

Slightly deeper than on the surface.

Content:

1. Dialog
2. My interest in tattoo
3. Filming process
4. Beginning of editing
5. Color correction
6. Sound
7. Outline
8. The Final
9. Intre Titers
10. Conclusion

Dialog

I began to be interested in tattooing as a culture for a very long time, half a year before the project, I started training on tattoo artists. When I started this project, for a long time I could not understand what all the same led me to this topic, but I knew that I want to study it. During my project, I came across a misunderstanding and shaming of people with tattoos, and in particular in my direction, too, since I have a tattoo.

That incident then reminded me of the dialogue that inspired me so much for this project, the dialogue took place in December 2019.

- Well, what are your plans for your future life?
- Finish the university, and then I'll see.
- No, is something attracting you? What else do you do besides graphic design?
- Yes, I've recently taken up tattoos, maybe I'll be a tattoo master, or maybe I will combine it.
- Tattoos Well, this is all fashion, do you have tattoos?
- Yes, here.
- Well, where are you next with this?
- Yes, anywhere.
- No, well, why do you need this? Tattoos still limit you in many ways, in some professions, social status.
- Well, at the expense of professions, I agree, but I'm not going to go into structures.
- Not only structures, not one decent company will be taken with tattoos.
- Firstly, you don't have to put your tattoos on display, and secondly, there are fewer and fewer - such rules and even if you are a good specialist, tattoos do not interfere with your skills.
- I still think that only these limited people need these embellishments
- This is a way to express yourself.
- But for some reason, all great people can live without this method.

Look at least at our scientists

- Well, our scientists generally don't care much about their appearance
- I do not agree, there are a lot of beautiful young scientists.
- How do you know that they don't have tattoos?
- I just know that they don't need it, and even if they have it, it's not for showing.
- Many do not show.
- For truly smart people, this is not necessary.

My interest in tattoo

I got my first tattoo when I was 19 years old. Interest in tattoos as body decor began in my teenage years, however I never wanted to get a tattoo myself, on my own body. I was of the opinion that getting a tattoo, which design is from the Internet, is not smart and I thought that I could never personally draw something that I would personally like. I, like many of my peers, started liking tattoo's because it was "cool".

Only after I decided to get a tattoo myself, did the culture of tattoos start to interest me. I always liked drawings that were done in dots. I thought the style was unusual and unique. Afterwards, I started looking for information about what tattoos are there, which led me to discover that the style I'm interested in is called "dot work"

A few years before I decided to get myself a tattoo, I started to draw sketches and sell them. Already then I was shocked to see that people draw on themselves subconsciously, without even realizing it. A lot of interest stemmed from the fact that people wanted to stand out and not think about how the tattoo will look, where and what quality of the drawing is it going to be and so on. I was also shocked that there were people who asked me to draw them big sketches, although I had no idea how to construct the sketch in a right way, what colors to not to mix so that tattoo wouldn't turn into a stain. A lot of people just worried themselves if I could draw a nice-looking drawing in several days for a small sum of money. Then it didn't stop me because I needed the money, now I feel a sense of shame.

3 years after I did my first tattoo, I was scared that I will get the "blue disease", it's when people get the urge to tattoo themselves more and more until the whole body isn't covered. However, I got lucky and was spared. Instead of the disease, I became someone who infects people with that disease- I became a tattoo artist.

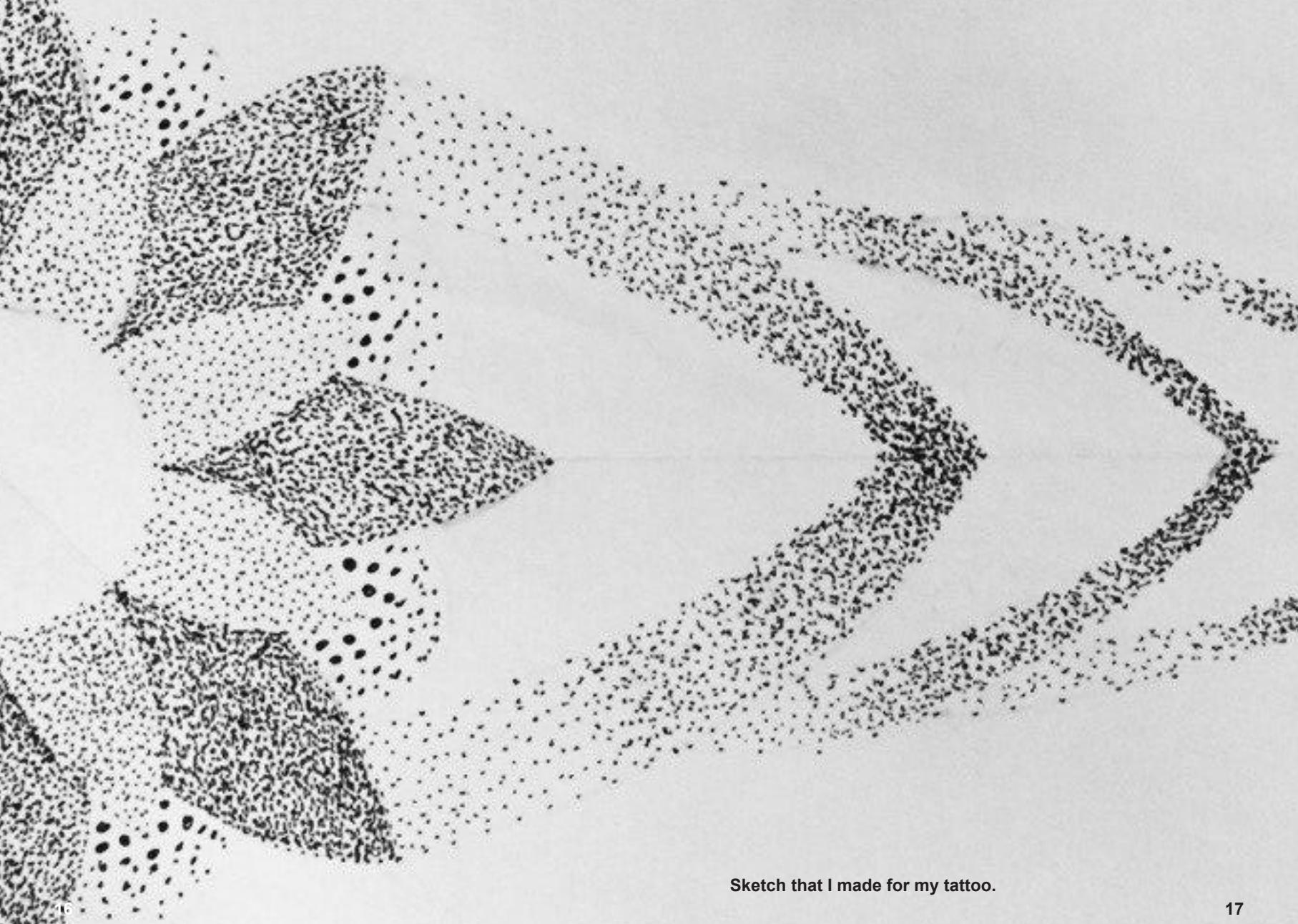
This project is, in its own way, a protest against the outdated opinion that has developed in our country about the culture of tattoos.

To begin with, I would like to say that I do not think that the opinion of many people is not correct, as for example in the dialogue with which this book began: there are right and wrong sides. Usually, the tattoos that people first imagine are the so-called "subcultural" tattoos: military, marine, biker, prison. For wearing such tattoos, a person is obliged to answer to the social group in which he is and from which he took that tattoo.

