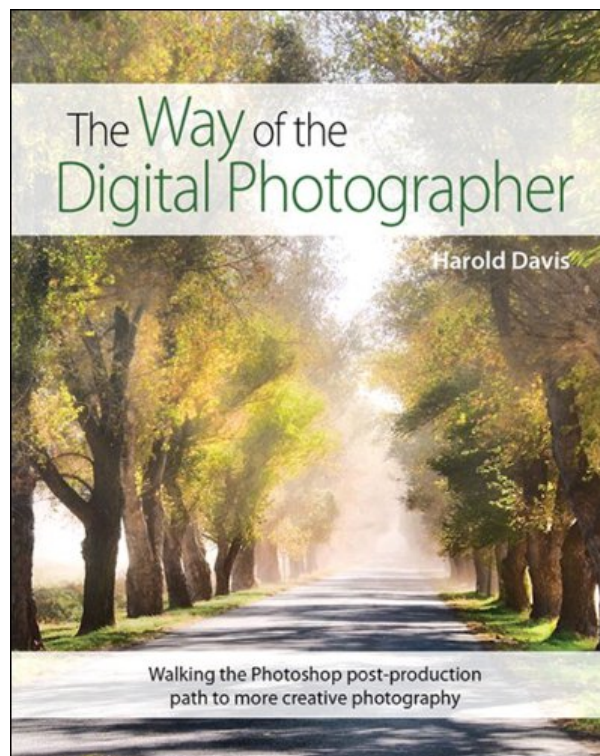
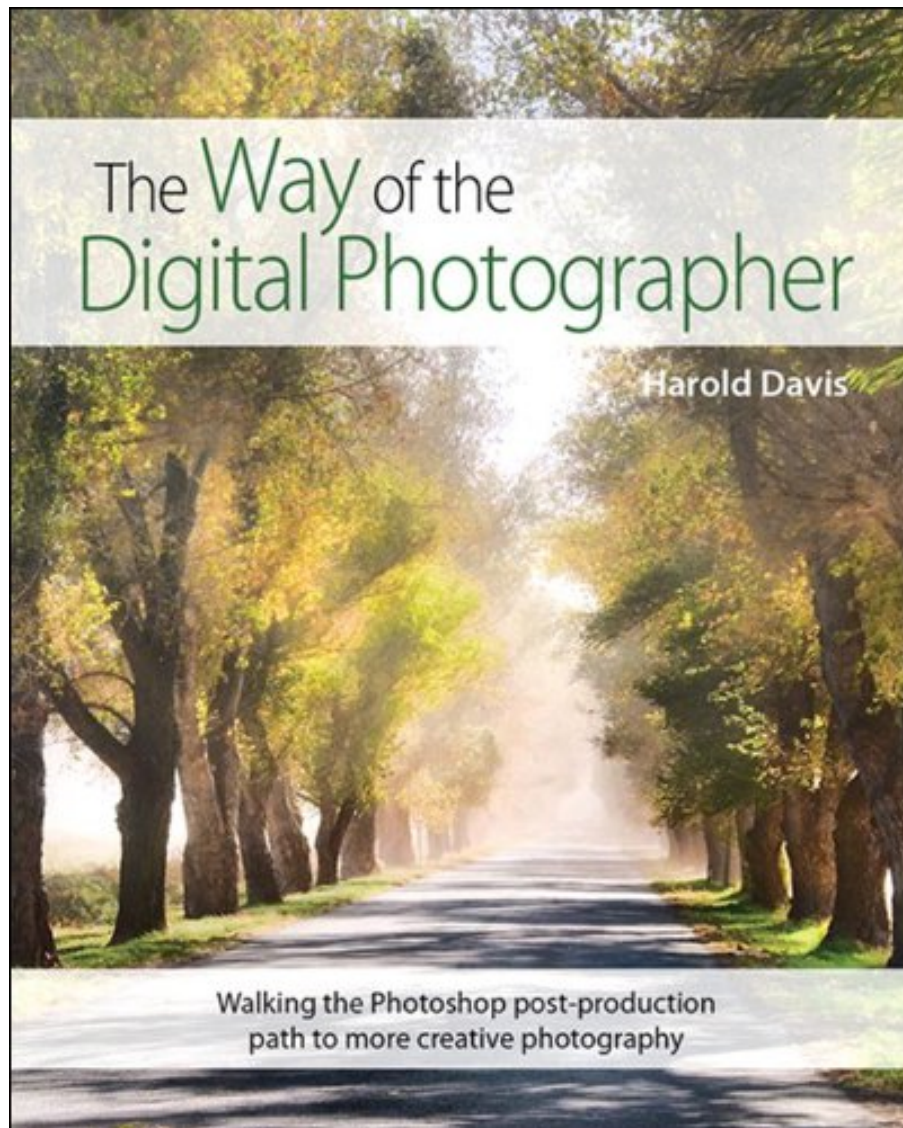


