

Photoshop Book Recommendations for Photographers

(Kevin Connery 1/2006)

Adobe Photoshop CS2 for Photographers

A Professional Image Editor's Guide to the Creative Use of Photoshop

Martin Evening

Focal Press

ISBN: 0240519841

Written by a full-time UK-based commercial and fashion photographer and CS2 alpha tester, this book covers issues most digital photographers face, from workflow issues, color management, color correction, and retouching. Additional issues for those going to press or offset printing, as well as infrared, cross-processing, and the like round out this guide.

Highly recommended.

Photoshop Restoration and Retouching

Katrin Eismann

New Riders Publishing, 11/2005 3rd edition)

ISBN: 0-3213-1627-4

Katrin is one of the leading Photoshop writer/experts today, and her books are all highly approachable. This one is an excellent guide to basic color correction, retouching, photo repair/restoration, and more.

Professional Photoshop: The Classic Guide to Color Correction

Dan Margulis

Wiley, 6/2002 (4th edition)

ISBN: 0-7645-3695-8

In my own opinion, *the* single best book on color correction and sharpening on the market today. It's not an easy read, but the techniques in this book should enable anyone to vastly improve the quality of their prints.

Photoshop Masking & Compositing

Katrin Eismann

New Riders Publishing, 10/2004

ISBN: 0-7357-1279-4

This is a comprehensive (500+) page book on the subject of masking and compositing. It clearly explains what you need to know about dealing with multiple images in a single, "final" image, in a very readable and approachable manner.

Photoshop Channel CHOPS

David Biedny, Bert Monroy, Nathan Moody

New Riders Publishing, 1/1998

ISBN: 1-56205-723-5

(Out of print: used copies sell for \$100-\$250+ now.)

This book deals with aspects of Photoshop not covered in any other book. It has been heralded as one of the most important volumes on Photoshop that must be included on a Photoshop professional's bookcase. Written for Photoshop v4, the changes since that time have been minimal, and this book is still considered the best guide to Photoshop Channels.

If you want to understand the fundamental underpinnings of Photoshop, or want to learn how to create highly accurate selections without having to draw them, this is the book.

Real World Camera Raw with Adobe Photoshop CS2

Bruce Fraser

Peachpit Press, 5/2005

ISBN: 0321334094

Whether you use Adobe's Camera Raw for your Raw conversion or not, this book covers how to get the most from Adobe's Bridge—CS2's file browser. It also deals with issues any photographer using RAW files should understand, from exposure, to camera calibration, workflow issues, metadata, and more.

Real World Color Management

Bruce Fraser, Fred Bunting, Chris Murphy

Peachpit Press, 8/2004 (2nd Edition)

ISBN: 0321267222

This is an in-depth coverage of Color Management. Unlike most of the other Real World series, it covers an esoteric topic, and for most photographers, this provides more information than is needed. It's also one of the few guides to the topic that's not filled with errors and/or overgeneralizations. It's tailored more for those who expect to have to work with multiple printers and/or want to fine-tune their own printers to produce the absolute best images possible.

This is the guide if you want to master Color Management. If you just want a photography-specific guide, Tim Grey's *Color Confidence* may be a better choice; it's somewhat more approachable, albeit with less detail. I can't recommend Michael Kieran's *Photoshop Color Correction*; it had too many errors.

Photoshop LAB Color: The Canyon Conundrum and Other Adventures in the Most Powerful Colorspace

Dan Margulis

Peachpit Press, 8/2005

ISBN: 0321356780

The LAB color model can be tricky to understand, but offers significant advantages over RGB or CMYK for many tasks. While this book is not primarily aimed for the novice, it provides many techniques to quickly and *easily* improve images in less time than in RGB or CMYK, as well as fix some problems that are impractical—if not impossible—to fix in RGB or CMYK.

Color, contrast, retouching, Shakespeare, selections, and a lot more are covered.

It may be too early to make this claim, but I believe this is as significant a book as Channel Chops was and is equally as likely to be overlooked among the thousands of Photoshop "recipe" books.

It's not an easy read, but it covers material not available anywhere else.

I do recommend reading Dan's *Professional Photoshop* before this one, however. That book goes into more depth on some of the methods he uses in this book, as well as solving many other color issues. This might be best considered as the "second half" of that guide.

Glitterguru on Photoshop: From Concept to Cool

Suzette Troche-Stapp

New Riders Publishing, 10/2004

ISBN: 073571133X

More on the business of high-end retouching, there's some excellent techniques discussed. She demonstrates a number of techniques that aren't widely discussed elsewhere.

Commercial Photoshop Retouching: In the Studio

Glenn Honiball

O'Reilly, 8/2005.

ISBN: 0-596-00849-X

Primarily for, as the title says, commercial retouching. Glenn uses different techniques than either Katrin Eismann or Suzette Troche-Stapp, and shows how to get excellent results in a variety of circumstances.