In my project, I am talking about artistic tattoos. About those, that are intended only to decorate the body and have some kind of symbolism; only if the person himself decided to make a story in the drawing on his body.



My first tattoo.



Sketch that I made for my tattoo.

Filming process

When I decided on the topic, I decided that I wanted to make a documentary. This was not important, I just wanted to spend more time in this culture, in the salon where I studied and worked. I decided that the best option for this is long shooting days. In total, I have 7 days of filming material for 8-9 hours.

When I started filming the idea of my project was to make a documentary. It was not clear what the topic was in my head.

The lack of pre-production is of course a big mistake, but for me it was the shooting process that became the most interesting and exciting part in this project. The main idea at that time was just asking people to tell about themselves on the camera. Many did this without any constriction or shyness. So my idea was to collect as many different materials as possible and make something like "A day in the life life in a tattoo studio."

I shot by hand and tripod, which, due to quarantine, remained in the studio forever. Having seen enough of typical documentaries, I took as a basis the idea of filming a lot of different parts; take an interview, show the masters at work, take some ordinary shots, shoot the studio's overall plan for the break between interviews. Already at that stage, my main topic was people and their stories in tattoo culture. I was struck by how many people came to tattoos from different areas of design.

In parallel with the filming of everyone around, I still started shooting myself in the classroom, as my spare idea was to make a mini story of how I become a tattoo master and how I get ready to tattoo my first client. All in all, another 20 hours of shooting of me alone.



Frame from tattoo school in the studio.



Frame from tattoo school in the studio. Overview.



Elements of everyday life in the studio.



Me filming myself in a mirror while filming interview.



Elements of everyday life in the studio.



Strange things happening during the interview process.



Discussion about the filming process.



Me shooting video without tripod.



On this frame I'm trying to pass the test about tattoo.



Preparing my place for work.



Tattoo practice on a silicone skin.

Имя	Дата изменения	Размер	Тип
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MVI_8597.MP4	26 февр. 2019 г., 19:19	148,1 МБ	Видео MPEG-4
MVI_8598.MP4	26 февр. 2019 г., 19:23	722,4 МБ	Видео MPEG-4
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08.02.20			
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IMG_8636.CR3	27 февр. 2019 г., 23:19	33,5 МБ	Canon...w Image
IMG_8638.MOV	27 февр. 2019 г., 23:19	33,5 МБ	Canon...w Image
IMG_8639.MOV	27 февр. 2019 г., 23:19	35,1 МБ	Canon...w Image
IMG_8641.MOV	8 февр. 2020 г., 18:40	4,28 ГБ	Фильм QT
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IMG_8644.MOV	8 февр. 2020 г., 19:39	4,28 ГБ	Фильм QT
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09.02.20			
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IMG_8674.MOV	9 февр. 2020 г., 21:14	4,28 ГБ	Фильм QT
IMG_8674.MOV	9 февр. 2020 г., 21:27	2,96 ГБ	Фильм QT
IMG_8674.MOV	9 февр. 2020 г., 22:06	4,28 ГБ	Фильм QT
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IMG_8674.MOV	28 февр. 2019 г., 19:25	1,12 ГБ	Видео MPEG-4
IMG_8674.MOV	28 февр. 2019 г., 19:44	3,24 ГБ	Видео MPEG-4
IMG_8674.MOV	28 февр. 2019 г., 20:01	500,2 МБ	Видео MPEG-4

A few video files.

Beginning of editing

After watching all the footage, I started editing the film based on the idea that I had from the beginning and realized that this was not what I wanted, as always.

At the editing stage, I got 3 versions of the film displaying 3 different ideas. The first was based on the original idea: there was a cut from dialogs and close-ups of the master's work, each of the characters spoke a little about themselves, but since I didn't have a clear concept, the film did not look completely put together.

The second idea was about the same, only there the plot was already traced and a clearer division into individual characters was more visible.

And I really didn't have a third idea, I just took the same pieces, but I concentrated on the hands of the tattoo artists, just leaving their hands in the frame.

Two weeks of sitting and just rearranging pieces from different videos in places, not understanding what to do next.

I tried to add a few draw elements, but since I didn't understand anything in the After Effects program, at that moment I transferred a piece from the video to PNG frame by frame and started to outline on the tablet. It didn't work out very well.

I very much doubted the idea of drawings on top of the video because I convinced myself that I was actually a graphic designer and not an illustrator, since earlier I was always told that the use of drawings was no longer an element of design and so on. As a result, I still showed what I was doing and realized that there was something in it, but I did not like it.

Then, purely as an experiment, I decided to draw on top of the

photo and circle all the tattoos on the hands of the master's tattoo. It turned out interesting. After the full outline, it felt like I was transferring the transfer again over the already full "new school" tattoo.

It was not easy to determine the sequence of frames, so I made 2 stories. The first talked about the process of preparing for a tattoo with each master: the sequence of the appearance of people in the frame was not taken into account, the main thing was that all the actions went as in preparation for the tattoo. (preparation of the place, then transferring the transfer, then the process itself and, at the end, wrapping the tattoo in a protective wrapping)

The second sequence of frames is based on how characters appear in the frame, since they all have very different characters, which is why I divided all the frames used by people and arranged them in the same sequence. I connected 3 different pieces about 3 different people in frames where two of them communicate with each other in the process of work. These frames were the most interesting ones.



More frames from the video.



There were a lot of talks in this version.



There were separation between talks (color) and working process (black and white).



This is a frame from the third variant.



In this variant I concentrated on the artists hands.



Their usual movements.



Tattoos that they have on their bodies.

