

FACEFILTER3 PRO

REALLUSION'S LATEST PORTRAIT MANIPULATOR
MAKES BEAUTY RETOUCHING QUICK AND EASY

www.reallusion.com

• Approx £50/\$80 • Windows 7/8/Vista/XP

Quality beauty retouching is a difficult thing. Professional retouchers spend years honing their craft and coaxing pixels in their efforts to beautify portrait shots. Anybody who has ever attempted a beauty retouching project in Photoshop understands just how difficult it can be. It requires a deep understanding of facial structures, skin tones, make-up and more. However, Reallusion's latest offering of FaceFilter3 PRO puts expert-level retouching tools directly into your hands. They've taken the years of experience gained from in-depth study of portrait retouching and crafted a rather ingenious set of tools to provide even amateurs with the ability to beautify their portraits.

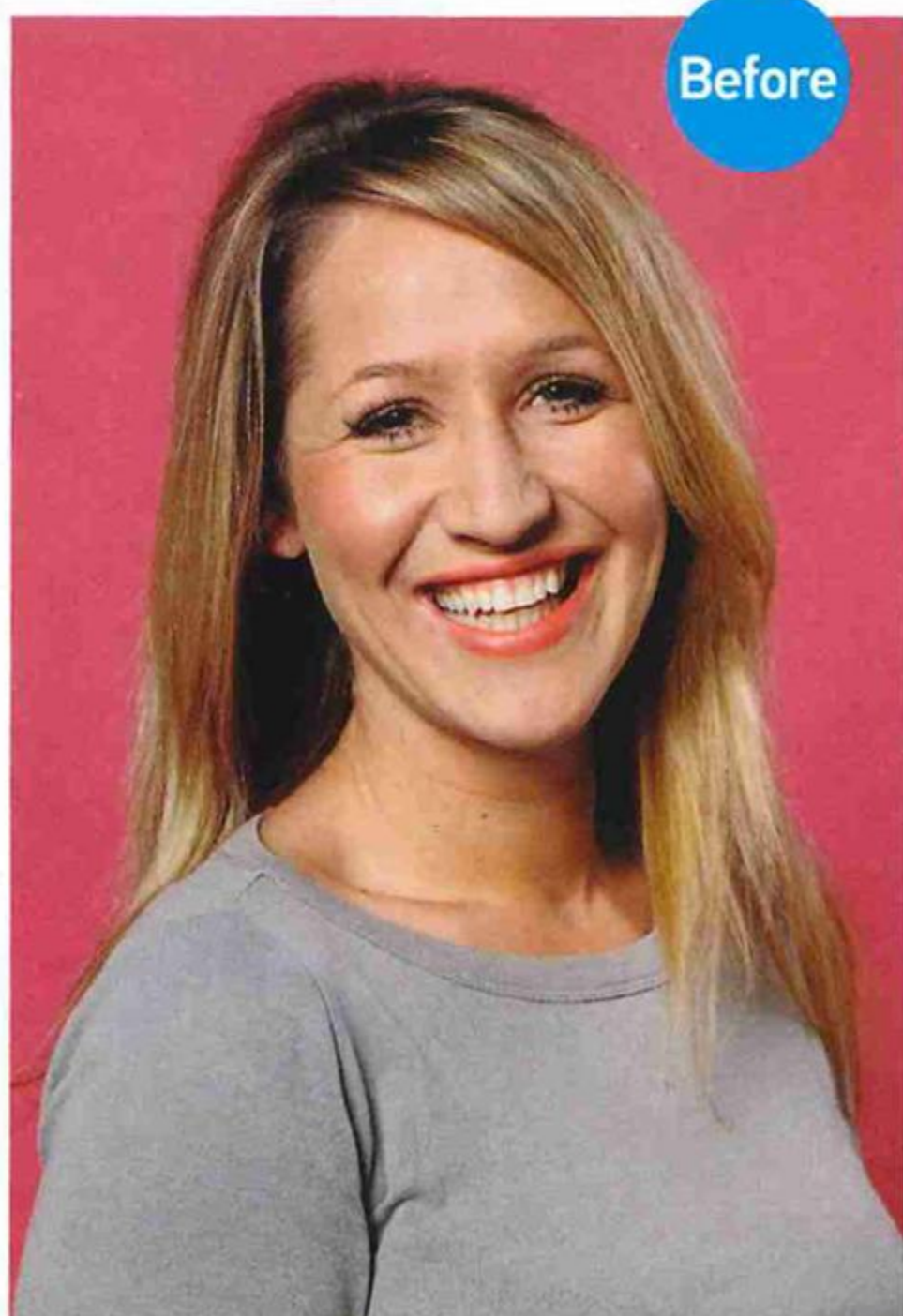
Honestly, there's nothing in this program that couldn't be accomplished in Photoshop by a knowledgeable digital artist. But the difference is the very fundamental approach. Photoshop is dealing with pixels – you have to know what to do with those pixels to make it effective. FaceFilter PRO deals with faces. The features and menus are crafted with facial work in mind. This important distinction means that years of portrait experience is already poured into the tool set. You may not know that a model needs more blush to highlight her cheekbones, but the

software realises that as a common step and offers you the tools to do so.

