The Plugin Newsletter - October/November 2010

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NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

Dear Reader,

Please excuse an error in the last newsletter issue. The link for the CollageIt software was wrong. The correct one is www.collageitfree.com. Additionally the CollageIt link led to the Pola software and the Pola link to something else. The reason for the confusion were internet connection problems, so I was forced to send out the newsletter too quickly to avoid a delay.

I hope you enjoy the new issue of this - hopefully error free - newsletter!

Kind Regards
Harald Heim

The Plugin Site

PHOTOWIZ STANDALONE/LIGHTROOM UPDATE

Support for color management

The Windows Standalone/Lightroom versions of our PhotoWiz products that were released in September still needed some fine-tuning and still missed an important feature. So we released updates for all Standalone/Lightroom versions.

All PhotoWiz Standalone/Lightroom versions now offer support for color management. As a result you do not need to convert your photos to sRGB anymore in order to get a correct image preview in the PhotoWiz tools. Embedded profiles are automatically used for displaying the image and you can choose a profile for opening/saving RAW files. Additionally they preserve metadata when saving the images in the same file format, which e.g. makes sure that Lightroom displays metadata for the processed images.

A new "Use Source Folder(s)" check box allows saving images in the original folders, which makes batch processing to multiple folders possible. Other improvements consist of a new Minimize button in the title bar and an improved Lightroom Installer.

For more details visit

The PhotoWiz page

PHOTOWIZ BUNDLE OFFERS

30% discount

It was time to finally offer our five PhotoWiz products as a bundle for a discounted price. The Windows Plugin, Windows Standalone and Mac Plugin bundles cost $199.95 each. There is also a Window bundle containing both the plugin and standalones for $249.95. The discount is approx. 30% for each bundle.

For more information about the PhotoWiz products see
The PhotoWiz page

For ordering visit

[The Order page](#)

THE PLUGIN SITE UPDATE

New pages about free and commercial Lightroom plugins

Two new Lightroom pages were added to The Plugin Site featuring free and commercial plugins for Adobe Lightroom. The pages have the following sub-categories: External Editors, Metadata Plugins, Web Engine Plugins, Export Plugins and Other Plugins/Tools. The free plugins page offers 48 items and the commercial page contains 105 items.

Presets, templates and similar data items were not included. Only items that consist of scripts and program code. 2/3 of the free Lightroom plugins consist of export plugins, which are only useful for a limited number of people. Luckily the situation is better for commercial plugins. Still, most Lightroom plugins are rather boring and less useful compared to Photoshop plugins due to the limited SDK support.

According to our research these two new pages offer the most complete overview of Lightroom plugins.

[Free Lightroom Plugins](#)

[Commercial Lightroom Plugins](#)

POLL RESULTS

Do you use Lightroom as well as Photoshop for processing your photos?

More than 360 people participated in this poll. Here are the results:

I only use Photoshop. 51%
I mainly use Photoshop and occasionally Lightroom. 12%
I use Photoshop and Lightroom evenly. 20%
I mainly use Lightroom and occasionally Photoshop. 15%
I only use Lightroom. 3%

Here is the old 2008 poll:

I only use Photoshop. 51%
I mainly use Photoshop and occasionally Lightroom. 12%
I use Photoshop and Lightroom evenly. 18%
I mainly use Lightroom and occasionally Photoshop. 17%
I only use Lightroom. 2%

Actually the results of both polls are very similar. Photoshop is exclusively used by half of all users and only 3% use Lightroom exclusively.

When having a look at the results two days after the newsletter was sent out, there were 14% fewer Photoshop-only users than now. This means that the readers of this newsletter tend more towards Lightroom than all of the visitors of The Plugin Site.

For more poll results please visit the
[Resources section](#)

NEW POLL

Which is your favorite RAW Converter?

This time you can vote for your favorite RAW Converter software. There are 19 choices and one "Other" item. Such a poll was already done three years ago, so different results are expectable.

Please vote here...

THE DISCUSSION FORUMS

With Windows 7 to Oblivion, Redfield Fractalius, Plugin Lockup Solution

Here are the latest interesting posts on the forum:

With Windows 7 to Oblivion
Don wrote: "I recently purchased (months ago) an computer ... They then charged me money to come to my home to repair it. ... The result was the computer was then no longer able to do any thing...."
Read More...

Redfield Fractalius
jimplogger wrote: "Just wanted to comment on the Redfield Fractalius plug-in. ... Seems that this filter, which has some most
interesting effects, works well only with small files (500KB or less)..."
Read More...

Plugin Lockup Solution
gatormn wrote: "I have the problem of Alien Skin Software locking up my Photoshop CS5. I found out something if others are having same problem. What I did was rename my photoshop plugin folder and made a new one with no plugins in it for photoshop to look in. Then I will put in my plug ins one by one until I find out what ones do not work with Windows7. ..."
Read More...

