

# POINT & SHOOT PART II



In our last meeting we talked extensively about both the advantages and disadvantages of “Point & Shoot” digital cameras versus their more expensive and more powerful DSLR cousins.



# MANIPULATING THE IMAGE



Tonight we will deal with what can be done to improve those photos we took with our "Point & Shoot" that are less-than-perfect.



# FREE STUFF



**Picasa (by Google)**



**Pro Version (\$19.95)**

There are a number of free programs out there that will make minor changes to your photos (*like **Picasa** [ both Windows & Mac ], and Gimp [ a more complex & difficult-to-learn program ]*). Also there are some free programs like **Image Tricks** (*light version*) that will give you a flavor for various “filter” effects.

# Photo Editing Programs by Apple



**iPhoto (\$14.99)**



**Aperture (\$79.99)**

Two great programs that are available directly from Apple are **iPhoto** and **Aperture**. Both programs allow you to organize and share your photos as well as retouch and improve each one. **Aperture** is considerably more complete and allows the user to make sophisticated professional changes to his photos, but has a higher learning curve.



[All authors](#) » Derrick Story

## Derrick Story



Derrick Story is a professional photographer, writer, and teacher. He has poured his passion for photography into authoring several books, including *The Photoshop CS4 Companion for Photographers* and *The Digital Photography Companion* (both O'Reilly Media). He is also a senior contributor for Macworld magazine, where he writes a digital photography column. Derrick is a member of the conference faculty for Macworld, and he speaks regularly at technology events. He has formed a virtual camera club called The Digital Story ([www.thedigitalstory.com](http://www.thedigitalstory.com)) that's open to all photography enthusiasts and features a weekly podcast.

23 courses

sort by: **release date (newest first)** ▾

### Enhancing Product Photography with Aperture

Make your product shots look their best (and most accurate) with these image-enhancing techniques in Aperture.

1h 55m Intermediate Captions



### Portrait Retouching with Aperture

Learn how to retouch portraits and make your subjects look their best with Aperture.

1h 55m Intermediate Captions



### Flickr Essential Training

Explore the basics of Flickr, from posting, organizing, and editing photos to participating in the Flickr community.

3h 23m Appropriate for all Captions



### Using iPhoto and Aperture Together

Learn how to combine the simplicity of iPhoto with the power of Aperture and get the best of both worlds.

2h 37m Intermediate Captions



### Aperture 3 Essential Training (2012)

Covers the entire photographic workflow in Aperture, from import to enhancement to output, plus special 3.3 features like Retina display support and iPhoto integration.

8h 19m Beginner Captions

[site feedback](#)

A great way to learn how to use both of these programs (as well as more complex programs like the full version of Adobe Photoshop) is to use the on-line tutorials developed by Derrick Story. These courses are available at Derrick's web site **lynda.com**. You can browse the courses at no charge, but to get the full versions, you need to sign up for a reasonable monthly fee. The courses are extremely well-done and easy to understand and follow.





## iPhoto Getting Started

Get to know iPhoto and learn how to import and organize your photos, and create a photo slideshow and book.



## How to use iPhoto '11

Adapted from Apple Online Help



"The Missing Manual series is simply the most intelligent and usable series of guidebooks..."  
—KEVIN KELLY, CO-FOUNDER OF WIRED

# iPhoto '11

**the missing manual<sup>®</sup>**  
The book that should have been in the box<sup>™</sup>

Free Sampler

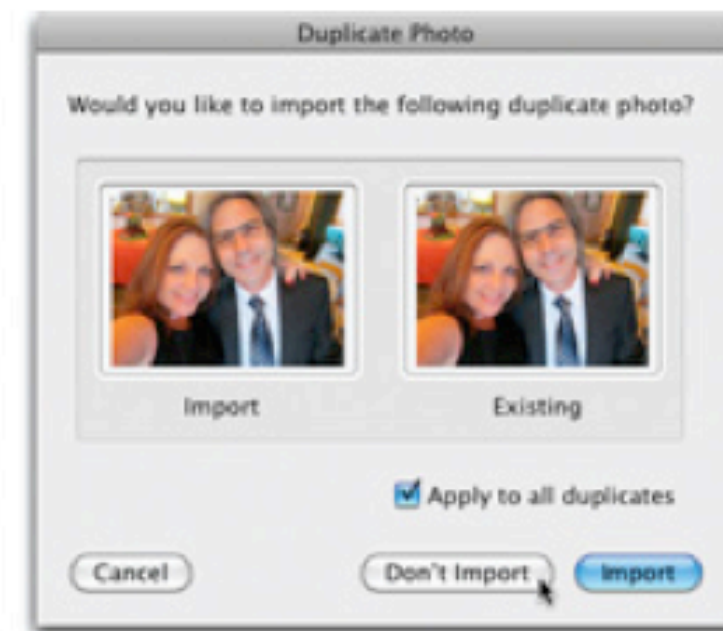


O'REILLY<sup>®</sup>

David Pogue & Lesa Snider

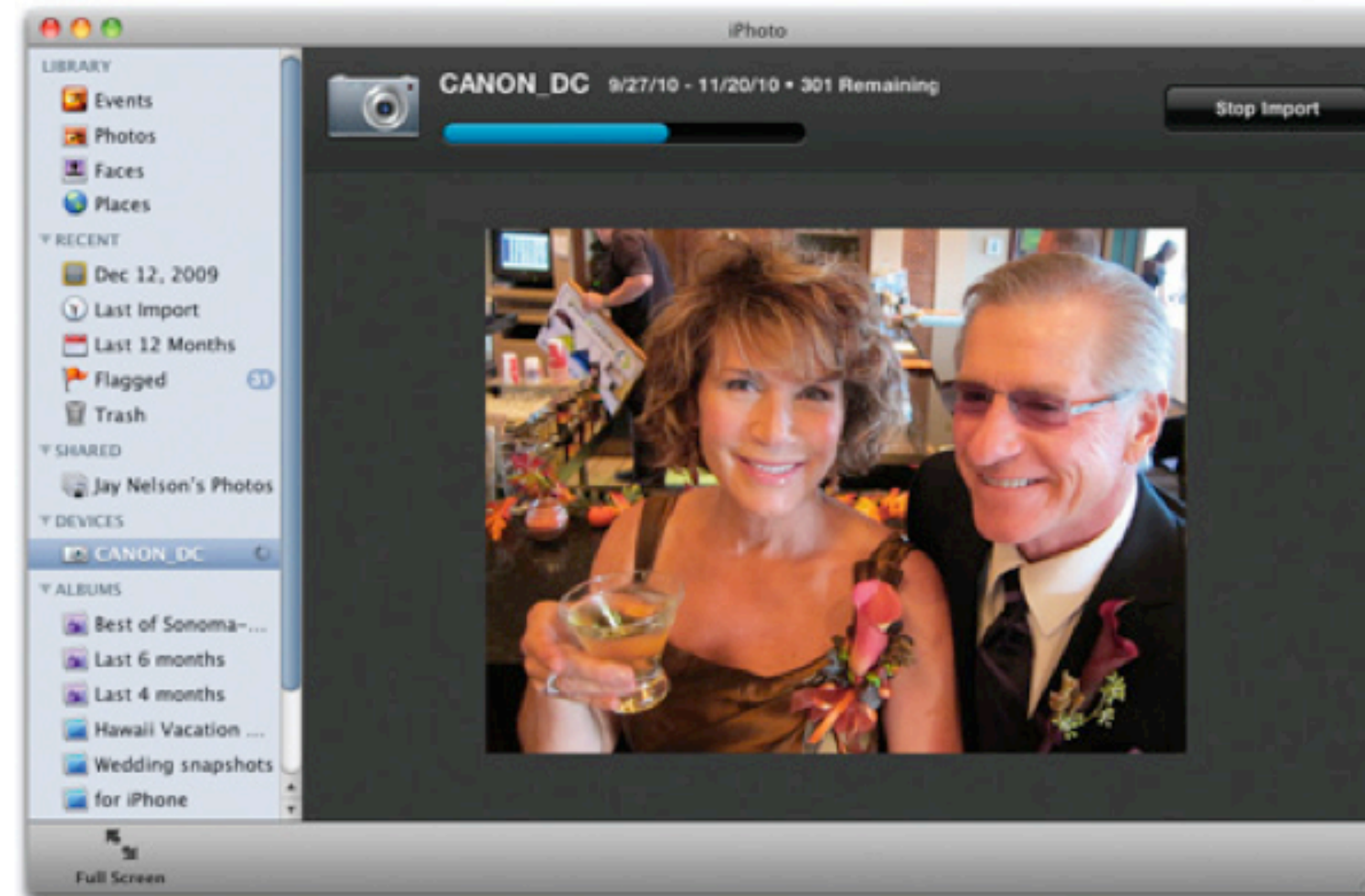
The manual shown here is one of the best for learning the features of **iPhoto**. You can download the Free Sampler and view the first 32 pages for free.