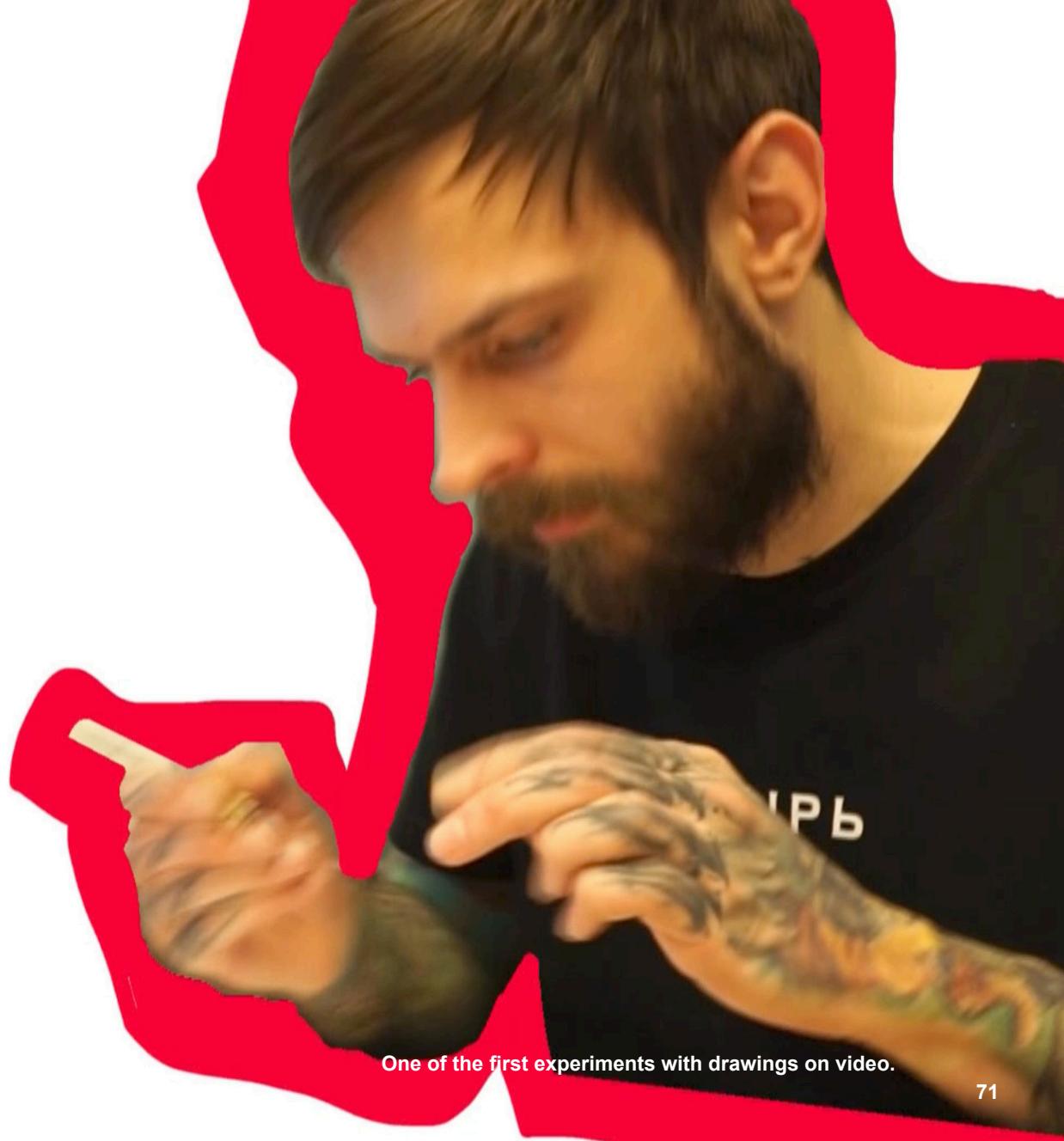


Process in details.





Preparation for the session.



One of the first experiments with drawings on video.



This image is starting point of the process of drawing on top.

Color Correction

Also, after I finally decided on the sequence of the video, I started color grading, because the lighting was not great during the shoot. I took advantage of the technique from the films and contrasted the skin with a warm tone and took away all the blue tones in a cold shade.



Before.



ЛЫРЫ

After.

Sound

I did not want to make a film with sound with the expectation that it will be shown at the exhibition where it will not be convenient for people to listen to the words. Plus mixing the soundtracks is hell in itself. In the background, I decided to put the sound of a working tattoo machine and make it louder in those moments when a tattoo machine is working in the frame, and when it is not there, the sound becomes barely audible. This was very distracting from the content and did not affect the perception of the video itself, so I decided to remove it altogether.

Outline

At the moment when I was hooked on the idea of drawing on top of the drawing, I decided to still try to outline the entire video. I did this for the first time and I really didn't want to get into the After Effects program because I have had bad associations with it since the first year of my education. In Photoshop, this was not very convenient and the file would've weighed a lot. In general, I found a solution to the problem in Krita's program, I don't know why it seemed to me that work there easier, in fact it's the same as Photoshop.

Starting to outline the video, I again adhered to the idea of drawing attention to the hands and all the time I added drawings to those elements that were next to the hands of the tattoo master.

The Krita program didn't make my life easier, and with terrible reluctance, I had to return to work in the After Effects program. Now I know that that program is not as scary as it seemed to be.

After I learned all the methods of speeding up the process of drawing, I started using the Wacom tablet for the second time in 4 years from the date of purchase, which also turned out to be not as difficult as it seemed to me.

After testing several ways to work with graphics on top of the video, I decided to return to frame-by-frame rendering. I did that because due to the mood for changing frames and the uneven edge of the picture, an interesting effect is obtained and you can not really try to do everything along the contour.

This idea took me a month and a half to realize.



With this drawing I tried to attract attention to the tattoo.



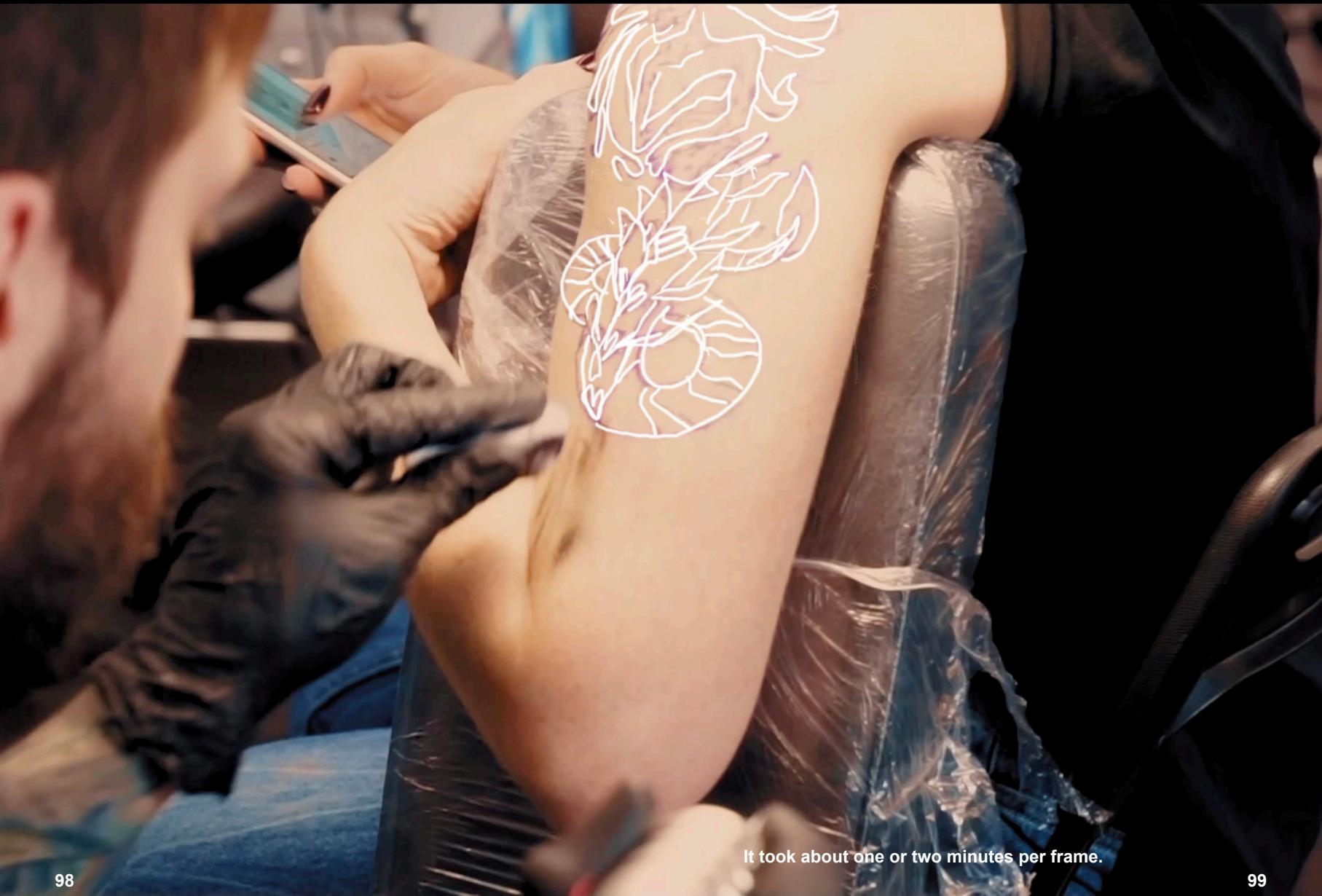
The attention should always be on hands.



