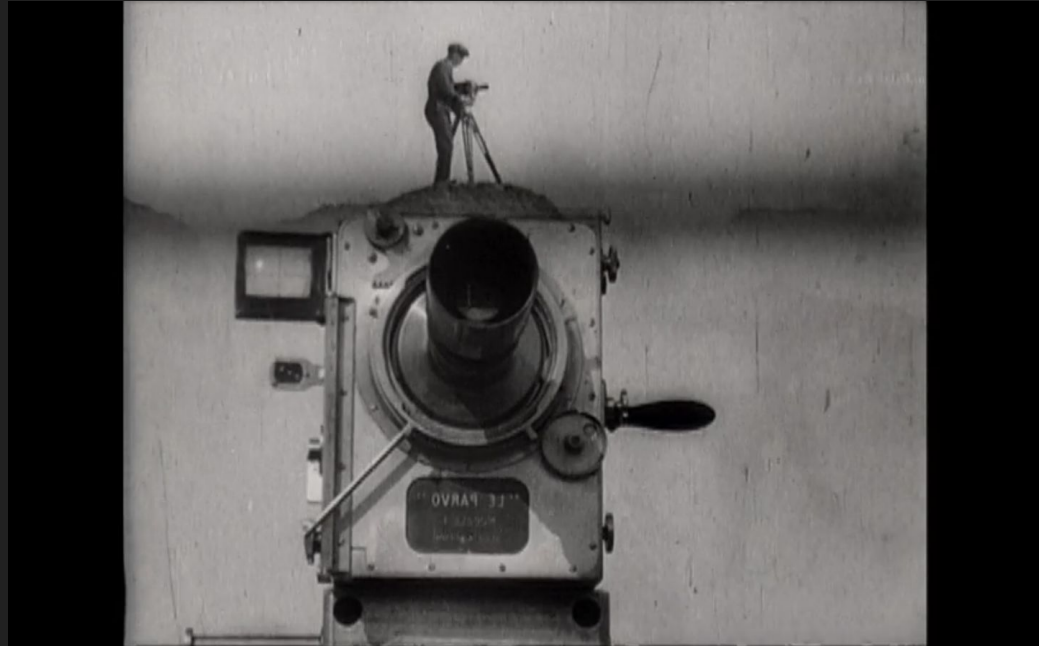
Film specifications

- Every manufacturer does his own film stock with own specifications, processing rules and chemical solutions (Kodak, Fuji, Foma...)
- Development process highly regulated, most important: temperature, time, agitation
- Old unexposed filmstock sometimes cannot be developed anymore because it requires specific chemical solutions which are no longer produced and vice versa
- Today independent film labs are making their own chemical solutions and film stock to avoid dependence on commercial manufacturers

