IMAGE REPORT
FINAL: THE BUTTERFLY
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My final image was without a doubt the strangest and most rushed process I used for images to date for Flow Visualization. Our group, Epsilon, had arranged to meet on Sunday in order to put everything together. Unfortunately I had been sitting in line for tickets to see the President speak and was so excited to be home I completely forgot about meeting with my group. Fast-forward to Monday night, I had to think of an idea and think of it quick. I decided I would film fire and use my editing skills to make it original.

First came the fire, I grabbed some paper and cleared some space in my garage. I began to burn away and while the fire looked reasonably lit, it just didn't seem like enough color was being emitted. I remember when I was a kid that whenever the semi-plastic advertisements we got in the mail always burned green. However, similar to many ideas, that didn't exactly work out. Again, I decided that best course of action would be trust my editing skills in After Effects. After Effects is the video alternative to Photoshop, both made by Adobe. The system is open source; rather than creating a new file, it grabs different files from the folders they sit in. This means every video a user makes has to be rendered out in order to be played correctly. This also means, whenever using After Effects, a user has to keep very organized. With all my videos in the right place, I have to make a composition for my image. This composition is made up layers that a user piles on top of one another, just like Photoshop. However, the differences are in the effects that are only applied to each layer.

The two effects I chose for this project are optical flares and kaleidoscope. The optical flare is part of an extensive package I bought from videocopilot.com. These flares are digitally made and add either a realistic or artistic aesthetic to a variety of projects a user can do on

After Effects. Kaleidoscope works just like an old tele-kaleidoscope would work, breaks the image into a flower complex. The effect has some sub categories; the two most important are scale and type. The scale has to be made very large in order to see the details of this particular project; and the type that I chose to use is butterfly. I chose this type basically because it's a personal artistic choice and cant really explain it beyond that.

After Effects does not deal with adding titles and sound, so for that I had to render an export into Final Cut Pro. A little pinch and squeeze and my video was complete. A lot of things in life are luck, and in this case, I was lucky to be able to turn a simple and rushed idea into my best project of the semester, something I was very proud of.