There were no separation between working process and everything else.



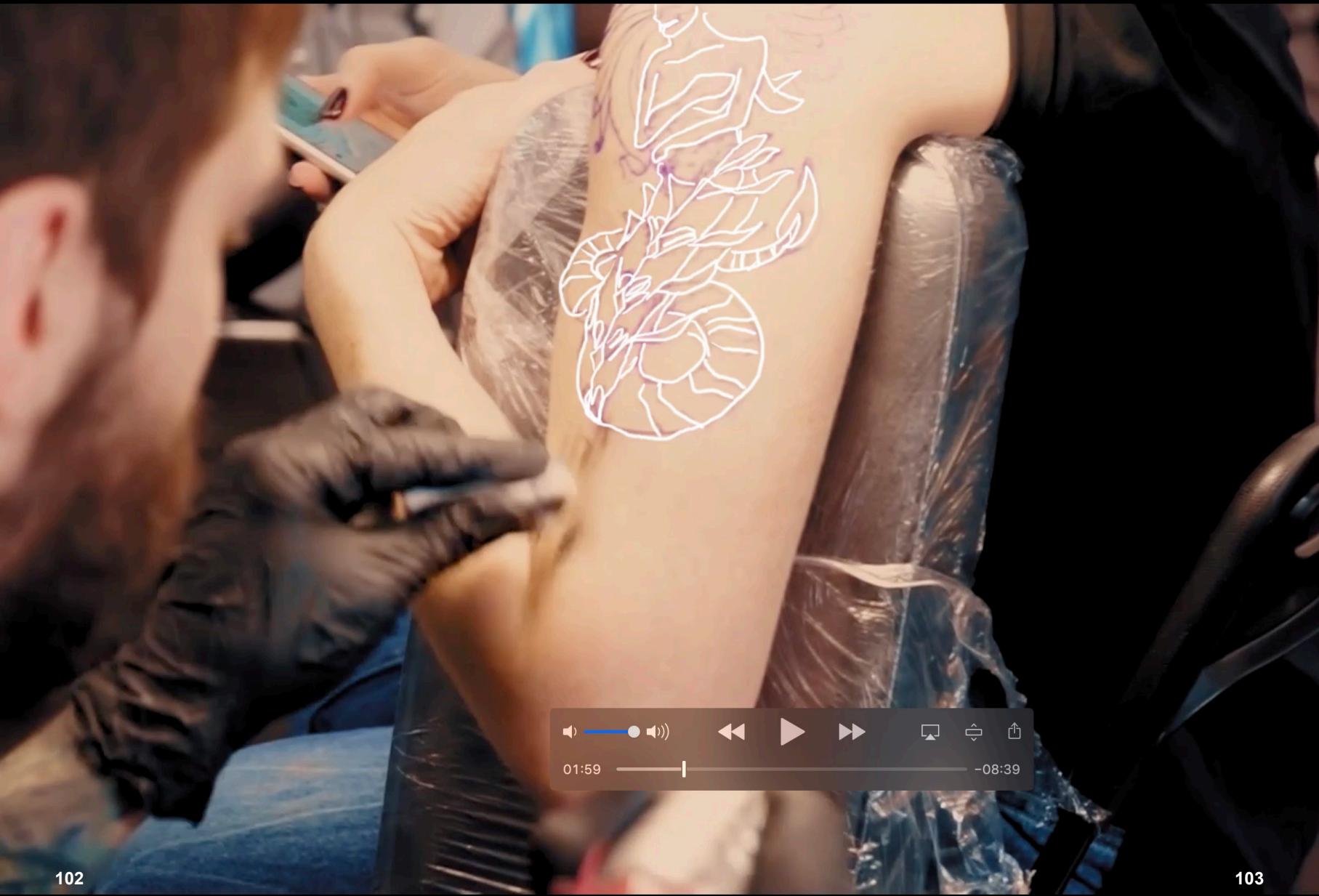
Drawings were on each frame.



It took about one or two minutes per frame.

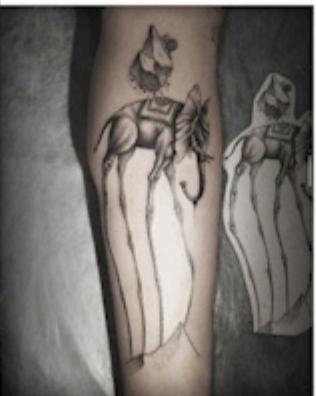


01:59 - 08:39



102

103



зная кам... 1 вид +0,0

Experiments with Rotobrush tool in After Effects.

104

02:00f

02:25f

03:00f

03:25f

04:00f

04:25f

05:00f

105

The Final

Still, something didn't work for me in the outline of the video and I did not understand what. I think at that moment it was everything, because I could not determine a clear idea of my work. However, I continued to do it as it was necessary to do any work.

Two weeks before the end of the project, I met a man with whom we had that dialogue. And at that moment I understood why I even took up this topic and why I decided to develop it in my project. It was this man who told me that only limited people make tattoos and that a smart person does not need it.

The visual does not display the concept, which was so great to hear, so great. Two weeks before the official presentation, just awesome. Starting all over again.

The idea of how to finally display the concept came to me pretty quickly. I had to show that tattoos are commonplace and that they do not affect the level of intelligence of the wearer. I decided to level everything just by making the video black and white.

Everything looked pretty complete, but for me something was still missing. After all, a tattoo is still a bright detail. Yes, it does not distinguish a person inside from others, neither emotionally nor intellectually, in any way. But it looks different from the outside.

