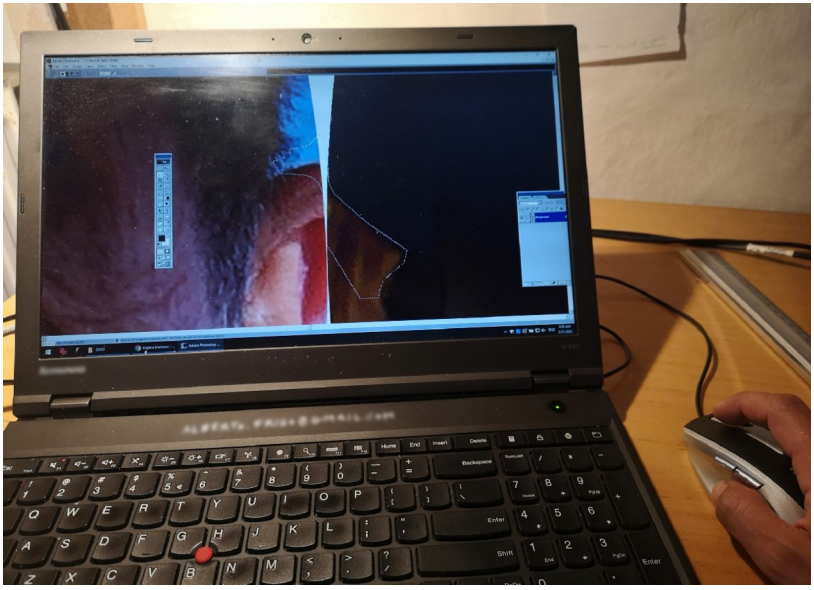


Fig.110 Picture I took early in the morning while removing the background of the faces of people I have photographed. With more recent image editors this process can be easily automated but I do not want to invest in heavy and expensive software. I enjoy my digital craft and see myself like a hairdresser cutting out the background especially around the hair.

PEOPLE 02

I started capturing head-shots with a heavy digital reflex camera. I used an optic particularly suitable for portrait pictures but also less invasive then normal telescopic optics. Over time however I began looking for less obtrusive options that I could carry around. Prior to a trip to India where I was invited for an exhibition, I finally switched to a pocket camera. As smartphones became more advanced I at last started to take portraits using all kinds of smartphones. Even though the overall resolution of the head-shots decreased, I soon realized that the quality lies in the very background extraction. This extraction I do on a daily basis. It has become a skill I have mastered over the years of constant training even though the image editor I use is from my student years in the 1990s. Left with a smartphone I hypothetically could take a lot of photos of people I meet but all these people by now are also armed with a smartphone. Some are even curating their own profiles on digital platforms. Personal branding has become a priority to such an extent that these people seem to be locked in their own fortresses. Not only they want to curate themselves how they look but also they want to curate what they say and in this respect it is hard to know them.