THE MAKING OF
BLOWOUT
AT EXIT 16A

TILL NOWAK
Till Nowak is working as a freelance media artist since 1999 in his own studio in Mainz, Germany. Visit framebox.com.

“Blowout at Exit 16A” is a computer generated artwork created by Till Nowak for the book “Carnivora - the dark side of automobiles”, an arts compilation by Leslie Barany. Visit www.baranybooks.com for more info about this collection of car related work from more than 50 artists. During the creation of the image Leslie was an important source of ideas and advice. The piece consists of fully digital parts mixed with several photographs.
The work on "Blowout at Exit 16A" (created specially for the book Carnivora) started with a purely computer generated image featuring Till Nowak's Woojet concept car and the city of his short film "Delivery." Then Leslie Barany suggested the tire changing idea and contributed his photo of artist Eli Livingston handling a real life situation after a blowout at an existing interstate exit 16A in New Jersey, the origin of the title. Besides endless painting, layering, color correcting and masking there are several photographic elements that played an important role in the final image as you can see on this page.

THE FOOTAGE

Eli Livingston photographed by Leslie Barany at Exit 16A.

This lensflare was used as editing source for the sunset mood.

Palm trees from Los Angeles worked as the vegetation in the image.

THE PROCESS

Most of the work consisted of painting fine masks and finding solutions to match the perspective, light direction, reflections, shadows and color tone of all elements. The mix of vegetation with skyscrapers is meant as a reference to the short film "Delivery." The original format of the image is 2500x3500 pixel and about 50 photoshop layers were used, which is not much for a full week of work. Due to the extreme color distortions the whole editing happened in 16 Bit.
The futuristic car used in the image was designed by Till Nowak in 2006, one year before "Blowout at Exit 16A" was created. Till started to work with capsule shaped vehicles in his short film "Delivery". The goal of these designs was to create the most powerful and heavy vehicle design but preserve beauty and elegance.