

Daily Project: Generational Quality loss

It's simple, you just take something and do something to it, and then do something else to it.

- Jasper Johns

Objective: To highlight image degradation and quality loss in jpegs over a period of time.

Description: If a JPEG image is opened, edited, and saved again it results in image degradation. It is very important to minimize the number of editing sessions between the initial and final version of a JPEG image. If you must perform editing functions in several sessions or in several different programs, you should use an image format that is not lossy (TIFF, BMP, PSD, PNG) for the intermediate editing sessions before saving the final version.

Repeated saving within the same editing session won't introduce additional damage. It is only when the image is closed, re-opened, edited and saved again.

Tasks:

1. **Acquire a resource image:** Choose a Photograph that is 72dpi and at least 1200 pixels on it longest side.
2. **Do Something to it:** Open the resource image in Photoshop and alter the image in some way. This should be a quick alteration to only a section of the image, no need to overthink it. Use this as a way to investigate new tools.
3. **Save the image:** File > Save As > Format: Jpeg > Quality: 0
4. **File Naming:** Save each file with a sequential file name, in a dedicated folder. i.e. filename001.jpeg, filename002.jpeg, etc
5. **Repeat:** Open the most recently saved version of the file and repeat steps 2-5
6. **Do this as many times as you want every class to get the most dramatic results.**
7. **Deliverables:** Choose a way to present the work at the end of the year so we can see the progression of the image. This may be a grid of images, a video, or a slideshow.