LIGHTROOM 4 BOOK MODULE PRESENTATION

Presented by Fritz Schafer – 3/12/13 WCC Digitizer meeting

References for Study:

- Blogs.adobe.com/jkost/lightroom-training-videos Contains 3 videos on the Lightroom Book Module. (Scroll down the page to find them.)
- www.blurb.com/adobe/lightroom (covers Pricing/Shipping/Swatches of paper/FAQ/Customer support /their software called Blurb BookSmart and many other topics.
- http://tinyurl.com/awwcsur This is a mini-book by Adobe Press.

This presentation is a starting point. I hope to give you enough information to peak your interest in the Book Module and to try it.

I have made notes for you (and for me) that are on the Digitizers web site so you can refer to them after this presentation. I have also listed 3 Lightroom 4 tutorials on the Book Module by Julieanne Kost (above). These videos are where I started. They are very helpful in that you can view them several times and start and stop them and try stuff out. Scott Kelby’s book, listed above, is somewhat helpful but not as extensive as the video. It only dedicates one chapter to the book module. The Blurb web site is also helpful but mainly covers their own software. The book (article) by Adobe Press is very detailed and very helpful. But start with the videos.

How many of you have some version of Lightroom? How many have Lightroom 4? How many have tried/used the book module? How many have used other book making software?

REASONS FOR MAKING BOOKS.

There are a number of reasons for making books. Some of my books are composed of what I call “exhibit worthy” prints. An exhibit worthy print is one that I believe is good enough to enter into exhibits. Other books are composed of mostly “memory” prints. These don’t quite rise to the level of artistic quality I expect for exhibit worthy prints but are important to me because they bring back memories. One of the books that I will be passing around tonight is composed of
exhibit worthy prints. It is the one on Turkey. The book on Kenya has memory photos. I usually reserve a book like this for family and close friends but I’m going to show it to you tonight as it is the latest book I’ve prepared with Blurb using Lightroom 4. Please remember the distinction when you look at the photos. Other reasons for producing books are for friendship, family or commemorating an event. My fotobuddies and I made a book in the spirit of friendship, memories and exhibit worthy photos.

I am going to show you how to make a very basic book. I use a PC so I will refer to ALT (which is Option on the Mac) and Right Click (which is CMD-click on Mac).

I am NOT an expert in bookmaking. If you don’t know or can’t remember how to do something in the module just keep trying different things, especially when it comes to text, or refer to the reference materials I suggested earlier.

WORKFLOW

First let’s cover the general workflow to give you an orientation. Start in the Library Module. Gather the photos (jpegs, 200 dpi minimum, 300 dpi max, sRGB ) you want to include in the book. I produced a 10x8 landscape orientation book. So I converted all my pics to jpegs 3000 pixels at the longest dimension (10 inches x 300 dpi). That way everything will fit. Also, if you want borders and/or drop shadows add them now in Photoshop.

Now, you can enter captions for each photo in the Metadata section of the right hand panel. I prefer to add captions in the book module. It is just plain easier and you may want to make changes as you go along in which case it is a lot easier.

OK. Make a collection from these photos. (Not a smart collection as you cannot rearrange photos in a smart collection.) Go to the collection and arrange them as you want them to appear in the book. Arranging them is not essential but helpful. OK, lets jump to the book module.

BOOK MODULE
Note: In the Book Module F5 hides and unhides the top panel (these are the Lightroom Modules), F6 – film strip, F7 -the left panel, F8 - right panel. TAB hides and unhides both side panels. Shift-tab hides and unhides all 4 panels. T shows and hides the tool bar. This is very handy to know but it will drive you crazy if you accidently hide these panels and then try to get back to them without knowing the “secret code”. Also, toggle the F key to cycle through full screen modes. CTL-ALT-F gets you back to the normal screen mode. CTL-/= means show shortcuts. Esc means hides shortcuts. Another one that I just found ran across. \ means show header bar (“clear book” “create saved book”). You can also view the header by clicking on View, Show Header Bar.

TEMPLATES

A template holds cells for photos and for text. I will show examples of this first because you need to understand this before we talk about preferences. Zoom to fit.

BOOK PREFERENCES (Tool Bar, upper left of screen, Book>Preferences)

In the upper left hand side of the screen you will see a tool bar. Click on Book then click on Preferences. Fill in your preferences. I chose Zoom to Fit, Do not check “Start new books by autofilling”, choose Fill Text Boxes with Filler Text and check Constrain Captions to Text Safe Area.

BOOK SETTINGS (Top of Right Hand Panel)

On the right panel, choose Book Settings. Here you can choose the Book Size, Cover, Paper Type, Logo (choose for sure, saves you money). Estimated price is displayed.

The last choice under Book Settings is “Learn More”. This takes you to the Blurb work site and answers FAQ’s and so on. Please note some of the info there is for their Blurb Smart software only, not for the Lightroom software. You can also order paper swatches from this web site.

AUTO-LAYOUT The next choice is Auto Layout. I ignore it as it isn’t very flexible.
PAGE - Page>Twirler, sometimes called the disclosure triangle, to pick page layout>Add Page

You can choose Page to add a page. After you chose Page, click on the “twirler” which is a triangle to see the display for the page templates. At the top of the display, pick “1 photo” or “2 photos” etc. Then scroll and click on the exact page template you want. Note that templates are NOT modifiable.

