One Minute Matte Animation

Create a One Minute Animation using only Final Cut. Make it as varied and interesting as you can with only a Color Matte for the background on V1 and one other Color Matte on V2. Have Fun.

1. Open Final Cut Express (be sure you are disconnected from the server before you open Final Cut)
   a) Choose Setup window will open, select Setup For: DV-NTSC and Primary Scratch Disk: Choose folder> Documents folder (make sure you don't let it default to the server!!!).
   b) External AV window will open (it's asking for a firewire device) select Continue.
   c) Save your project File > create a new folder in the documents folder (on your firewire drive or the hard drive you want the project on) and name your project. If you do this before the next step you won't have extra folders in your computer's documents folder.
   d) Set the System Settings: Final Cut Express BD > System Settings the System Settings window opens, Select the Scratch Disks tab (this should be the default) and press the Set button and lead it to the folder you just created saved your project in, then click on Change.
   e) This IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IF YOU WANT TO FIND ALL YOUR PROJECTS PARTS AND MOVE THEM TO YOUR SERVER OR ANOTHER DRIVE.

2. Create a 1 minute colored background Matte
   a) Click on the Generator Pop-up Menu button on the lower right corner of the Viewer > matte > Color.
   This will turn your Viewer gray.
   b) Select the Controls tab at the top of the Viewer.
   c) Click on the grey box under Parameters (this is your color picker) and select a background color.
   d) Select the Video tab at the top of the Viewer (your Viewer should now be the color you selected).
   e) Highlight the number in the Timecode Duration field in the upper left corner of the Viewer and then enter 1:00:00:00 or one minute) after a Return.
   f) Drag your Background Color Matte to V1 on the Timeline. You can also drag it to the Browser window and rename it.

3) Create a second color Matte (use a different color) and place it on V2 of the Timeline and in the Browser.
   a) Double click on V2 and send it back to the Viewer

4) Modify your V1 layer Color Matte.
   a) Click on the Motion tab on the top of the Viewer.
   b) Move your Viewer window to the left over the Browser and expand it to the right (grab the lower left corner of the window and reshape it) This will reveal the more of the Motion tab including the keyframe graph line.
   1) Select a Motion Attribute or Effect like Crop
      a) Click on the arrow in front of the Crop attribute to open its Parameter controls.
      b) Set a Keyframe point by clicking on the InDel Keyframe button in the Nav column and on the keyframe graph line row (Top, Bottom, etc) where you want the Effect to start.
      Do this for all of the edges you want to crop.
      c) Move the Playhead forward on the Timeline to the point you want the change to end (this should move the Playhead on the Viewer at the same time) and set another keyframe on the same keyframe graph lines. Modify your Matte either using the Parameter control sliders in the Motion window (in the demo. I first reshaped the MatteBottom and Top Parameter sliders). If you watch the Canvas you will see what is happening.
      d) Move your Playhead back to the start of your Timeline and watch what you have done. If you have a frame using the
   2) Select another Effect or Motion Attribute like Rotate
      a) Set a Keyframe point where you want the Motion/Attribute to start on it's Keyframe graph line in the Viewer.
      b) Set a Keyframe point where you want the rotation to stop or change.
      c) Using the Rotation Angel Control (wheel) rotate the Matte.
      d) Move your Playhead to before your rotation begins watch what you have done.

3) Tools to use in the Motion tab.
   a) The Pen tools (Bottom of the Tool Bar.)
      1) 1st Pen Tool adds Keyframe point,
   b) The Selection Tool
      1) Grabs a keyframe point and moves it on the Keyframe graph row in the Motion window.
      2) with the option key;
         a) Add a Keyframe point.
         b) Delete a Keyframe point.
   c) You can modify the Matte in the Canvas with some of the tools in the Tool Bar.
      1) First select Image=Wireframe in the View Pop-Up Menu on the top of the Canvas window. This will turn on the wireframe.
      2) Then select a percentage that is small enough you can see the edges of the matte in the Canvas in the Zoom Pop-Up Menu (just left of the View Pop-up menu in the top of the Canvas window).
      3) Click on the Matte on the Timeline or the Matte in the Canvas. This make your Wireframe visible in the Canvas.
      4) To set Keyframe point in the Canvas use the Add Motion Key Frame button. It is the third button from the left on the bottom of the Canvas. This button sets a Keyframe point for all Motion Attributes or Effects (rows) at once in the Motion tab. If you do this (set a Keyframe Point on all keyframe graph rows) before you select your first tool, it will allow any tool to automatically set a new Keyframe points when ever you use it (in other words, after you have a Keyframe point set on an Effect or Motion Attribute the tool will set another one).

5) Select a tool
   a) The Selection Tool (see page 710 in Final Cut Express Help for more information)
      1) Grab the Wire Frame Handle (corner) of the Matte and it will turn into a crosshair. This will allow you to scale the Matte proportionally.
      2) Grab the Wire Frame Handle and hold down the Shift key and it will allow you to scale the clip without constraining the proportions.
      3) Grab the Matte in the middle and you can move the reposition the Matte.
      This is the same as using the Center Motion Attribute row in the Motion tab
      4) Grab the edge of the Wire frame and it turns into an arc arrow. This will allow you to rotate the Matte.
      5) Command and grab a corner will allow you to scale and rotate at the same time.
   b) The Crop Tool (right above the pen tools on the Tool Bar)
      1) Grab an edge and drag inward to crop a side.
      2) Grab a corner and drag inward to crop two sides.
      3) Grab a corner and Shift to crop two side but maintain the original aspect ratio (shape)
   a) The Distort Tool (under the Crop Tool)
      1) Drag a corner to distort the Matte.
      2) Shift and drag a corner to change the length of one side of the Matte.
      3) To change the Anchor point of the Matte, click on the center point of the wire frame with the Distort Tool and drag.

Chapter 50 in the Final Cut Express Help is about using Keyframes (starts at page 719).
Creating Motion Effects in the Canvas Starts at Page 707 in the Final Cut Express Help.

Due: Monday, September 10, 2007. Bring it to Class.