Multiple exposure

- Multiple light exposing onto single film frame in the camera

Dziga Vertov –
Man with a movie camera 1929





Murnau: Sunrise 1927

and



The last laugh 1924





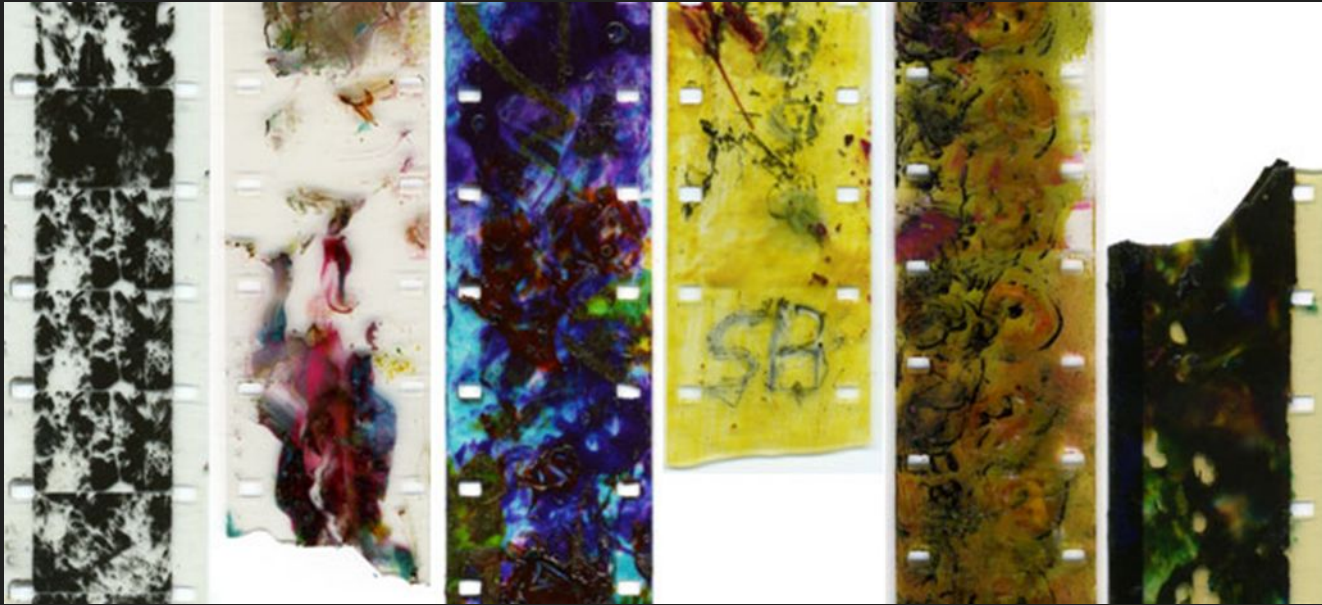
Example

[Manufraktur](#) (Peter Tscherkassky, 1985)

scratch / cameraless film / direct animation

- Process of drawing or scratching directly on film
- Scratch film animation emerged in 1920s with Len Lye
- Associated with abstract artists (Hans Richter, Oskar Fischinger, Viking Eggeling)
- Reemerged in 50s and 60s with Stan Brakhage, Norman McClaren, Maurice Lemaitre...

Scratch / cameraless film / direct animation



Stan Brakhage strips



A colour box (Len Lye, 1935)

An optical poem
(Oscar Fischinger, 1938.)



Examples

Blinkity Blank (Norman McClaren, 1955)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftEci6AMUKg>

Mothlight (Stan Brakhage, 1963)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YGupnCXNuM8>



Solarisation

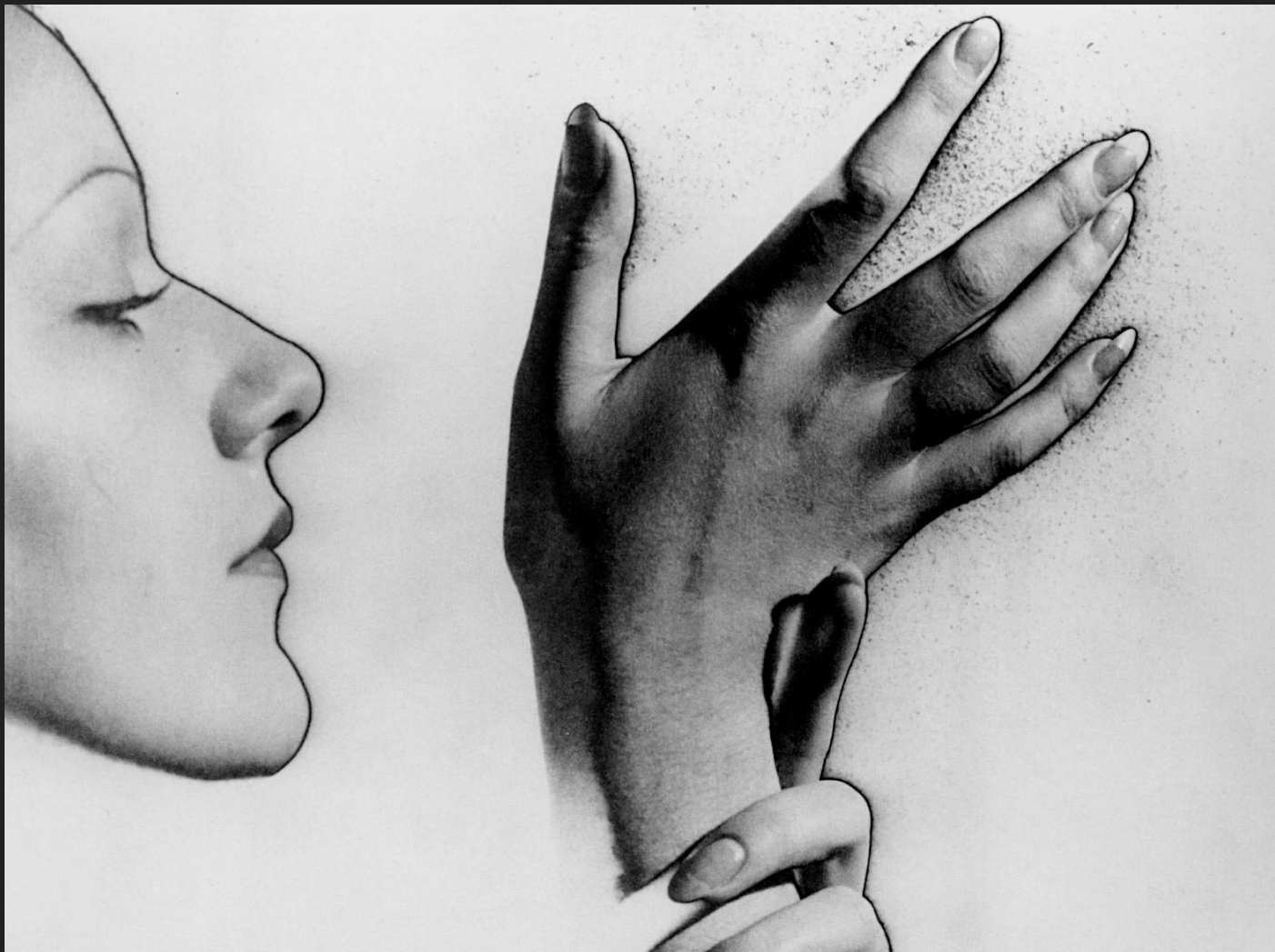
- Also called Sabattier effect
- Discovered in 1862 by french photographer Armand Sabattier
- Reverse effect of light during too strong light exposure, whereby instead of negatives produces positive