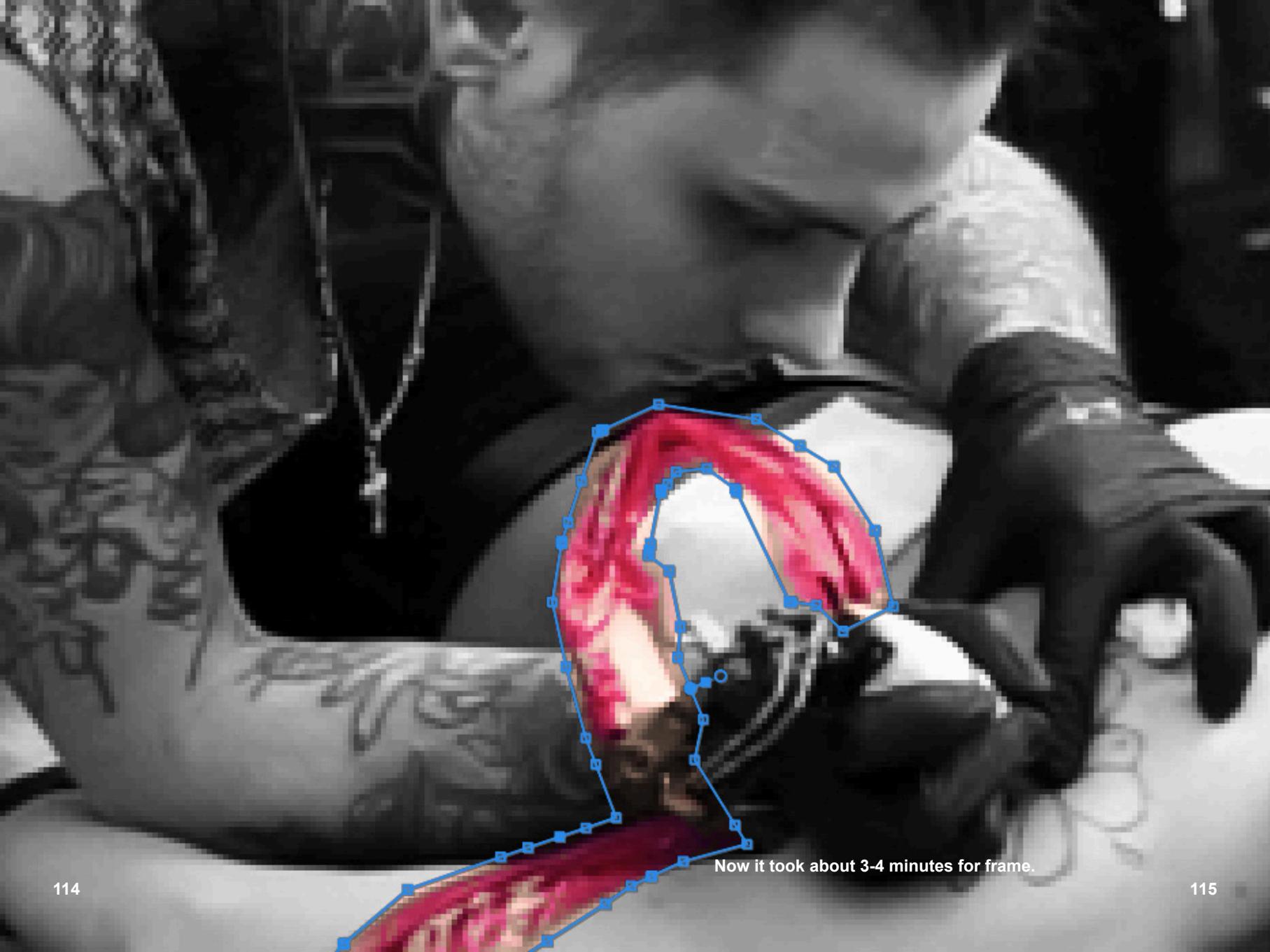
I decided that I don't want to highlight tattoos in any way. But highlighting the tools seemed an interesting solution to me, since it is these things that change a person. They transfer it from the world BEFORE the tattoo to the world AFTER, where everyone decides how they feel by themselves. Each person decides to feel more confident or not at all attach importance to the pattern on his body. From these elements the puzzle of my work was complete



I decided to change the color of the tattoo machine protection.



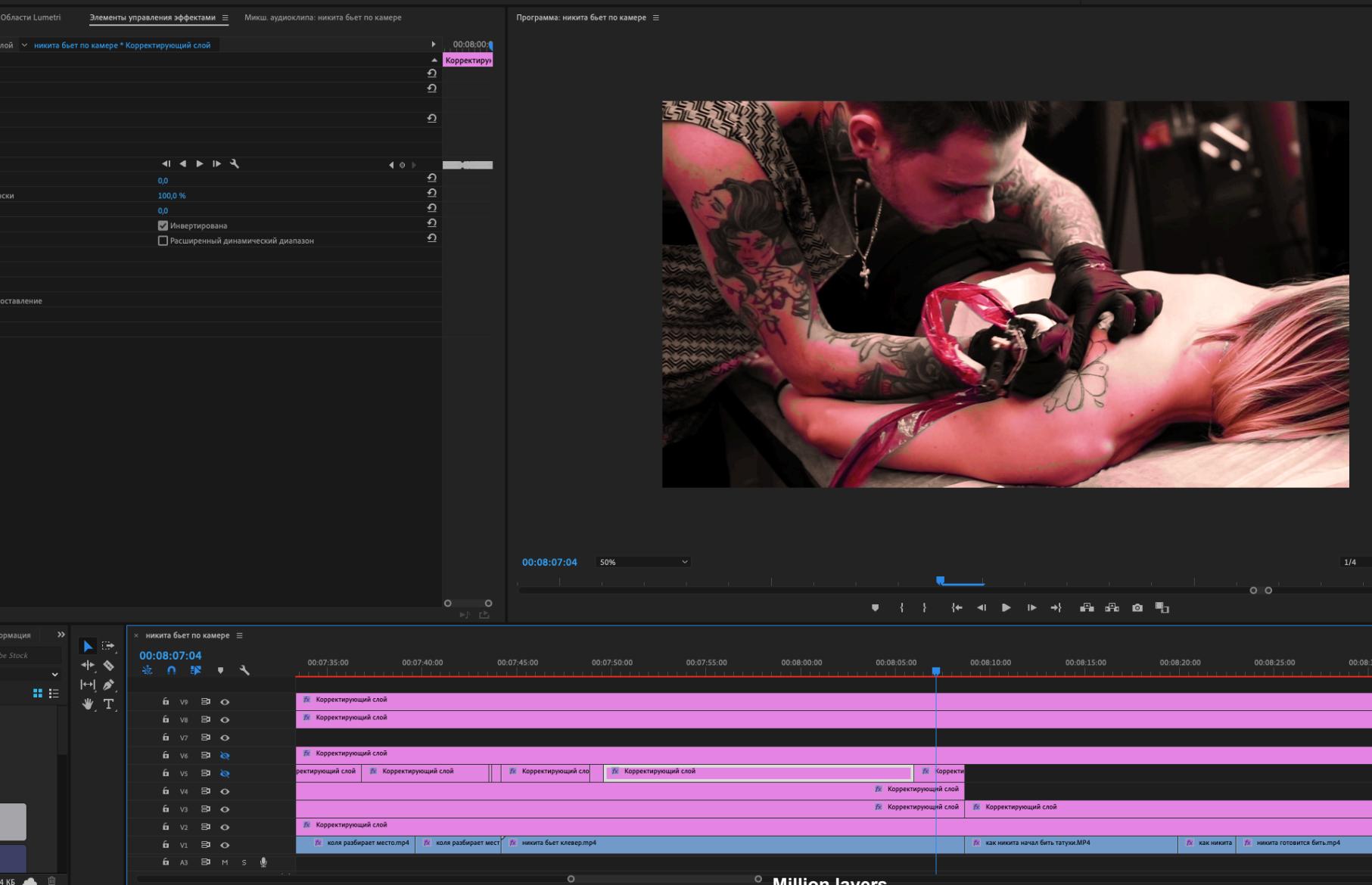
Again, frame by frame manually made masks.



Now it took about 3-4 minutes for frame.



I made masks to separate the element that should not be black and white.



00:07:50:00

Корректирующий слой



Small changes of the mask on each frame.

Inter Titers

Initially, I wanted to remove the words from the video altogether, but the words that the tattoo masters say, in my opinion, are so different from what they look externally that I decided that they definitely should be left in the video.

In one of the first versions of the video with the outline, I wanted to insert the phrases of the tattoo artists in the form of building the frames appearing on the still images. I assigned each speaker a font so that it would be easier to distinguish who is speaking and the font of each speaker, in my opinion, displayed their own visual appearance. I also placed these posters in their own way so that they would not appear on the screen in sequence. If the first character spoke, then the poster appeared as if at the beginning of the line. When the second character began to speak, the poster moved to the middle of the frame, and if the last character spoke, the poster appeared on the right, as if at the end of the line. With the black and white version, these posters looked bad, but they didn't look very good anyway, just in the middle of the process it seemed to me that they were suitable for the version with the outline.