**Figure 1-4:**

*Top: You may sometimes see the “Duplicate Photo” message. iPhoto notices the arrival of duplicates (even if you’ve edited or rotated the first copy) and offers you the option of downloading them again, resulting in duplicates on your Mac, or ignoring them and importing only the new photos from your camera.*



*Bottom: As the pictures get slurped into your Mac, iPhoto shows them to you, nice and big, as a sort of slideshow. You can see right away which ones were your hits, which were your misses, and which you’ll want to delete the instant the importing process is complete.*

## USB Card Readers

A USB *memory card reader* offers another convenient way to transfer photos into iPhoto. Most of these card readers, which look like tiny disk drives, are under \$20, and some can read more than one kind of memory card.





# Aperture 3.5 User Guide

*(526 Pages!)*

There is even a full (free) manual on **Aperture** (526 pages of all aspects of the program).



# INEXPENSIVE STUFF



**Acorn** - *the image editor for humans*  
(\$49.99)

Earlier versions of **Acorn** were free, but did relatively little. The new \$50 version available through the Apple Store has received good reviews and is considered a user-friendly and reasonably powerful image editor.



# INEXPENSIVE STUFF



**Pixelmator**  
**(\$14.99 !)**

A great buy is **Pixelmator**. It's a powerful program with many interesting "filter" effects, and even allows the creation of layers (i.e. cutting out a subject & placing on a different background).





See all 8 customer images  
Share your own customer images

### iLife '09 [OLD VERSION]

by [Apple](#)  
Platform: Mac, PowerMac, Mac OS X

★★★★☆ (154 customer reviews) | 11 answered questions

List Price: ~~\$79.00~~  
Price: **\$39.95** & **FREE Shipping**. [Details](#)  
You Save: **\$39.05 (49%)**

**In Stock.**  
Sold by [TechWizz](#) and [Fulfilled by Amazon](#). Gift-wrap available.

**Want it Monday, Jan. 6?** Order within **23 hrs 25 mins** and choose **One-Day Shipping** at checkout. [Details](#)

[25 new](#) from ~~\$37.71~~   [11 open box](#) from ~~\$19.98~~   [1 collectible](#) from ~~\$59.99~~

**Up to 60% Off Select Tech Accessories**

Through January 12, 2014, save up to 60% on select tech accessories in Kindle, audio & video, computer instruments, cell phones, electronics on the go, and more. [Learn more](#)

New Year, New Tech Gear

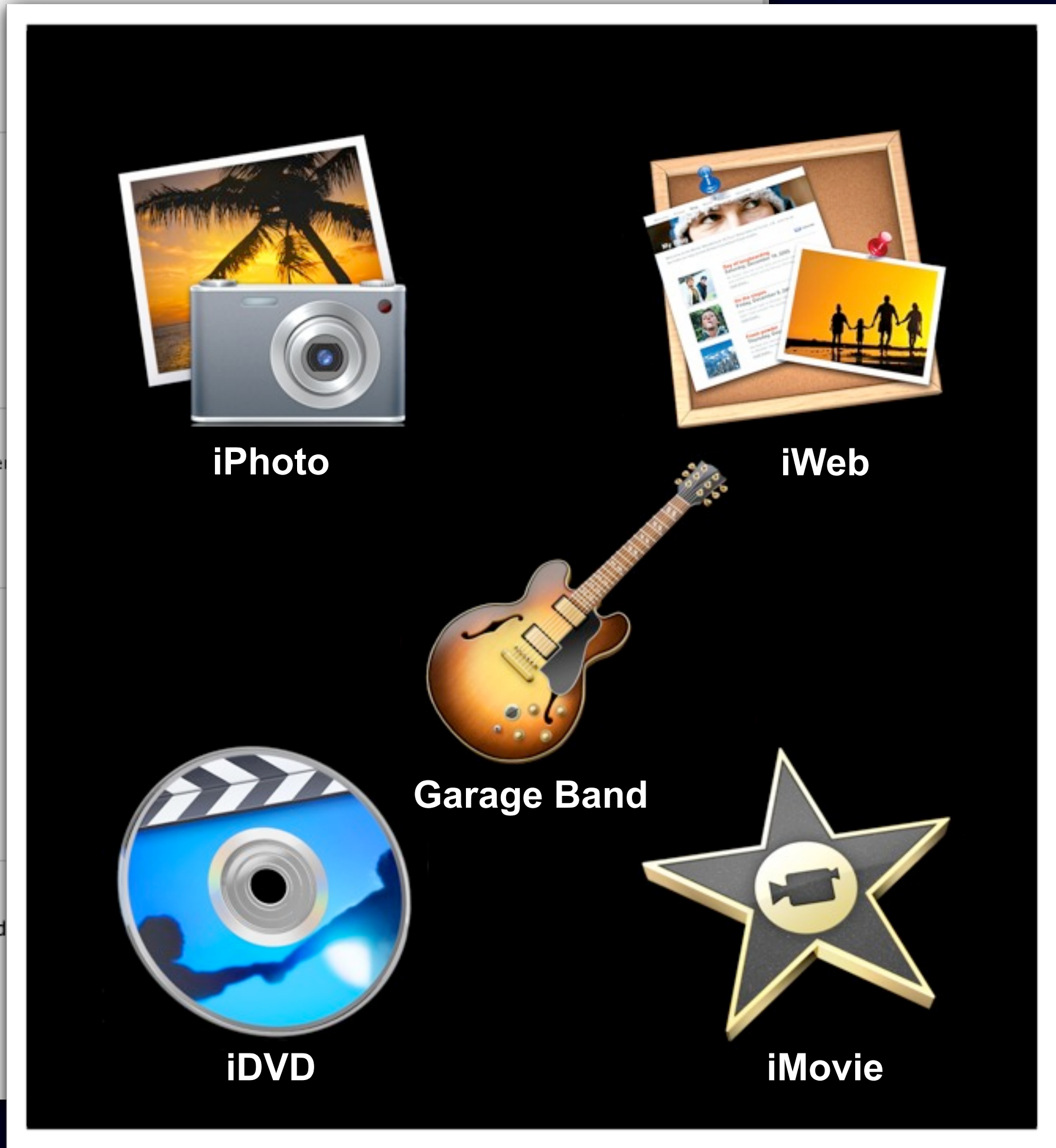
**There is a newer version of this item:**