So let’s add a photo. Add a photo by dragging it from the film strip. To delete a page or a photo click on it then right click to see options. Select “remove page or photo” to remove it. But leave the page there for now.


The keyboard shortcuts for viewing are given above. Also, you can just click on the small icons on the tool bar on the lower left.

Use arrow keys to page left and right. You must not be in a cell to do this.

COMPLETING WORKFLOW

We are going to cover some more details of manipulation later. Right now let’s jump ahead to completing the workflow so you have an idea of the complete workflow. Let’s say all the photos have been added and the book is finished. We can save the book (if we haven’t already done so) by going to the upper right hand corner and clicking on “Create Saved Book” or by going to the Collection Panel on the left and clicking on the + and naming the book. The book is now saved and any additions you make are automatically saved.

We can now export the book as a pdf by clicking on “Export Book to PDF” in lower right or by clicking on “Send Book to Blurb” on the lower right. It is a good idea to export the book first and take a day or two to review it for spelling errors and layout. Then, come back and export it to Blurb.

DETAILS FOR MANIPULATION
REORDERING PAGES

• Click and drag on page # to a new location.
• Click and Shift Click on 2 or more page numbers and drag pages to a new location.

FRONT COVER

• Select Book Settings > Cover > disclosure triangle > Hardcover Image Wrap or other selection.
• Click on front cover and disclosure triangle to see various templates. Select one.
• Drag a photo on to cover. To fill entire page right click and select “zoom photo to fill cell”.
• Click and drag photo to reposition.
• Text explanation comes later.

PHOTOS AND TEMPLATES

• The number of times a photo appears in the book appears over the photo in the film strip.
• Before dragging a photo to a page click on the disclosure triangle and select a template. Note the groupings for 1 photo, 2 photos etc. Some of the photos have funky borders. None have “straight” borders. Text cells are also shown on the templates.

CHANGING TYPE

• Pick a template for a single photo with text.
• Drag photo to that page and size as necessary.
• Click on the text cell.
• Click on Type.
• Chose font and type style or use the default
• Type 4 or 5 sentences.
• Select all the sentences and one by one change the size, tracking, opacity and leading sliders just to see what your capabilities are. Note at the very
bottom you can also left justify etc. However, here are some written definitions if you prefer: *(Don’t get hung up on this. Just try it if you need to adjust something.)*

- **Tracking.** Adjusts the letter spacing over the entire text selection.
- **Baseline.** This adjusts the vertical position of the selected text relative to the baseline – the imaginary line on which the text sits.
- **Leading.** Adjusts the space between selected text and the line above it. Be sure to turn Auto Leading off.
- **Kerning.** Adjusts the space between specific pairs of letters.

**ADDING TEXT**

- Text cells are imbedded on the templates. Changing cell padding can be used to reposition text.
- Photo captions are associated with a single photo on a page. It can be placed above, below or on top of the photo. It is limited by the size of the photo and the size of the “safe text” area of the page. Cell padding can be used to reposition text.
- Page captions cover the entire page. Cell padding can be used to reposition the text. This is the most flexible of the options.

**PRACTICE -**

- Book Module. DEMO. An example of just starting the Book Module.
- Book Module>SAVED DEMO

**ADDING A TEXT ONLY PAGE**

- Page > Add Page (Don’t use twirler here).
- Select page you just added. Click on twirler. Chose “Text Pages”. The horizontal lines represent text. Click on the template with all the lines. This will add a text only template. Click on the template with all the lines. This will add a text only template. Move the cursor over the page to see the outline of the text cell.
- Click inside the text cell. On the right hand panel click on the Type twirler. Choose the font, type style, size, justification etc. *(Good luck with knowing
which font to choose.) Best way here is to try this and try that. Type away. This is useful for an Introduction page.

ADDING A PHOTO

• Drag flower photo to page. Click inside page. Click on Cell on right hand panel. Click on Link All to Unlink sides. Drag the Bottom slider up to resize the photo at the top of the page. Remember Photos go into Cells.
• Now let’s add a photo caption. Click on the page. Click on Caption. Click on Photo Caption. Click on Below to move the caption below the photo. Move the offset slider to reposition the photo caption if desired. Can also click on cell and adjust the padding. You probably will not use this very often.
• Click on Type and enter desired caption.

ADDING TWO OR MORE PHOTOS.

• Click on twirler on new page. (Add a new page first, if necessary.)
• Click on a 2 photo template.
• Add whatever text you want in to the text cell.
• Adjust size of photos to suit your preferences by clicking on page then on cell. Adjust padding as necessary. You may have to link or unlink. This will take some playing around.

ADDING A PAGE CAPTION

• Stay on the same page as above. Click on Page Caption. The Page Caption box will appear at the bottom of the page. The page caption can be set at the top or bottom of the page by clicking on “Top” or “Bottom”. It can also be moved by adjusting the Offset slider. Page numbers can be added here. This is sometimes tricky depending on the template. Automatic pagination needs to be added in the next release of Lightroom!

SAVING/CLEARING

• Make sure you can see the header bar. Press \ if you cannot. Click on “Clear book” or “Create saved book”.

SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR NEXT VERSION OF LIGHTROOM

• Add automatic page numbering.
• Provide more templates and/or adjustable templates.
• Allow adding borders to templates.
• Add an optional grid to pages for lining up photos and text.