Man Ray

- Experimented with unorthodox photographic processes during 1920s
- His manipulated photographs are considered the origins of surrealist photography
- The ultimate goal of photography in his own words, was to "... produce a photograph that would not look like a photograph".





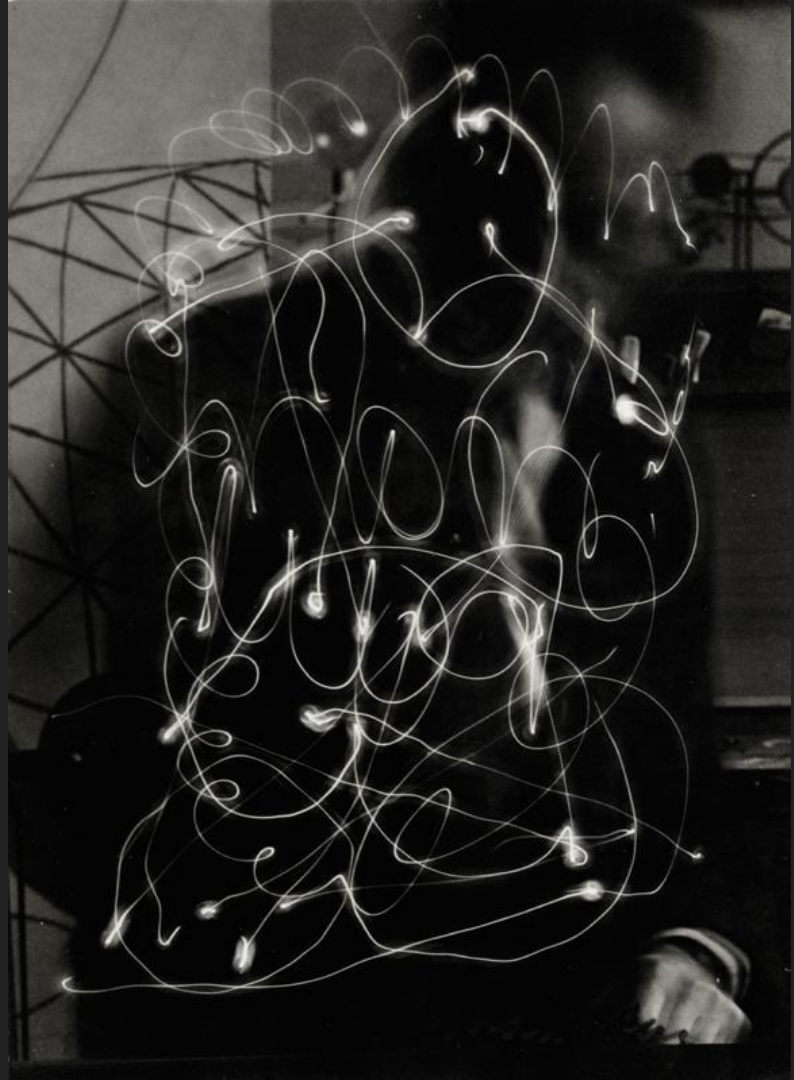
Man Ray invented the [Rayograph](#), more popularly known as the [Photogram](#), which involved placing objects on light-sensitive paper and exposing it directly to light, creating shadows and silhouettes.

