

Take a simple stylized approach to repurposing photos for posters or CD art.

1. Double-click Background, to turn to regular layer.
2. Make a rough selection around subject with lasso.
3. Select Magic Wand, Tolerance 8, click the "Subtract from Selection" Icon in the top Options bar. Click in the area between selection borders and the subject; this will make the selection shrink and conform to the subject's area of contrast. This takes about 8 clicks.
4. When the selection is shrunken into the subject outline, click the

"Add Layer Mask icon."

5. Add a Color/Fill Adjustment Layer, choose white for the color. This will fill your screen with white. Click OK and move this layer below the subject layer.
6. Click on the Mask thumbnail of your subject layer, to fine tune the areas that should or should not be revealed, using a hard edge brush; white to reveal, and black to conceal.
7. Add a Curves Adjustment Layer; Input 166, Output 227 in the RGB Channel. Change the Blending Mode for this Adjustment to Screen, 80%Opacity. Add another Curves Adjustment Layer, doing nothing to the settings. Click OK. Change this Adjustment Layer Blending Mode to Overlay.
8. Create a composite layer, by first creating a blank new layer, name it "cutout colors".

Shut off the White background layer. Highlight the cutout colors layer, and while holding down the Option key, select "Merge Visible" from the Layer Menu.

Duplicate this layer, and name it "outline." Go to Image > Adjustments > Desaturate and then to Filter > Stylize > Find Edges. Change this layers Blending Mode to Multiply. Lower Opacity, to your liking. (40% used here.)

9. Click on the cutout colors layer; You may or may not choose to add a small amount (3-6) Gaussian Blur to this layer. Then go to Filter > Artistic > Cutout > Settings 8,6,2. Shut off visibility for all layers, except the cutout colors layer and the outline layer. Create a new blank layer above the outline layer and merge a composite to this layer, name it "transformed." Now shut off visibility for all layers except the white background and the transformed layer.

10. Highlight the transformed layer and Go to Edit > Free Transform > Perspective and drag the top corner handles toward each other. Click OK.

Add some type, crop to your liking, and your done!



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