**THE WAY OF THE DIGITAL
PHOTOGRAPHER: WALKING THE
PHOTOSHOP POST-PRODUCTION PATH TO
MORE CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY BY
HAROLD DAVIS**



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- Sales Rank: #654389 in eBooks
- Published on: 2013-07-15
- Released on: 2013-07-15
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Most helpful customer reviews

34 of 36 people found the following review helpful.

A Very Good Introduction To Creative Post-Processing That Could Have Been Great

By Charles DeFiore

As I said in the subject line, this is a very good book that could have been a great one or possibly even a classic.

Harold presents an interesting premise that to get the most out of our digital images you need the combined strengths of both the camera and the image processing software that operates on your computer. Much like how words and music go together, either by themselves can be great, but together they become more than the sum of their parts.

The Way Of The Digital Photographer is a good introduction to the core tools and techniques used in creative post-processing. The book is divided into three main parts.

The first section deals with the basic tools necessary such as layers, masks, brush tool, blending modes, gradients and Harold demonstrates a good technique for dodging and burning using blending modes and masked layers. Each item is accompanied by examples showing the tool or technique in action. If you need more in depth information, I would strongly recommend The Photoshop Darkroom: Creative Digital Post-Processing Volume 1.

The next section covers techniques for increasing the tonal range of an image such as Multi-RAW processing, hand combining bracketed images and the use of HDR software. As in the first section, if more detail is needed, I'd recommend Creating HDR Photos: The Complete Guide To High Dynamic Range Photography.

I have read, and refer back to often, both of the recommended books. They are very good.

The third and last section is where I feel the true strength of this book lies. Here, Harold gives us a real glimpse into the mind of a master digital photographer and artist. He talks about using paired sequences of layers to obtain the look he envisions. It is a fascinating approach and for me, this section alone would be worth the price of the book. He demonstrates the use of different filters and how to apply them sparingly to defined areas within the image. Pay particular attention to pages 143 through 151. These pages are an education by themselves.

Now, why did I say this book could have been great or possibly even a classic, because I feel an opportunity was missed to truly educate those less creatively and artistically gifted than the author.

For example, Harold states that creating the blend (in the HDR section) you want depends on your eye, your imagination, and your Photoshop skills. I disagree with this thought.

I am not the most creative individual in the world, a couple of decades ago, I operated a graphic publishing and design business. The biggest boost to my work was subscribing to a newsletter available at the time called Before and After. The gentleman who wrote that was as gifted in his area as Harold is in his. What separated this newsletter from others at that time was that in each issue he would take a project from start to finish, showing at each step the tools, techniques and more importantly the thinking behind what he did. He explained what he was trying to accomplish, why he approached it in that way in this project, etc. In other words, he provided a true insight into what was possible. Seeing how a master applied the tools of the times, allowed me to take these ideas and apply them in my own way to my own work so much so that one of my logo designs won a design competition.

Sometimes, you need to know more of what's possible in order to use the tools and techniques available to you effectively and creatively. And that was missing in this book.

