Education:

Dennis did a session on selection and deleting backgrounds, and showed us how to do montages. This segment is especially relevant to our images taken of the belly dancers which all had terrible backgrounds (ie: basketball hoops, flourescent runners, ugly green and yucky yellow walls). In passing, Dennis demonstrated how layers can be used to alter the way montages are stacked, and borders as well. There was a brief mention of how to save jpgs: save at highest quality (12) or lose quality.

Below is the links and notes Dennis had sent to everyone so we could come somewhat prepared for the lesson:

The next lesson on "Selection/Masks and Montages" is a bit complicated so unless you are already familar with the topic I suggest you review using the following Youtube Videos. The 1st 3 need only be watched for 2 minutes each as the second half is ads.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WdwmHfJWucY&feature=related
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qm6I_DxS3q8
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SR0Kt-sIQJk
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X97PKiiOKZ8
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4EooYoYYTQ&NR=1
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPRc3STaUZk&feature=related
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPRc3STaUZk
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eBq0TYAiTQo&feature=related
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_opdlOmdzs&feature=channel

Selection/Masks and Montages Part 1

For Background: File>New choose size, color and OK. (A color gradient is possible).

For Image montages the background will be an image.

For Image Layer: File> Open desired file

Check to see if sizes are similar (within 10%). If not, Image >Size. Size the document to fit within background.

Marquee Tools: *Reference video#1(Only the first 2 minutes are relevant)*

Rectangular and Elliptical. Use shift for square or circle.

Move Tool: Pick up selected area and drag on to the background layer. For placement see below

Lasso Tools: *Reference video#2*

:Lasso Tool. Hold left mouse down and carefully trace around the subject. Press Shift to add or Alt to subtract from selection.

: Polygon Tool. Used to make straight line selections

: Magnetic Tool. Selection automatically snaps to a line of contrast.

Magic Wand Tool: *Reference video#3*

Selects an area of uniform tone (color).

Tolerance: low means one tone, high means a greater range.

Anti-alias: On means smoothed edges

Contiguous: Off- all similar areas

On- only areas touching

Note: It is often useful to select an area of uniform tone then Select>Inverse to select your subject.

Quick Mask Selection: *Reference video#4. For Elements5 users see video#8*

Open image. File> Open

Make sure the default is set on the color patches

Click Quick Mask Mode. The box with a hole on lower left.

Enlarge the image and then select a fine brush.

Draw around the edges of the subject.

Zoom out and select a wider brush to paint in the interior of your subject.

Corrections or adjustments may be made by reversing the color patches.

Convert the colored area to a selection by clicking the other box.

"Edit in Standard Mode".

Layers: *Reference videos# 5, 6, 7.*

Although we will leave a more detail discussion of Layers until the next lesson, we will be touching on it in the lesson above. It is therefore important that you have some knowledge of it now. Please review the above 3 videos before this class.

Sizing and Placement: Edit> Free Transform (or use shortcut Ctrl T). Drag corners diagonally to size the image or side points to deform.

To Place image click inside and drag.

Double click to accept.

Borders: To place a border around a selected area use Edit> Stroke and then choose width, color and position. click OK

Reference Videos: Go to YouTube and click on Videos. Enter a search for the titles listed below:

1. How to make a Selection with Photoshop.

2. Using the Lasso tool in Photoshop.

3. The Magic Wand in Photoshop.

4. Free Web Tutorial: Using the Quick Mask Mode in Photoshop

5. PhotoshopCS3 Tutorial: Beginner Layer

6. Photoshop tutorial: Beginner Layers

7. Photoshop Layer beginner.

8. Selections with Adobe Elements5.