[iLife '11 \[OLD VERSION\]](#) ★★★★★ (157)  
~~\$38.99~~  
**In Stock.**  
See a problem with this suggestion? [Let us know](#)

#### Product Features

- iLife '09 lets you get the most out of your photos, movies, and music on your Mac with new versions of iPhoto, iMovie, GarageBand, iWeb and iDVD
- Organize and search your photos by faces and places with iPhoto '09; Create a movie in minutes or edit your masterpiece with iMovie '09
- Learn to play, start a jam session, or record and mix your own song with GarageBand '09
- Design, publish, and update your own websites just the way you want them with iWeb '09
- Turn your home movies and photos into gorgeous Hollywood-style DVDs with iDVD



If you're in the mood for more than one program (at a super price), you can buy the '09' version of **iLife** that includes **iPhoto '09'** and four other great programs... all for less than \$40.





## PhotoStudio 6

A powerful, feature-rich but easy-to-use photo editing software

- Advanced photo editing tools, including Magic-Cut, De-Noise, Face Beautify and more
- Fully supports RAW photos, large image files and 48-bit images for importing and editing
- Over 50 special effects and filters like HDR, Toy Camera and Magic-Film
- Convenient photo management, image browser, and printing

### Platform

- ☐ Windows  
Save \$10 and Get [PhotoImpression 6.5 Gold](#) for Free
- ☒ Mac

MSRP: ~~\$79.99~~

Now: **\$67.99**

Buy Now

Free Trial

Version: 6.0.0.138

[What's new?](#)

### Features

### Tech Specs

### Tutorials

### Reviews

"ArcSoft PhotoStudio 6 for Mac provides powerful photo editing functions for all levels of users, fully supporting RAW formats, 48-bit imaging and large photos. It can automatically remove photo "noise", includes a variety of image manipulation tools, and has a convenient photo management browser."

"ArcSoft Photostudio 6 is a cost-effective program that offers a fairly good library of photo-editing and creative tools for hobbyist photographers."

"ArcSoft's world-renowned, affordable photo editing application PhotoStudio now includes more advanced features. ArcSoft PhotoStudio 6 is a powerful imaging editing application with new features to help you enhance, manage, print, and get creative with your digital photos."

I've used a 14-year-old version of ArcSoft PhotoStudio since it was introduced for the PC. Even the old program has many features not available on newer photo editing programs. But now, PhotoStudio 6 is available for the Mac. And you can likely purchase it from the vendor at half the retail price (less than \$40). It allows layers, supports all types of image files (including RAW), and even allows special effects like HDR (high dynamic range) merging.

