

MITOCW | MITRES_10-001S16_Track36_300k

This is a short story of maybe the quickest turnaround I've ever experienced, ever.

Here you're seeing a very fine image made by the researcher at Stanford.

I'm not going to muck up her name and I apologize.

Please do see her credit.

This is a solar voltaic device that we decided to try to quickly get attention for, which was very exciting research.

So they sent me a few of these cells.

And I literally had just a few hours to try to attempt an MIT homepage.

So I made an image of just one device.

I actually used a stereo microscope to make the image.

But I could absolutely have done the same with a camera and a 105 lens.

I just thought it would be interesting for you to see this little story, even though I did not use a camera.

And then I placed it in Photoshop and just duplicated a few of the layers, just to sort of get a feel for what I might want to do.

And I wound up developing an image with layers of the cells and moved them around.

I was in a mood for lavender.

So, sure enough, the MIT office did use it online.

But eventually, I was looking for the homepage and wanted to suggest something solar-like.

So I used a gradient in the background.

I really didn't like that.

And then I remembered from my thousands of slides of images of the landscape, that I did, in fact, have a sunset from California, that I took many years ago on film.

And so I used that for the background, overlaid the various layers that I previously made of the solar cell, cropped it a little bit.

And eventually, they did, in fact, use it for the MIT homepage.

This took all of, I'm not kidding, three hours from start to finish, very unusual.

See if you could do it.

I challenge you.