I tried to make regular subtitles, but visually they looked very bad. They were not visible. Then I started looking for more referents and I really liked the titles that Saul Bass made. One of his works had a lot of black and a lot of geometry. I decided to add some geometry to my work too and made a black frame.

I tried to place the subtitles in the center, but with the frame they looked strange and I decided to follow what the shape dictated to me and moved them to the lower left corner.

The questions that I ask behind the scenes, I tried to post elsewhere. It was impossible to lose these questions, because of this the meaning of the answer was lost.



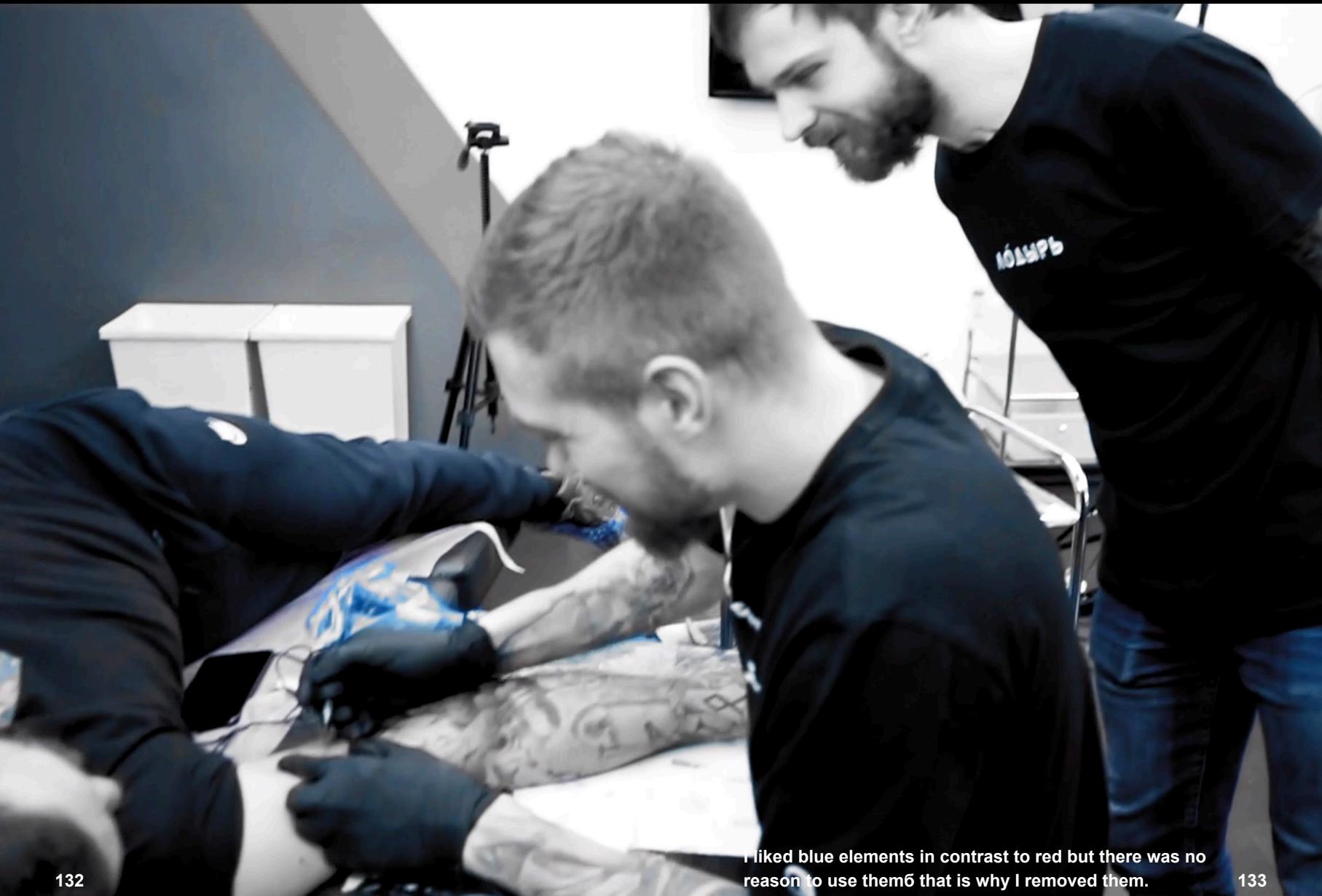
We have an educational center



Also there were a version were the movie was black and white.

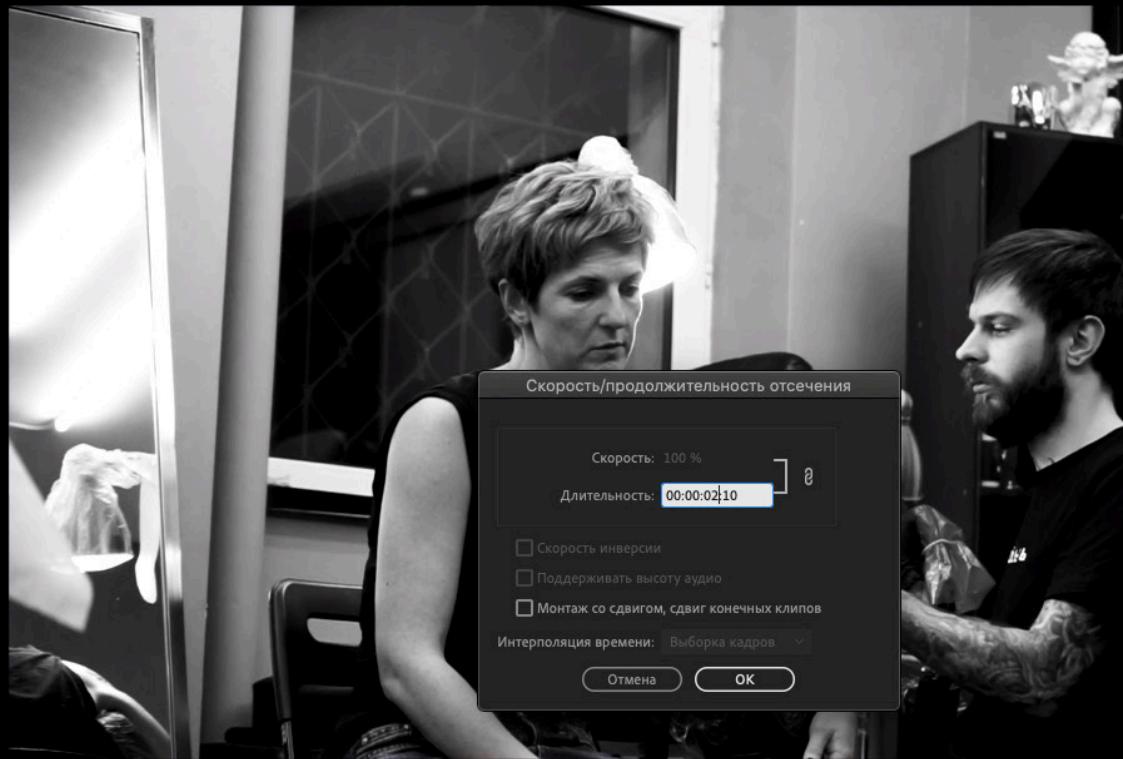


We have an educational center



I liked blue elements in contrast to red but there was no reason to use them, that is why I removed them.