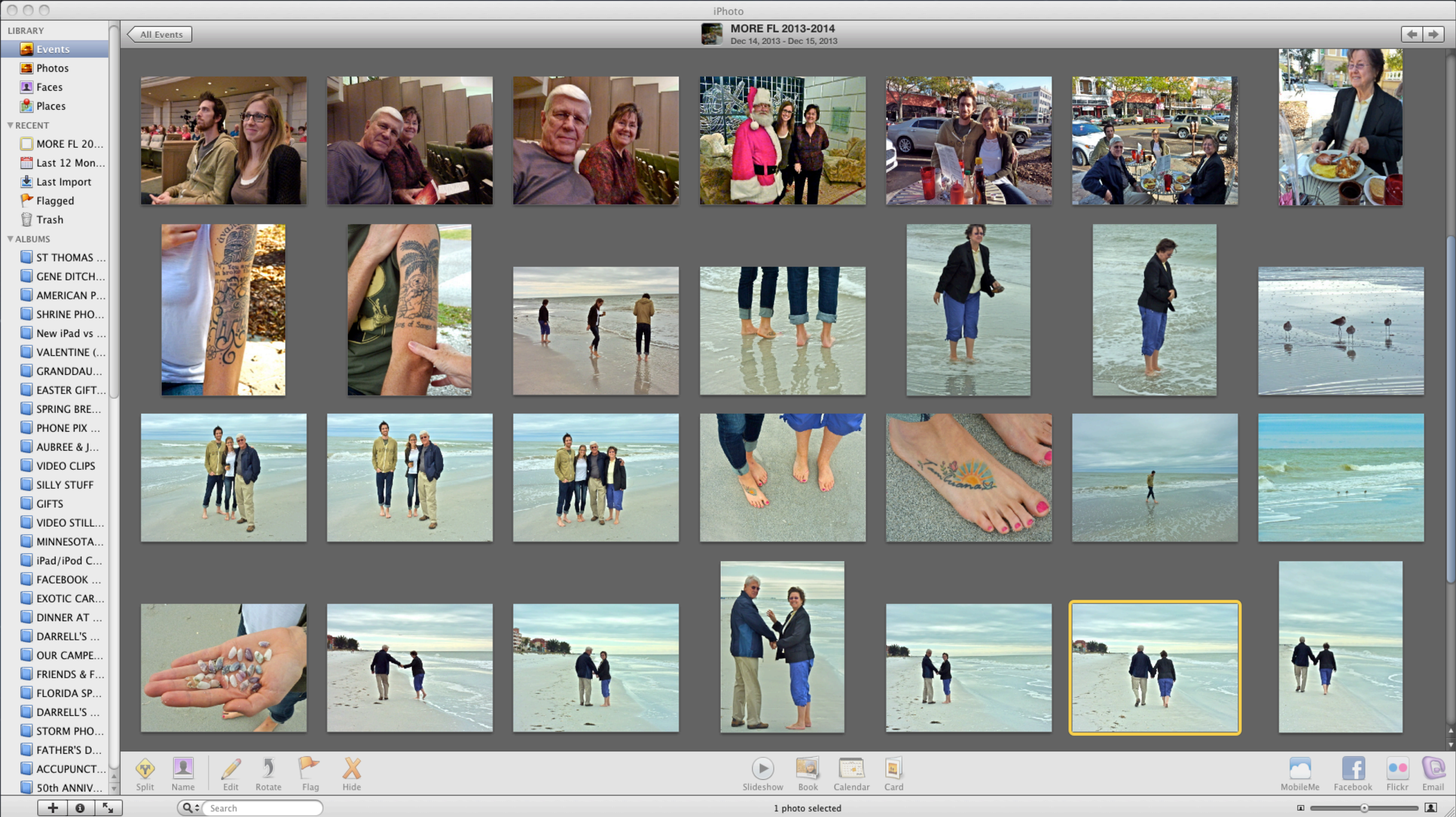


# iPhoto



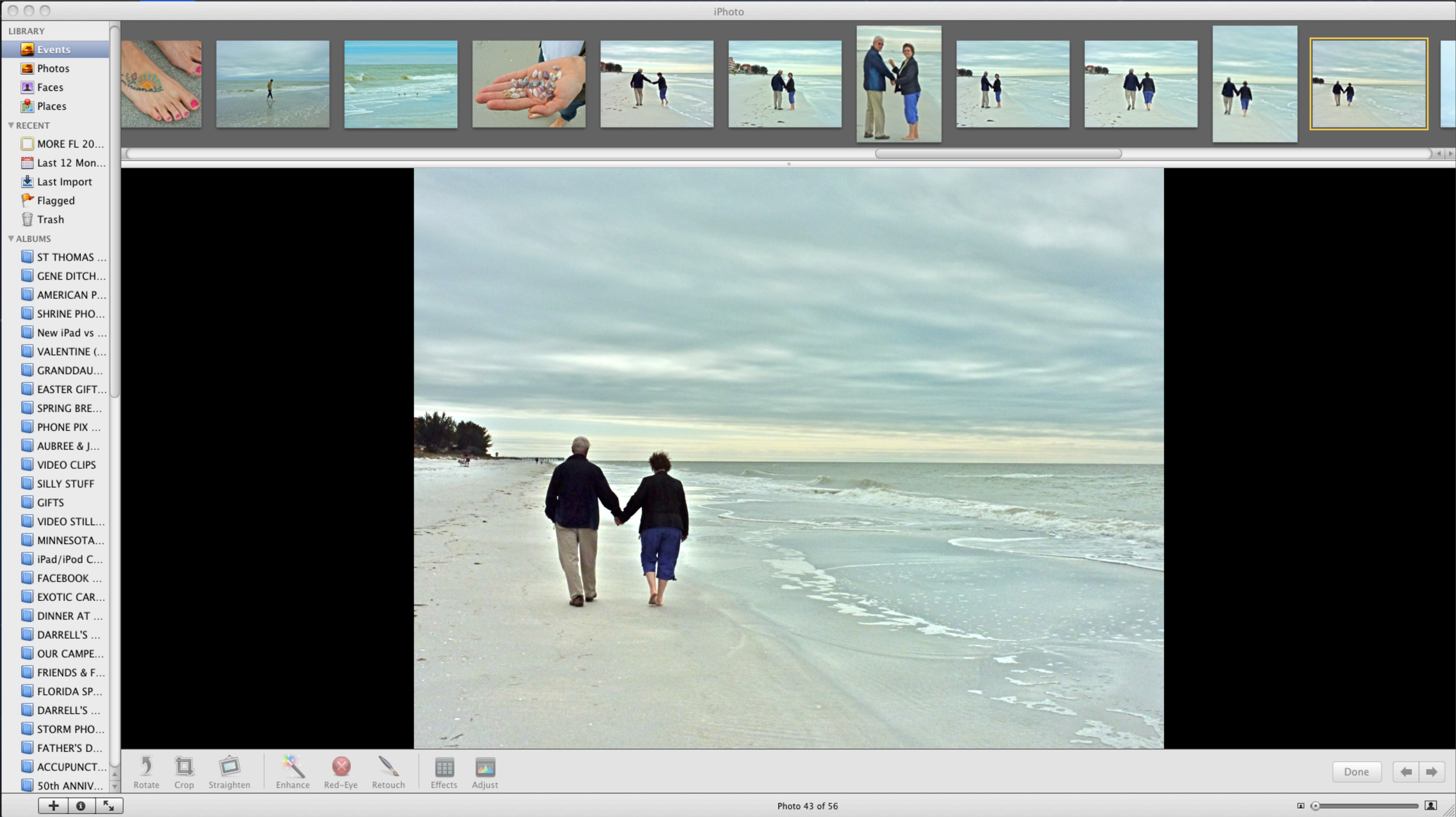
Tonight, however, we will focus first on some key features available in the very economical **iPhoto** program.





iPhoto provides a great way to sort and organize you photographs, as well as share them (as in Email, Facebook, Flickr, etc.)





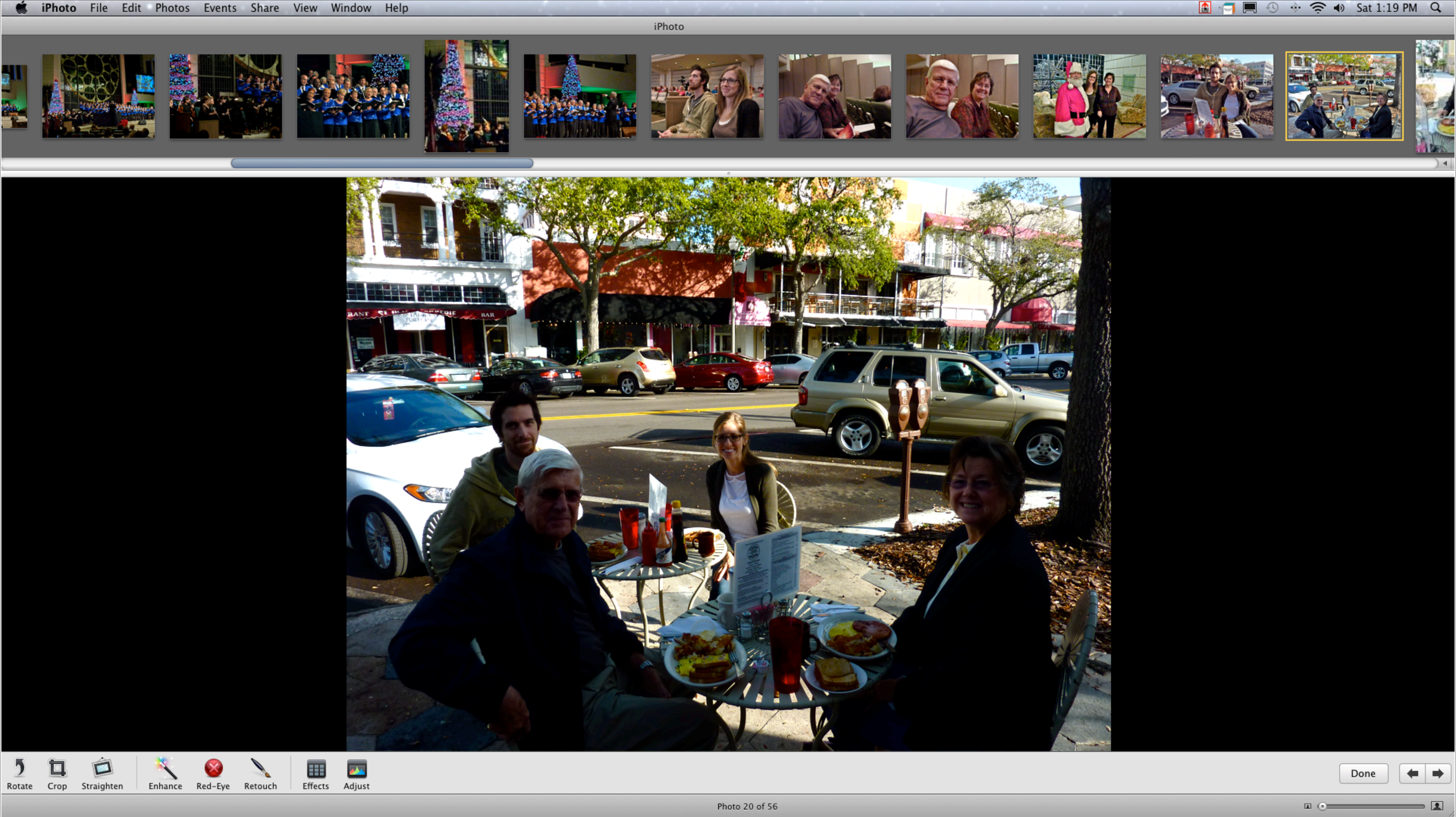
And you can quickly select and edit you pic's for the best possible composition and image quality.





