Front-shutter and rear-shutter motion effects

In traditional photography, two types of flash techniques affect the way motion is recorded on film: front-shutter flash and rear-shutter flash.

Front-shutter flash, which is the most common technique, makes the camera flash as soon as the shutter opens. This creates the appearance of motion in front of the moving image. Rear-shutter flash makes the camera flash at the end of the exposure, and gives the appearance of motion behind the image—that is, opposite the direction of motion.

1 Open the Shutter1.psd file located in the Tutorial/Artfiles folder. The mannequin is isolated on a transparent layer above the mouse on the background.

2 Duplicate the Mannequin layer by dragging it to the New Layer icon at the bottom of the Layers palette. Rename the layer Motion. You will apply the motion on this duplicate layer. In the Layers palette, drag the Motion layer below the Mannequin layer.
3 Make sure that the Motion layer is selected, and Option-click (Macintosh®) or Alt-click (Windows®) the eye icon next to it to hide the other layers. Choose Filter > Blur > Motion Blur, and choose the settings you want. (We used an angle of 0 and a distance of 100.)

4 Option/Alt-click the eye icon to redisplay all layers. To merge the mannequin image with the motion image, reduce the opacity for the Mannequin layer (we used 80%).

5 For a rear-shutter flash, select the Motion layer and use the move tool to drag the motion image to the left of the mannequin (that is, opposite the direction of motion).

6 For a front-shutter flash, use the move tool to drag the motion image to the right of the mannequin.

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