Т



and wiped my knee with vodka right during the session.

00:02:47:23 75%

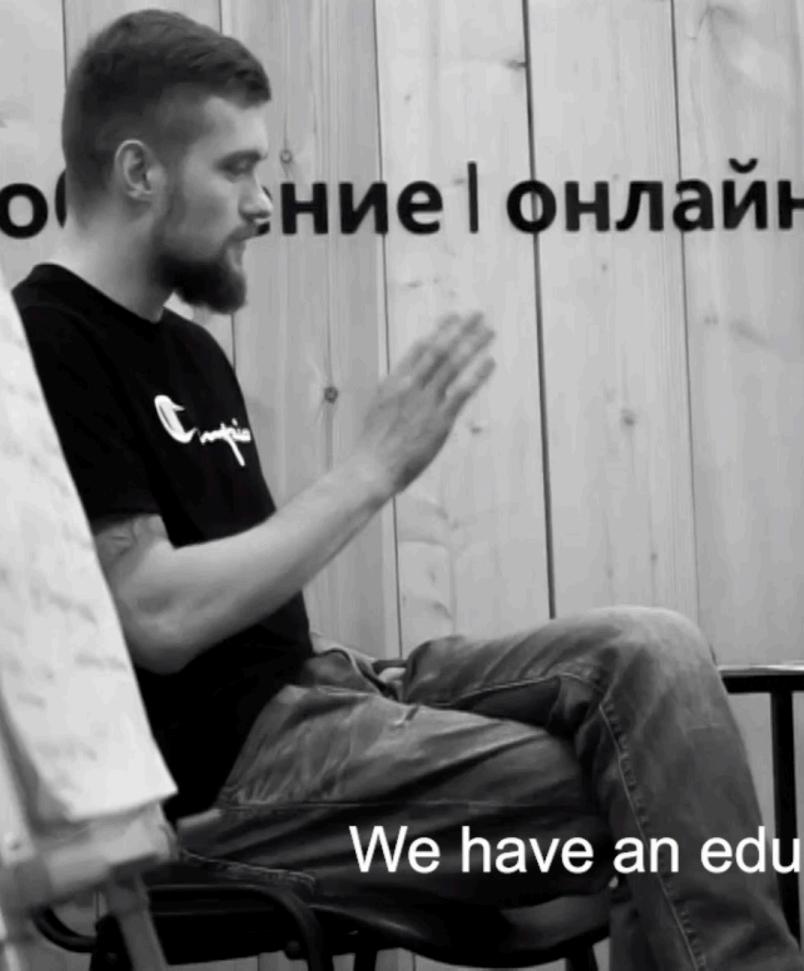
00:02:47:23 x мро

00:02:42:00 00:02:43:00 00:02:44:00 00:02:45:00 00:02:46:00 00:02:47:00 00:02:48:00 00:02:49:00 00:02:50:00