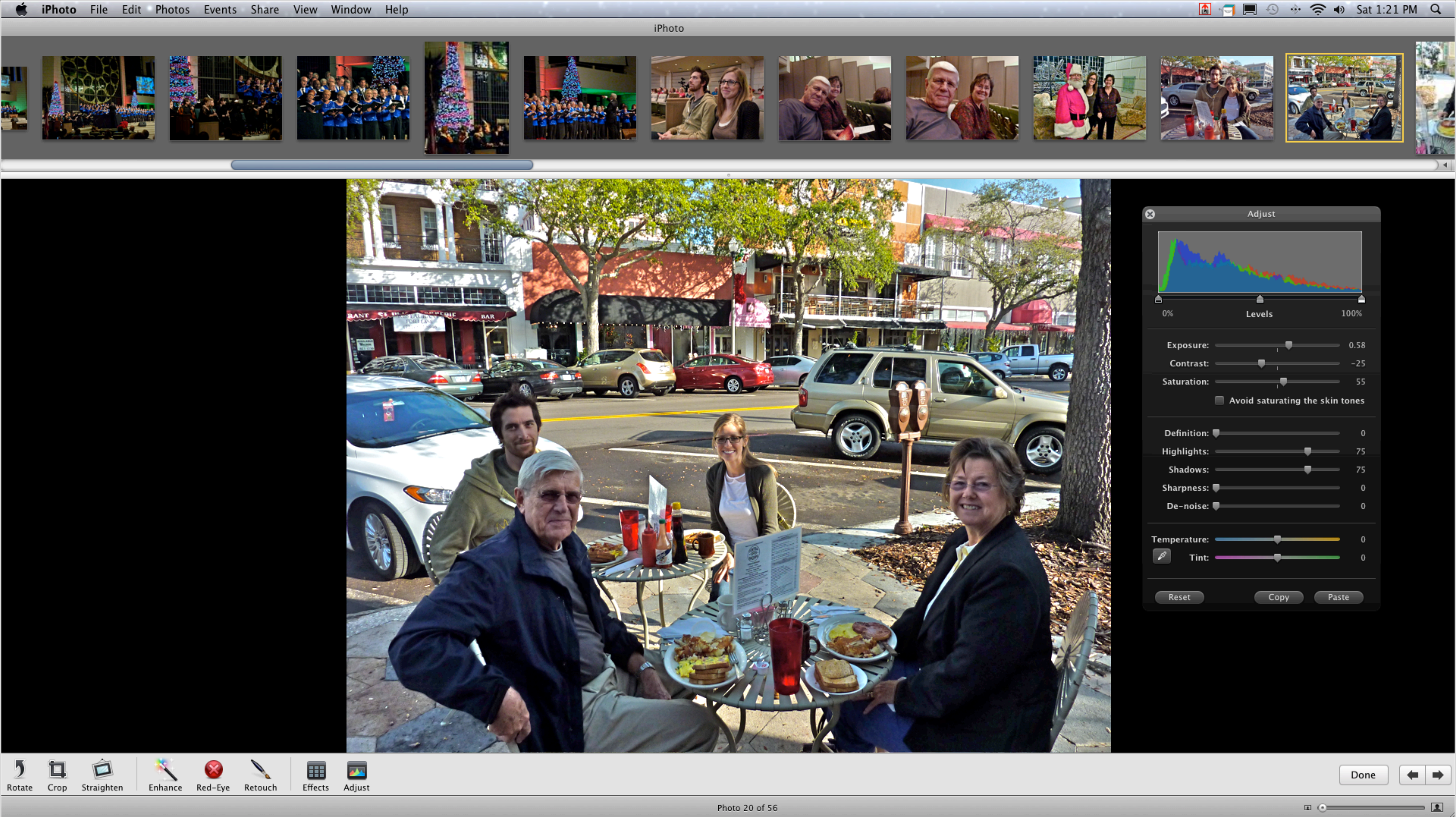
The improvement from this original was pronounced. The original photograph was nearly a silhouette. And most importantly all changes are non-destructive. The original is left unchanged, while the improved version is stored in a separate library available at a 'click' from the iPhoto Event library within the program.





Here is an example of how a photo might be improved. In this instance, our waiter took our photo, but as you can see, the original was dark in the foreground. A forced-flash fill would have improved the situation, but of course, it's too late now.





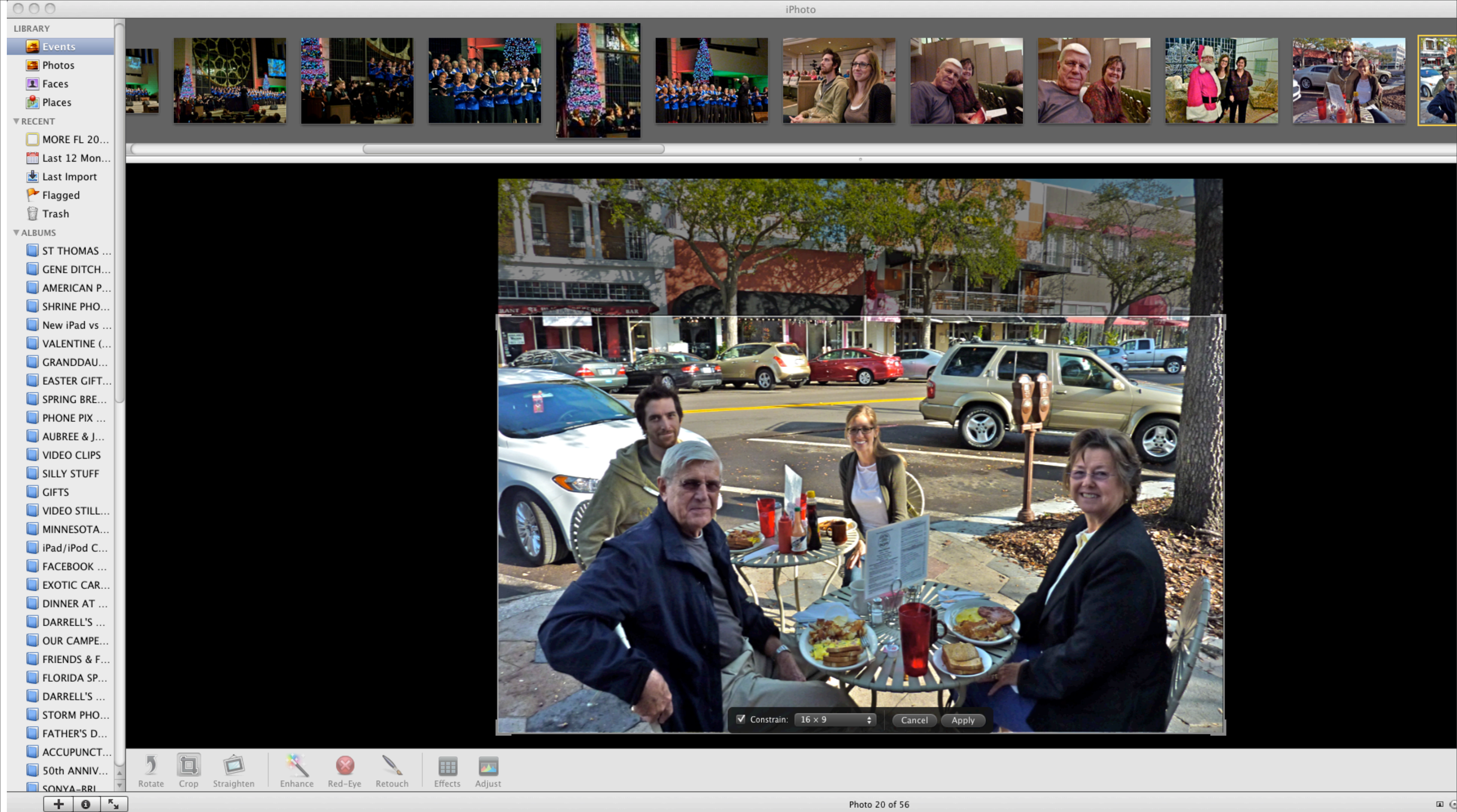
By simply using a combination of adjust tools (including the exposure, contrast, saturation, highlight and shadow sliders), we can dramatically improve the result.