[Return to reason \(1923\)](#)

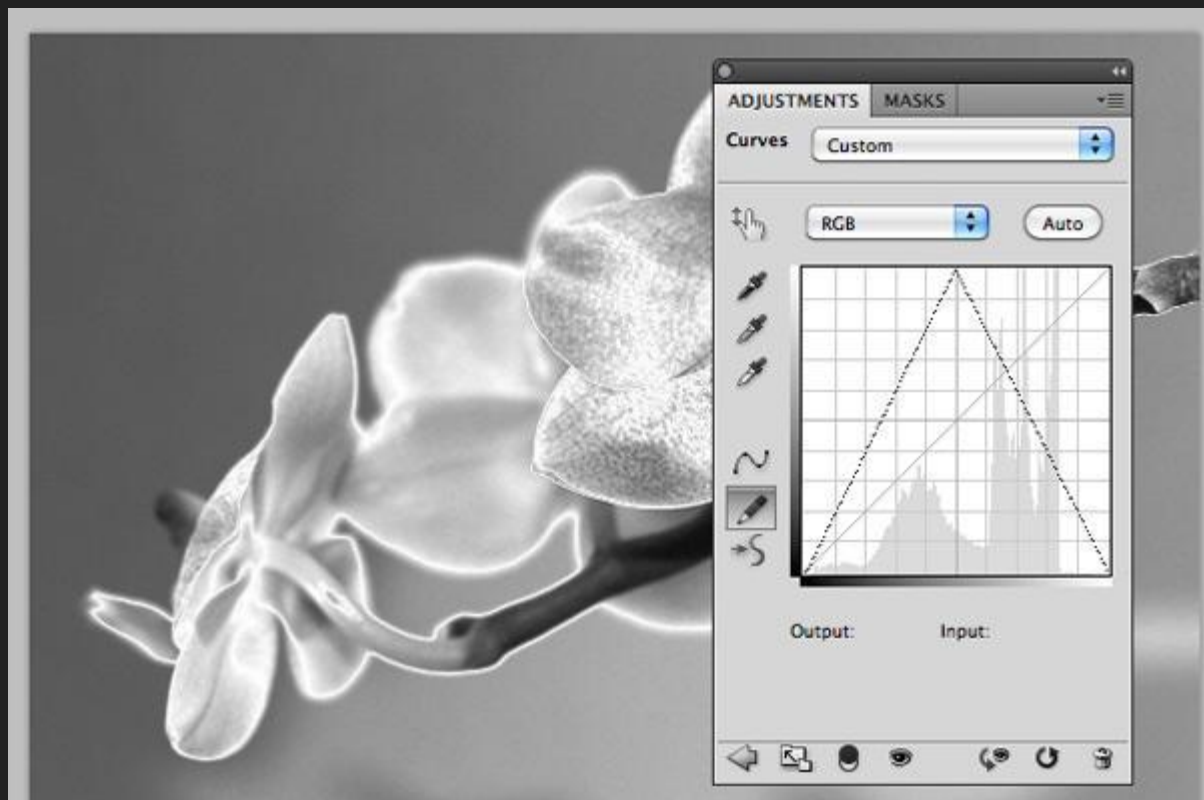


His 1935 “Space writings” series is made out of “Light painting” photographs

He is the first known photographer that used the technique



Adobe photoshop solarise filter



Reticulation



Terminus for you (Nicolas
Rey, 16mm, France, 1996)

Reticulation process

- emulsion „cracking” under sudden and drastic change in temperature
- possible in different stages of photography and film processing
- Old film stock – soft and unstable emulsion – prone to reticulation
- Standard film stock today – resistant emulsion – difficult to create reticulation
- Solutions: using dehardener (any alkaline solution, ex. Sodium carbonate)