135

Y W A Y
A T T O O

обучение | онлайн | бизнес

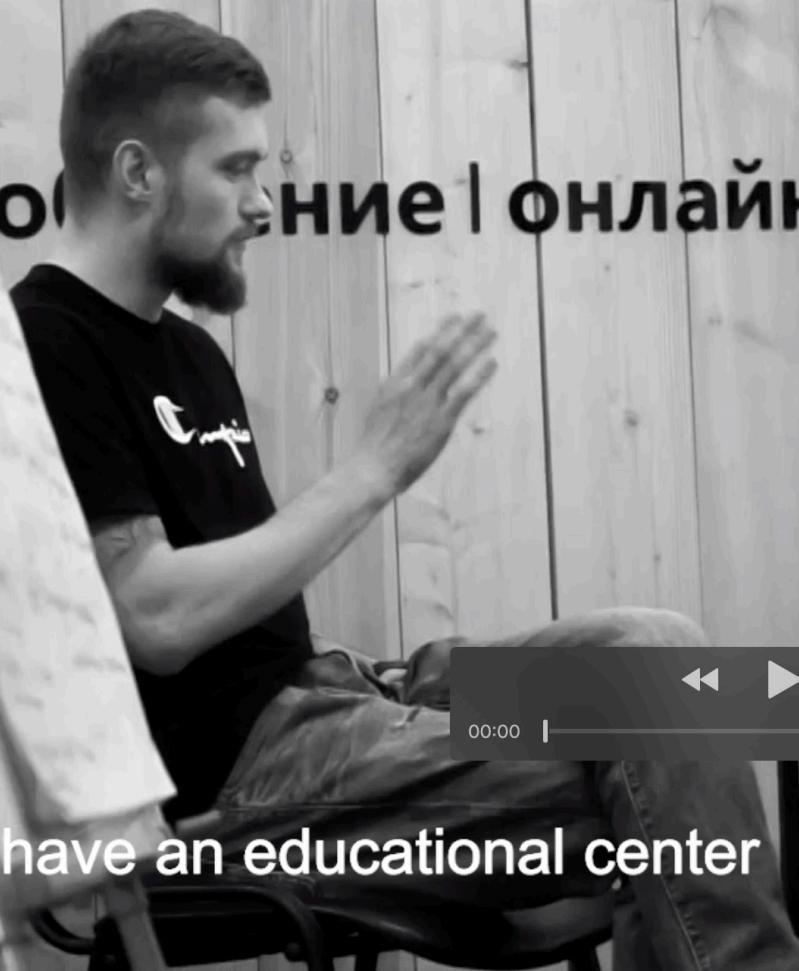


We have an educational center

Y WAY

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онлайн | бизнес



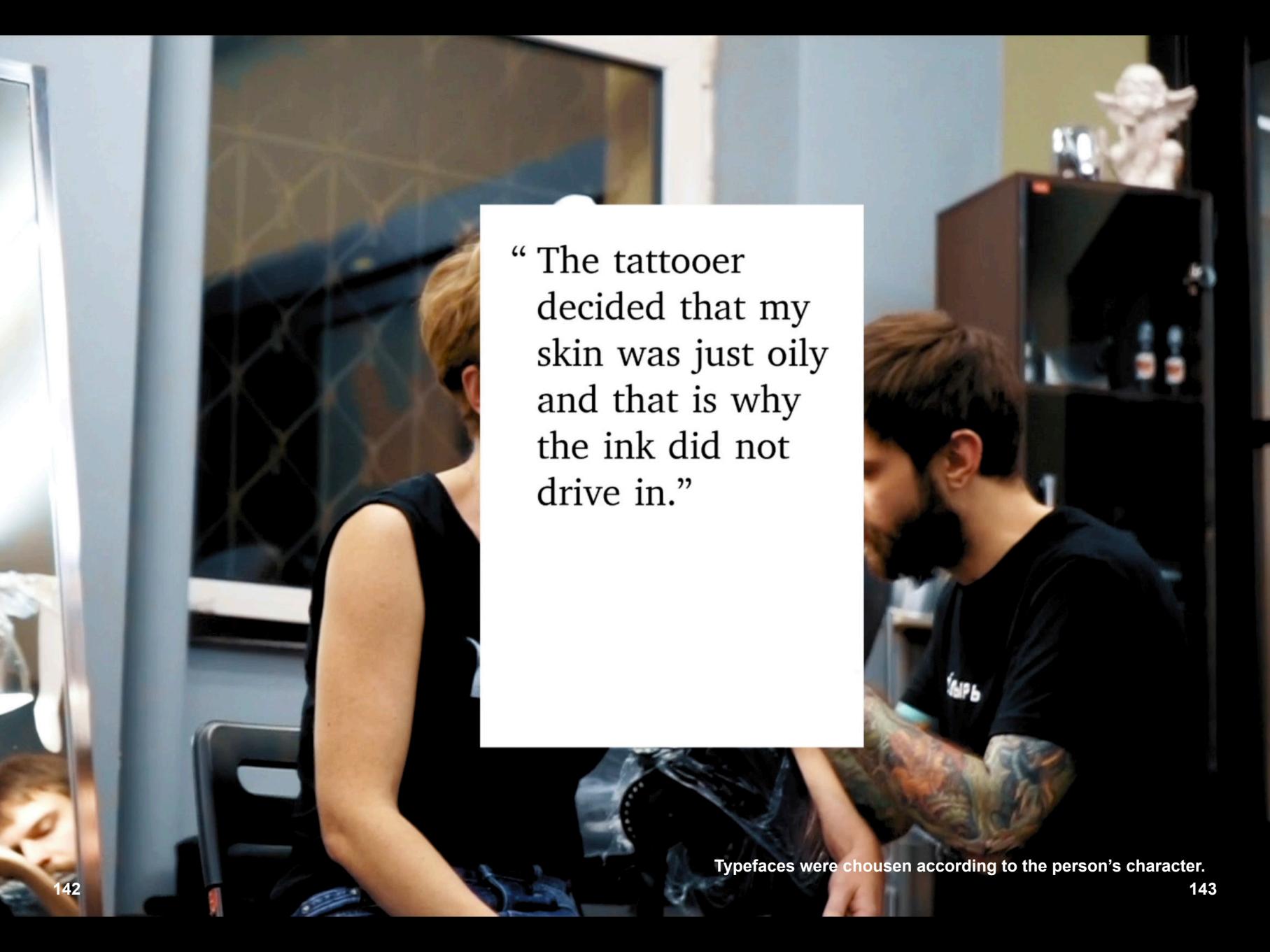
We have an educational center

“ We have an educational center”

“ not a recreational center.”

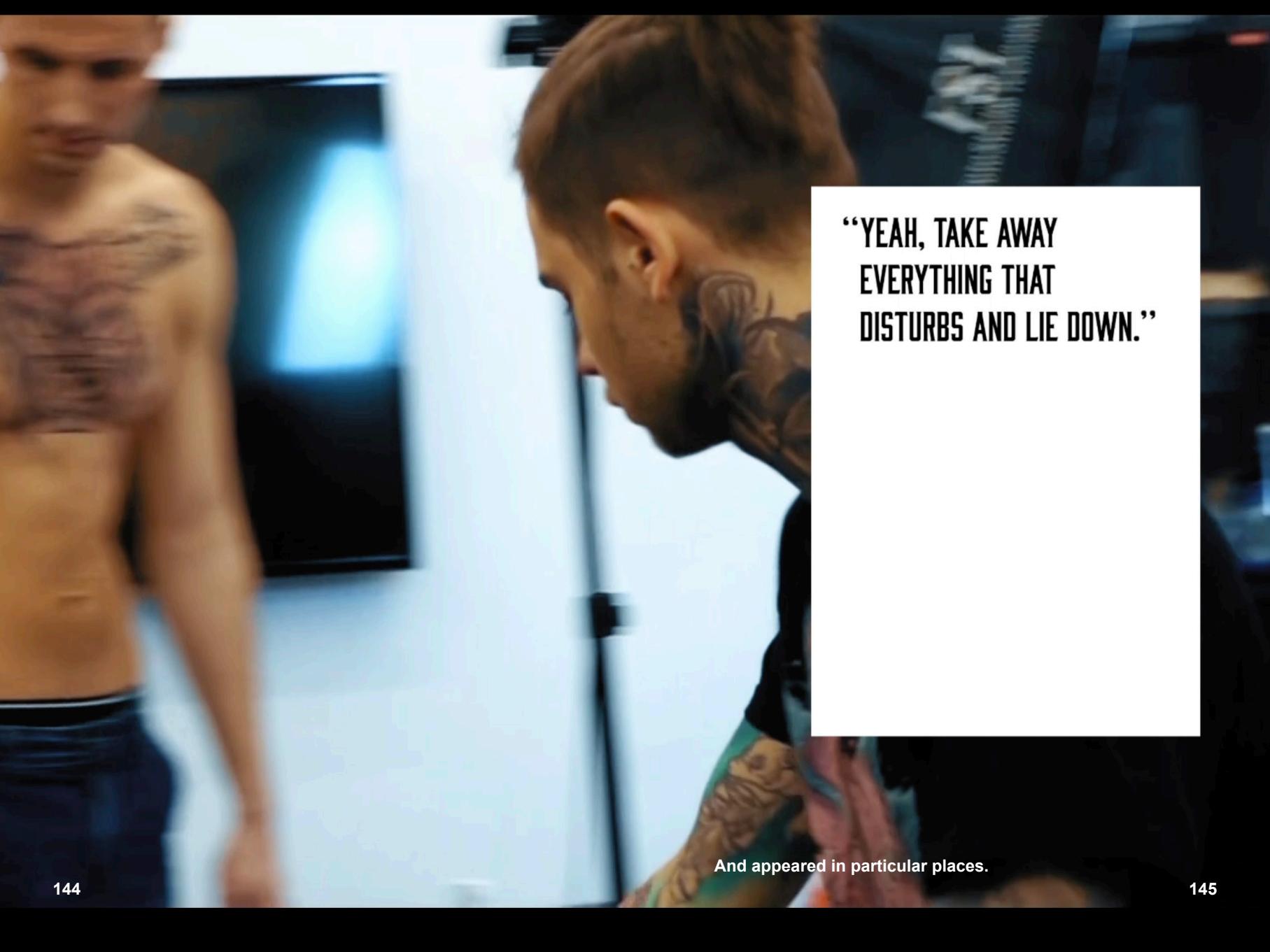
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The idea of making an inter title poster.



“The tattooer decided that my skin was just oily and that is why the ink did not drive in.”

Typefaces were chosen according to the person's character.

A shirtless man with a tattooed neck and arm is shown in profile, looking down. He is standing in what appears to be a gym or fitness studio.

**“YEAH, TAKE AWAY
EVERYTHING THAT
DISTURBS AND LIE DOWN.”**

And appeared in particular places.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I would like to summarize what I came to. My concept is to show that a tattoo can become as much a part of everyday life as any other part of appearance. Only the owner himself gives it meaning. Also, a tattoo does not affect the mental abilities of its owner. I believe that the decision on a tattoo is more likely to be made based on social connections, if not out of personal motives.

I did my work in black and white to bring more routine and everyday life into it, but still I did not want to completely deprive it of its brightness. Therefore, I left the red elements, they are more important than what is on the body, since it is the tattoo machine in the hands of the master that allows you to enjoy your new appearance. Namely appearance, not a new intellect or status, nothing but perception has changed, neither intelligence, nor level of culture, nothing.

I urge people who want to get a tattoo on themselves to do it consciously and only for themselves, not under the pressure of what everyone has and you don't, not because I want to prove something to someone. Make tattoos only because you have consciously decided that you need a tattoo.

☒ Корректирующий слой

fx Корректирующий слой

 Корректирующий слой

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Корректирующий слой

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Kopo

Índice

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