And while in the program, you can simply use the 'SHIFT' key to toggle back and forth between your changed version and the original to allow you to see exactly what effect the changes have made.





Since the original included too much background, I re-cropped the image to a 16 x 9 aspect ratio...





...to ultimately give it an improved look.





This snapshot was sent to us and had a number of issues. (1) Highlights were too washed-out (2) Red-eye was objectionable (3) Image was too soft (unsharp) (4) Specks and lint from the printing and/or scanning were visible in the dark areas. All these problems were corrected effectively in minutes using **iPhoto**.



# POOR LIGHTING



## iPhoto Demo

A demo of the program shows how photos like the one shown at left can be improved.



LET'S DO  
SOME MAGIC!







Programs that allow you to “cut” and “layer” give you not only many fun possibilities, but can produce some stunning effects.





For years, we've attended the exotic car show in Celebration, FL held in April with our friends Graham and Sheila Partridge.





One of Graham's favorite vehicles is the Aston Martin. This little gem sells for a mere \$300,000.





So with a little layering magic, I was able to place the car in his drive right here on Cypress Mill Road.





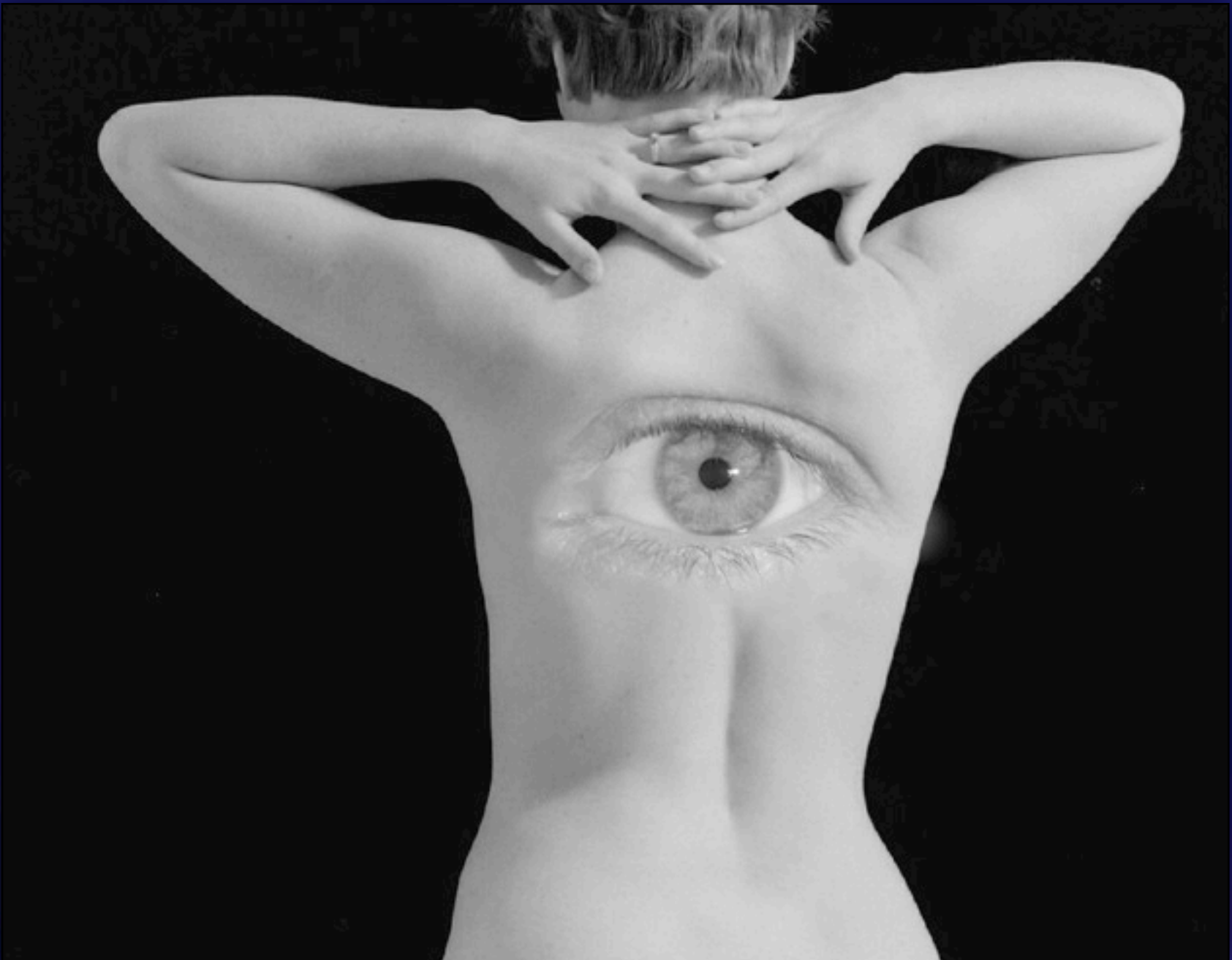
Layer number 1 is the background.





Layers number 2 and number 3 include the car shadow, and the car along with Graham.





# FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

BLACK HAWK COLLEGE DIVISION OF FINE / APPLIED ARTS - MAY 2 -17, 1969

**THEATRE:**  
Shakespeare's most amusing and lyrical romantic comedy  
'Twelfth Night' May 2-3-4, 8pm, BHC Auditorium / Directed By  
Frederick Walter

**MUSIC:**  
Jazz Concert May 14, 1pm, BHC Auditorium Featuring the College  
Dance Band and the Percussion Ensemble. / Directed by  
Roger Perley

**ART:**  
Demonstrations / May 10, 8:30 - 8pm. The Art Department will  
present various demonstrations covering the scope of  
its program.  
Exhibitions / There will be a limited showing of Student work  
from the Art Department.

