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Reversal development of Wephota FO5 lith film

Dilute a positive developer about as twice as usual. I dilute my developers ECO, SE2 Warm, SE1 Sepia and SE6 Blue 1+20 for this purpose. All developers will turn reddish, this is no sign of oxidation but just the dye of the film.

Step 1 Test of exposure

Expose your film (on a black carton to prevent irradiation effects) as long until you have deep black and clear transparency, when you develop for 6-7 minutes. Just for a test stop and fix as usual. Now your film looks too contrasty, because this lith film has a maximum density between 4.0 and 5.0 logD

Step 2 Flashing to control density

Expose with the determined time, take off your negative, expose with the smallest aperture quite short and/or with a longer distance if you have two enlargers. e.g. f16 distance 50-60cm 3-5 seconds Develop as above. If your negative is even to contrasty, increase the "flash"-time. If the density not enough because flashing time is long, increase the main exposure. If your negative is too soft, decrease the flashing time.

Now you have a contacted or enlarged diapositive.

Step 3 Exposure of the remaining silver salt

Stop with acid as usual and turn the light on. Every kind of light will do!

Step 4 Bleaching of the positive silver picture

Bleach 1+9 - with fresh solution it will take 30-60 seconds

Step 5 Wash

Wash with running water - 3-5 minutes - better/quicker warm water clear with sodium sulfite (5% sol.) 2-4 minutes with agitation (!)

Step 6 Reversal development

Develop in the same developer (or in a second developer with normal dilution) until no undeveloped silver salt is remaining (3-5 minutes) You cannot overdevelop, but you could develop too short if you are not patient. Wash 3-5 minutes – fixing is not necessary.

After drying density will slightly increase. This film has no visible base density (when correctly exposed) - so the deepest shadows should be clear (0 - 0,05 logD). Maximum density is depending on exposure (especially the 2nd one).