

Casestudy : Up-Scaling, Retouching, & Colorizing from a Bad Source

I wanted a high resolution version of this image and I wanted it to not look cursed or fucked.

This whole process took 6 hours and was hundreds of manual, human steps. I only did a good job because I know the tools. People think - "these tools are shortcuts and they take the artistry out." Trust: it's still a lot of work, and it's very fun and rewarding if you're a fucking dork.



Here are the details of the source image so I'd have something to go on.

Julien Vervaecke and Maurice Geldhof

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Summary

Julien Vervaecke and Maurice Geldhof smoking a cigarette at the 1927 Tour de France. Gustaaf Van Slembroeck is the one lighting the cigarette.

Tags

j b louvet cycling team julien vervaecke lighting up smoking male cyclists from belgium maurice geldhof
tour de france 1927 armor cycling team
julien vervaecke men portrait 1927

Date

1927

Source

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First, I researched some newer colorization tools. I tried ones I've used before and new ones, too. They all kinda sucked.



GPT did a decent job, but couldn't handle the fidelity / quality issues.



My attempt to improve this manually was good, but not great.