**DEBATE:**  
May 11, 8pm, Student Lounge, Black Hawk College vs Augustana  
College. Resolved: that executive control of the United States  
Foreign Policy should be significantly curtailed.

**POETRY:**  
May 17th, 7:30pm, Student lounge. / International poems will  
be read in the original by foreign language majors and in English  
by accomplished readers, program will spotlight poems by  
French, German, Spanish poets as well as works by area college  
students and faculty.

**FILM:**  
May 10, 8:00 - 9:30pm, BHC Auditorium Sponsored by the Art  
Department 'The Gate Of Hell' in Color (Japanese) This  
masterfully directed and photographed film is recognized as the  
classic example of the use of color in a motion picture. Winner of  
two Academy awards and grand prize, Cannes Film Festival.

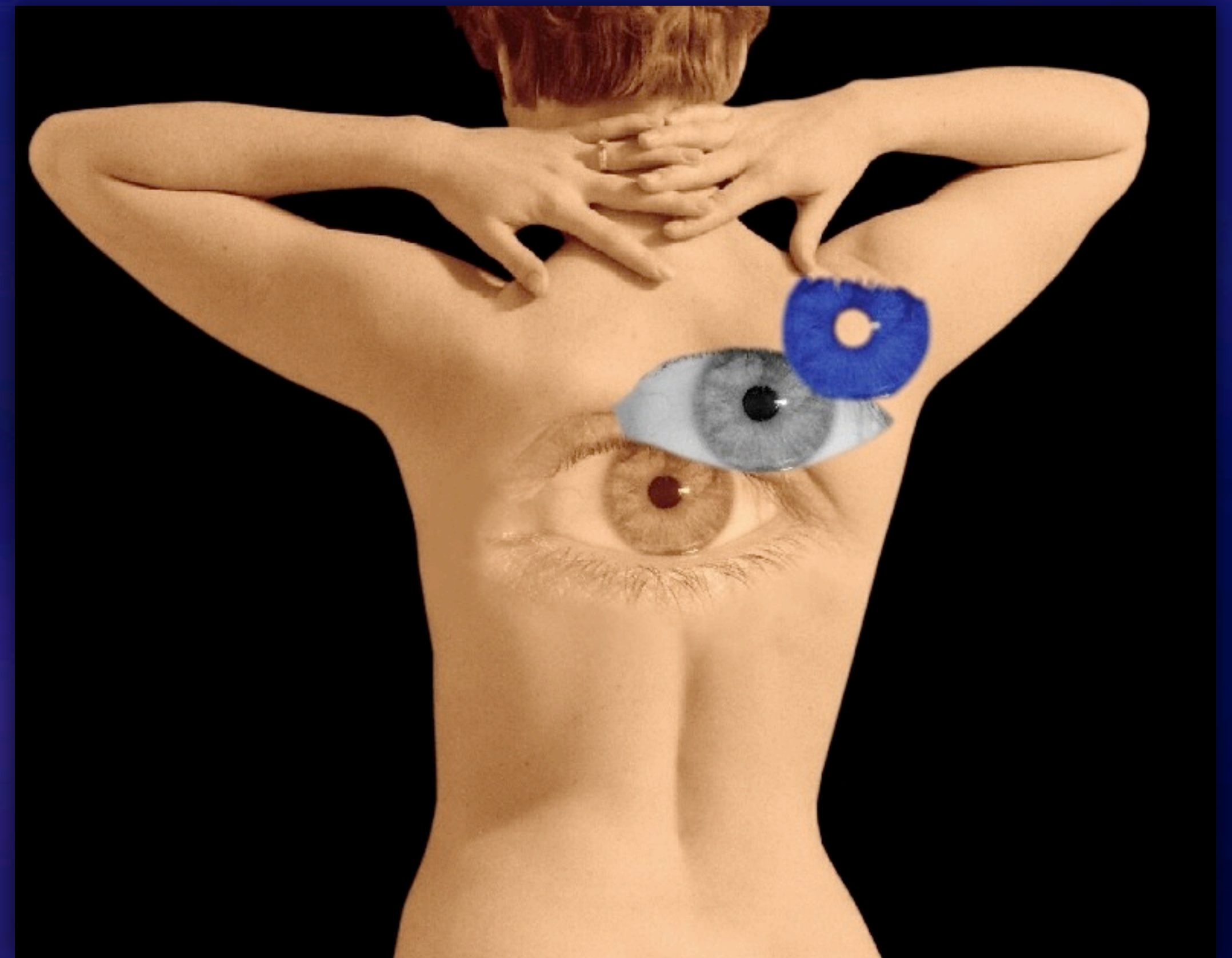
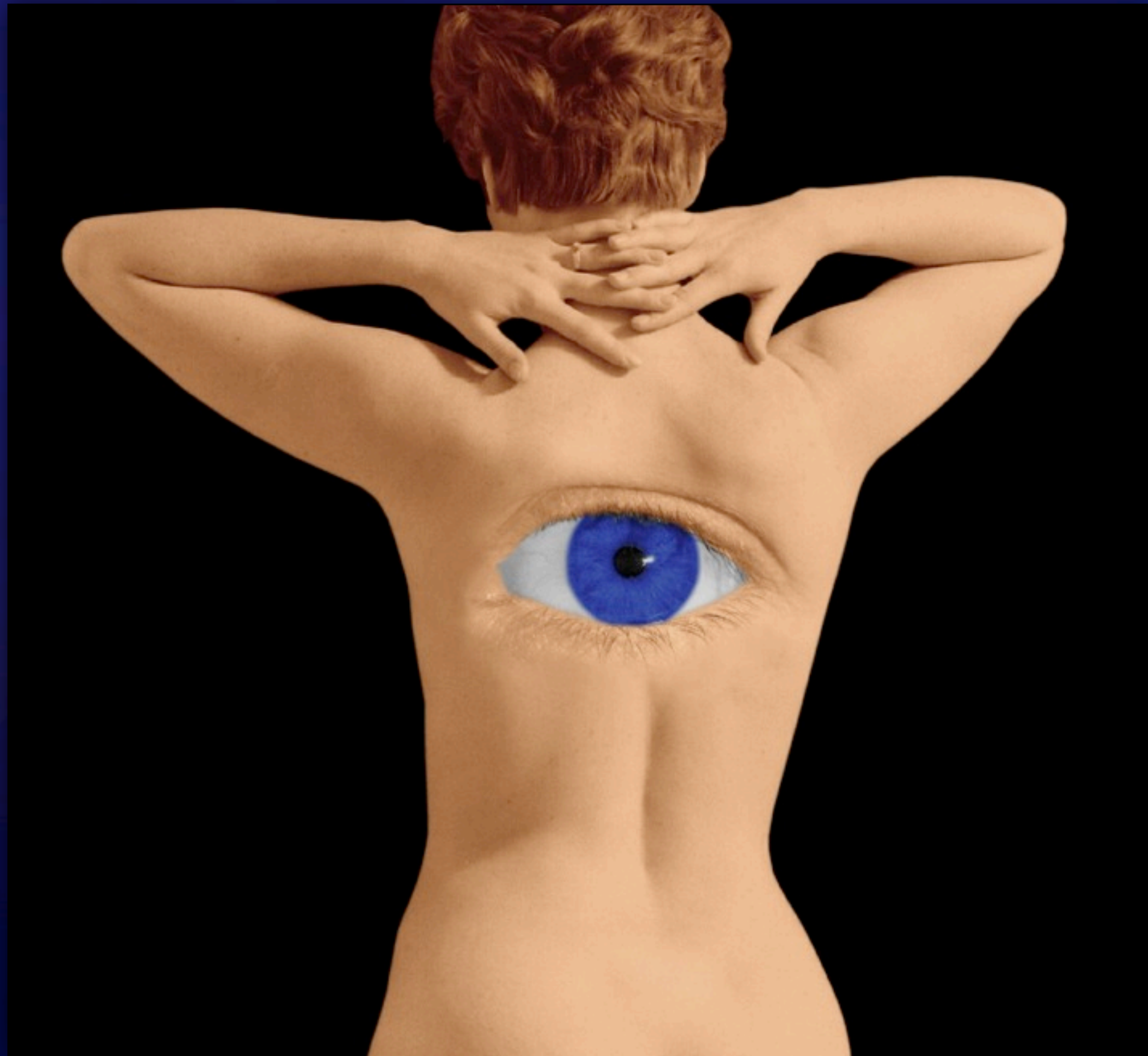
**MUSIC:**  
Instrumental Music Concert / May 9, 8pm, BHC Auditorium  
Featuring the College Instrumental Ensemble, Band, and Brass  
and Recorder Ensembles. Performing Carmina Burana by Carl  
Orff arranged by Krance, with selections by Browne, Pezel,  
Hovhannes, Nelhybel, and J.S. Bach. / Directed by Roger Perley

