

PHOTOGRAPHICS ROTATION: Jane Lee



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Concept

For this composition, I wanted to make the lights frame the figure and create the sense that the individual is descending or standing on top of a stair like structure.

Process

I started off by making all three photos black and white so I could concentrate on the different values and shapes in each one. Then I used layer masks to certain areas to try and create a path of lighter values that would lead the viewer's eyes to the figure.

Using levels and curves helped to make the contrast between the figure and the lights starker which was good for the mood I was trying to convey. I also used the darken and hard light blend modes to overlay 2 of the photos which helped to preserve some of the line details seen in the photo of the neon lights.

Reflection

I think that overall, the top left corner of the photo looks too chaotic in relation to the rest of the piece. The neon light installation overlaid with the lights in the tree makes this section too bright. In addition to this, the patches of grey from the leaves combined with this brightness is jarring to me. I did try to mitigate this by using a gradient layer mask, but it was not very effective. If I were to redo this task, I would position the images more strategically so that the photo has a composition which is better balanced.