For discussions and asking questions please visit
The Plugin Site Forum

FREE PLUGINS AND TOOLS

AQuaDenoise/vsrcmdSDK, PhotoME, Easy Thumbnails, Seashore, Splashup

Digital Multimedia Design (DMMD) offers the **AQuaDenoise** filter plugin (for Windows). It offers noise reduction options, which are meant for medical and forensic imaging. That is why it only works with grayscale images. So to use it, you either need to convert your image to grayscale or only select one image channel before applying it. Additionally the company also offers a free **ViserePlugInSDK** (VPISDK), which can be used by developers to support Photoshop plugins with their application. Other information on the ViserePlugInSDK is available here.
Visit website...

PhotoME (for Windows) is a freeware tool for viewing and editing the metadata of image files. It also displays information about embedded profiles.
Visit website...

Easy Thumbnails (for Windows) offers various options for producing thumbnails of image files. You can scale images up or down in batches, choose from eleven resampling filters and adjust the brightness, contrast and sharpness at the same time.
Visit website...

Seashore is an open source image editor (for Mac OS X). It features gradients, textures and anti-aliasing for both text and brush strokes. It supports multiple layers and alpha channel editing. It is based around the GIMP technology and uses the same native file format. Unlike GIMP it is meant to only serve basic image editing needs.
Visit website...

Splashup and **Splashup Light** are two Flash-based image editing applications. Splashup needs to be run with the Adobe Flash Player, e.g. in Internet Explorer, and looks like a mini-Photoshop. Splashup Light is an AIR application, which can be run directly from the desktop, and features a more simple UI.
Visit website...
Visit website...

For more free plugins and tool, please visit the
Resources section

GRAPHICS NEWS

Photoshop Elements 9, Elements+, nik HDR Efex Pro, DxO Optics Pro 6.5, CorelDRAW Premium Suite X5

Version 9 of Adobe Photoshop Elements became available. It offers an enhanced spot-healing brush, expanded panoramas and content-aware fill technology. Layer masks have also made it on the feature list. The new Photomerge Style Match lets you transfer image qualities like contrast or color tone from one photo to another. Several new Guided Edit options walk users step-by-step through the process of achieving certain effects. The Elements Organizer now also became available for the Mac.
Visit website...

Elements+ 3 was released. Elements+ taps the hidden abilities of Photoshop Elements, such as paths and color channels. Whereas previous versions of Elements+ consisted mostly of Photoshop Action, Version 3 uses Javascript and offers eight dedicated dialog boxes: Color and Tone, Selections, Layers, Masks, Smart Filters, Paths, Text and Scripts. Scripts includes more than 100 additional functions for performing a wide range of tasks, many of which replicate the capabilities of Photoshop's Actions.
Visit website...

Nik Software now ships **HDR Efex Pro**, which claims to achieve a full spectrum of HDR enhancements and offer all-in-one approach and multiple tone mapping algorithms. It also features the ability to create a HDR look from a single exposure. HDR Efex Pro can be used in Photoshop, Lightroom and Aperture.
Visit website...

DxO Optics Pro 6.5 will be released in early November. It is a photo processing software that tries to correct images according to the hardware that was used to capture it. It includes improved shadow noise reduction, integration into Lightroom 3, OpenCL support and additional camera support. Version 6.5 also wants to bring the power of HDR rendering to photographers working with single RAW images.
Visit website...

Corel announced the CorelDRAW Premium Suite X5, a new and more complete suite of applications based on the CorelDRAW Graphics Suite. Apart from the CorelDraw and Photo-Paint applications, the suite consists of the following applications: Website Creator, VideoStudio, SWiSH Max3, PowerTrace, Capture, PhotoZoom Pro and Winzip.
Visit website...

PRODUCTS OF THE PLUGIN SITE

ColorWasher - Corrects the colors, contrast and exposure of your photos

FocalBlade - Perfectly sharpens your photos for screen display and print

LightMachine - Shadow/highlight, virtual lighting and color-based correction tools

B/W Styler - Do B&W conversions, create traditional B&W effects and style B&W photos

ContrastMaster - Produce contrast enhancements, dramatic contrast looks and HDR-like effects

Plugin Galaxy - 21 filter plugins with 159 amazing effects

For more products and details, please visit the
Products Page

ABOUT THE PLUGIN SITE

The Plugin Site does not only develop free and commercial plugins, applications and royalty-free image collections, it also offers information about Photoshop-compatible plugins and other related topics. Our web site features the most complete directory of Photoshop plugins, offers software reviews and tutorials, operates a large discussion board and conducts popular contests from time to time. We also publish The Plugin Newsletter, which is read by ten thousands of people worldwide. Our website is one of the most popular websites (some times even the most popular one) about Photoshop plugins according to Alexa.com.

Please visit us at www.ThePluginSite.com

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