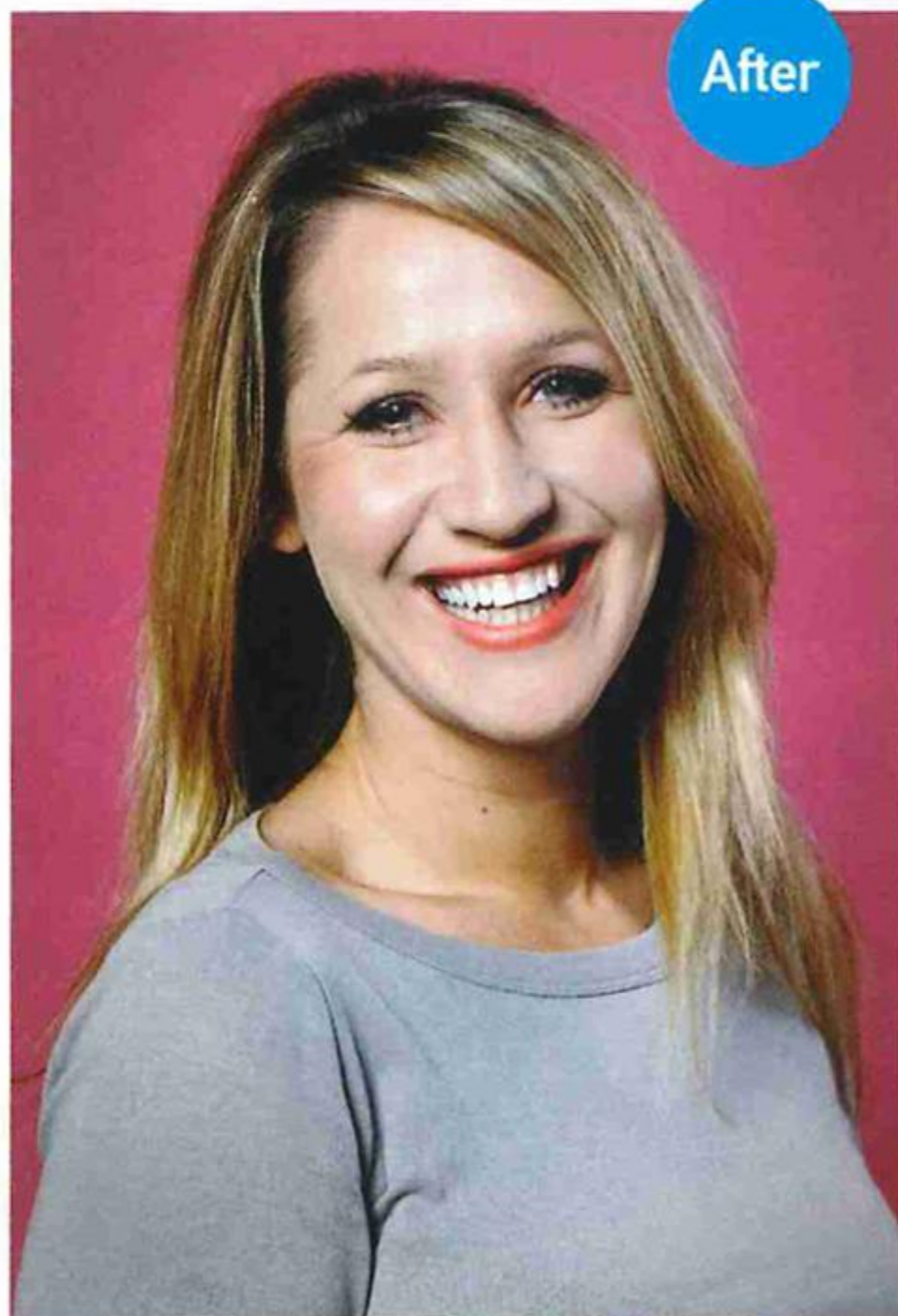
The program is built on the foundation of the facial fitting engine seen in other Reallusion products. And it's a smart approach; by easily defining where the facial features are with a set of guidelines, the program can quickly exercise powerful retouching features without further input. After the face is 'fitted', you don't need to mask out the eyes to change their colour – the software already knows where they are! Along with the guidance and convenience of the program comes the drawback of loss of complete control. Experienced Photoshop users may quickly get frustrated with the lack of familiar retouching tools like the Clone Stamp or Healing Brush. But ultimately, FaceFilter3 PRO gets you much closer to a finished project in a much shorter amount of time.

VERDICT: 7/10

FaceFilter3 PRO is an impressive piece of software for what it does, but this is fairly limited. The tools work best for full face portrait shots, and options for body or profile shots are very limited. The price tag may feel steep for a tool that can only be applied to a few of your photos.



Before



After

■ Portrait retouching is as much about knowing what to do as how to do it. FaceFilter3 PRO is like having a professional portrait retoucher looking over your shoulder

USING FACEFILTER3

A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO BEAUTY RETOUCHING



■ FACIAL FITTING

After loading an image, use the Fitting module to 'teach' the software where the facial features are. This is as easy as dragging outlines around them and positioning control points to match the contours. This helps automate much of the rest of the project.



■ DIGITAL MAKE-UP

An intuitive Beauty Center interface provides easy ways to approach major retouching tasks like skin smoothing, eye shadow, and lip colour. If the myriad of sliders is overwhelming, try using one of the basic templates at least for a starting point.



■ DIGITAL SURGERY

The Reshape tab lets you change facial structures like head shape, cheek bone height, and eye width. These tools provide convincing control over actual facial features, not just groups of pixels, and show how much research has gone into the software.