Example

- <https://vimeo.com/63136404>
- Process Reversal Film Laboratory (Denver, CO, USA)

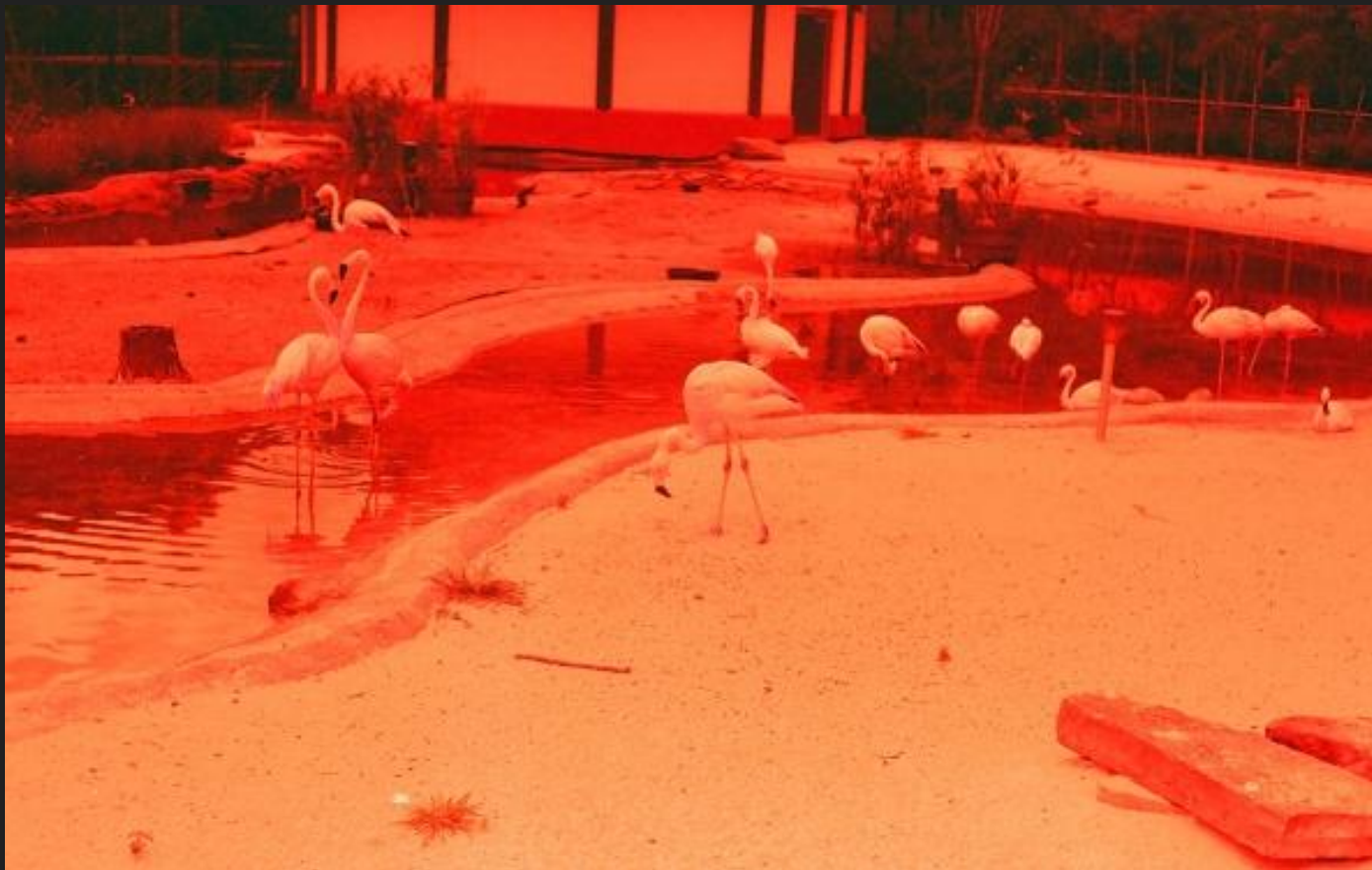
Redscale

- Film exposed from wrong side
- Red layer exposed first
- Ranging results from yellow to red depending on film stock and exposure
- Some companies produce ready-made redscale film (Lomography)