**MUSIC:**  
Choral Concert / May 16th, 8pm, Christ Episcopal Church  
1717 - 8th Ave. Moline Featuring the Chamber Singers in a  
performance of Gian Carlo Menotti's madrical comedy 'The  
Unicorn, The Gorgone and the Manticore.' The Concert Choir  
in a performance of Maurice Durufe's Requiem Op. 9. / Directed  
by John Stevens

**STUDENT NIGHT:**  
May 18th, 8pm, BHC Auditorium Produced by the students of  
various departments especially for this Festival, an extravaganza  
in multi-media creativity. Film, live performances and television  
tape.

The black & white original here was developed before the advent of digital photo manipulation and involved double printing, dodging and burning in the darkroom. It was created 45 years ago.





But more recently, I used the original black and white image, and 'colorized' it by tinting and layering as shown.





Layers can be used effectively to produce something like this.





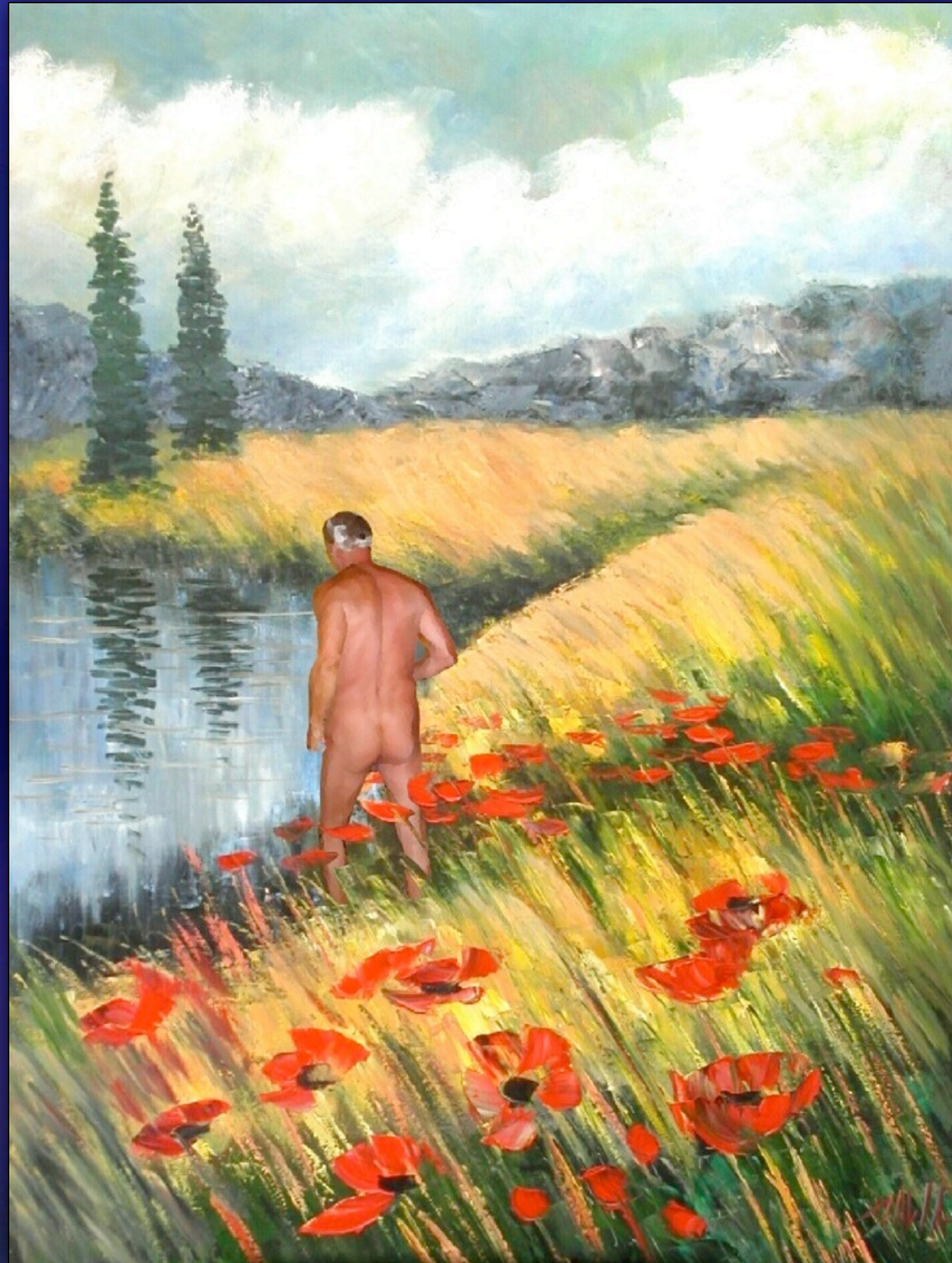
... or this





... or this!





Here, a combination of layers and a filter were used. The male subject walking away was a photo converted to an oil painting look using an oil paint filter. Then it was added as layer #2 to a painting of a scenic view. Layer #3 was foreground flowers and grass cut out from the original painting and added on top of the male subject. This makes the over-all effect to appear as a genuine painting.





Here, two photos were taken with the camera mounted on a tripod... one with the model, and one of the background with the model stepping out of the photo. Layer #1 is the background. Layer #2 is with the model. The area inside the mirror is cut out to reveal the background layer beneath the layer with the model, but only through the mirror cut-out.



# FUN STUFF

There are so many fun apps out there for iPad and iPhone. Here are just a few.





An app called “Monkey Face” can entertain you and your friends for hours.





Then of course, there is CAM WOW. So get out there and have fun!