The-darkroom.net / Javier G.A



Cross Process

- Processing one type of film in a chemical solution intended for another type of film
- Color film exclusively
- Color slide film in C41 chemistry
- Color negative film in E6 chemistry



Color slide film in C41



Color negative film in E6





Mordançage

- Based on a 19th century process known as “bleatc-eatch” or “gelatin relief” first documented in 1897 by Paul Liesegang which is a reversal process for film negatives.
- Mordançage as we know it today was created by french photographer [Jean-Pierre Sudre](#) during the 1960s.
- Alternative photographic process that strips away darkest part of silver gelatin in the emulsion



Mordançage process:

The mordançage solution:

10 g copper chloride

50 mL [acetic acid](#)

25 mL 35% [hydrogen peroxide](#)

[distilled water](#) to make 1 liter

[Opalenik video](#)





©opalenik

Level.303 (Anita Budimir, 16mm, 2015)

Short experimental film with mordancage effects.

<https://vimeo.com/151962780>

At hand (Andrew Busti, 16mm, 2005)

<https://vimeo.com/18783304>

Lift off

- Process of removing emulsion (with developed image on it) from the film base on to some other surface



Example

[Quiet Zone](#) (Karl Lumieux & David Bryant, CA, 2014)

Chromaflex (colour + b&w)

- Special hand made process
- Allows one to have both positive and negative image on same strip of film
- practiced by australian experimental filmmaker Richard Tuohy (Nano Lab)
- Processing film as negative and then using pieces of tape to cover up parts of the image
- This acts as a blocker for the next processing step which turns negative into positive image
- Wherever tape is, the film remains negative





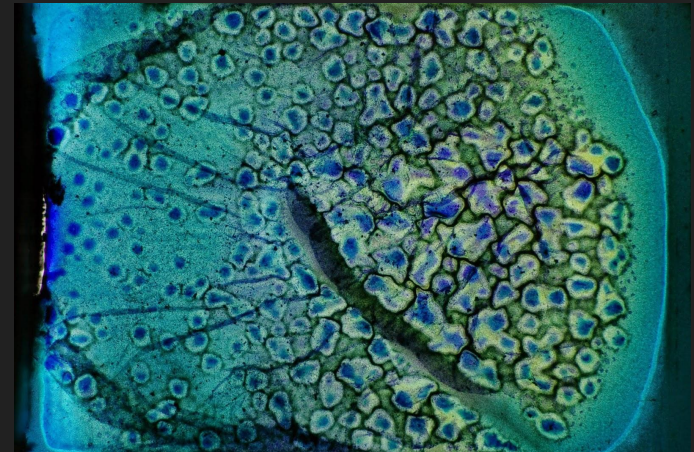
Example

Excerpt from chromaflex workshop

<https://vimeo.com/63841403>

Film Decomposition

- Found footage / natural decomposition
- Bill Morrison – no manipulation, films from archives
- Induced decomposition
- Jurgen Reble – mechanical & chemical treatment of filmstock
- Ex. Morrison (Decasia, 2002); Reble (Das goldene Tor, 1992)



Examples

Light is Calling (Bill Morrison, 35mm, 2004)

- optical print of the film „The Bells” (1922)
- <https://vimeo.com/10171103>

Kariokineza (Kariokinesis, Zlatko Hajdler, 1965)

- Performance at Genre Film Festival in Zagreb
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5nNB4sbKEg> (1998 reconstruction)

Filmlab Klubvizija SC

- Officially opened in 2009 during Festival of experimental film 25 FPS in Zagreb
- Opened by Ivan Ladislav Galeta, Croatian artist and professor at the Academy of Arts in Zagreb
- Supported by experimental filmmakers Nicolas Rey and Pip Chodorov
- So far organized numerous workshops(Super8, 16mm DIY filmmaking, analog photography) by experimental filmmakers and professionals (Stefano Canapa, Jodie Mack, Taylor Dune, Kevin Rice, Ricardo Reite...)
- Exhibitions, guest screenings

- Goals: education and promotion of DIY analog filmmaking
- Supports, actively participates in international FilmLabs Network
- Organized International FilmLabs Meeting in Zagreb in 2009
- Participants of Filmlabs meetings (Colorado Spring, USA, 2013; Nantes, France, 2016)

