Which brings me to my next point, and this is not a knock on Harold's book, I see this too often in training books and videos today where the marketing department writes checks that the material doesn't deliver. I know I'm getting on in years, but an example, even one of a few steps, is not a case study unless the meaning of that term has changed drastically over the years. A case study is a step by step examination of an area, topic, etc. Much like that newsletter from years ago. For example, Harold states that the Lonely Islet image took 117 layers. It would have been so instructive to see each layer and have Harold describe what he wanted to accomplish at each step. Why he did what he did, etc. While each image is different, how much further could we less gifted individuals go with that type of instruction.

And please, for those of us with older eyes, make the screen shots large enough to actually see what it is you are trying to point out. Too often, a point was being made about using a layer to reveal some area or apply some effect, but the screen grab was too small to see what was being affected.

In closing, my few quibbles aside, I would highly recommend this book. It is a wonderful introduction and roadmap to the world of creative post-processing and certainly worthy of a solid four stars.

18 of 19 people found the following review helpful.

Photo Illustration

By Conrad J. Obregon

Newspapers are concerned with verisimilitude. When images have been adjusted past a certain point in Photoshop, newspapers call them photo illustrations. Art is less concerned with verisimilitude. Indeed, Picasso said "Art is a lie that tells the truth". In this book Harold Davis tells photographers how to create photo illustrations.

The first chapter is devoted to a review of photographic fundamentals, including the Photoshop tools Davis most uses to create photo illustrations. The second chapter is devoted to "Multi-Raw and Hand HDR Processing", although the author also covers what he calls "Automated HDR". (HDR is a method of combining several similar images, often to extend the range of light in the scene.) In this chapter he illustrates how to apply Photoshop's tools to an image to make it look more artful. The third chapter, "Enhancement to Glory" covers more extreme modifications to the basic image, including using LAB inversions (LAB is a less-frequently used color space); modifying black and white images; and adding backgrounds and textures to one's images. Throughout the book the author suggests methods for enhancing iPhone images as well as images created with dedicated digital cameras.

The illustrative images at first stray only slightly from a realistic image, but eventually are quite far from realistic, and all strive with some success to be art. Davis generally provides enough information for an individual familiar with Photoshop to apply the techniques shown to his or her own images, although occasionally the information provided in the text and the captions to images seemed unduly repetitive. With a few of the images wherein Davis had used dozens of layers, I would have liked more detail, but these images were provided more to show what is possible rather than to provide step-by-step instruction.

Like most Photoshop techniques, there are many ways to accomplish a task. For example, some photographers might prefer to use selections rather than painting on a mask, but experienced users will see that these choices are available.

The title may have vague echoes of the titles of certain books dealing with Zen, an impression which is

strengthened by a sprinkling of "meditations" throughout the book that offer something to think about. There is little or nothing of Zen in the book.

Many of the adjustments that Davis suggests require a distinct visualization to apply. It would be useful if, in a future book, the author describes how he comes up with these visualizations.

There are a number of images used in the book. It might have proved helpful to some readers to have had them available by download or otherwise to actually work on.

If you want to learn to use Photoshop, this certainly isn't the book for you. If you are a photographer who strives for realism (whatever that is) don't add this book to your list. But if you want to explore the world of photo illustrations, this book is a fine place to start.

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful.

Excellent Instruction Guide for Photoshop Users

By Click Chick

I've been using Photoshop now for over three years. I have purchased a number of books on the subject but find that his book is just a great introduction to all the features that make Photoshop a powerful tool for photographers. It covers in plain English the various features within Photoshop and does a particularly good job of explaining layers. Layers is the building block of Photoshop and many other writers skip the initial important information in a desire to get you into the powerful actions that can be done in layers. This author gives you everything from the basics on through the more sophisticated concepts. This is not a book on the latest bells and whistles contained within Photoshop but rather is a nuts and bolts approach to all the features in Photoshop and how to use them.

I have had a number of issues that I found challenging in Photoshop which he cleared up in the text. An example of this was his comments on un-checking the "open documents as tabs" section in the preference box. This saves you a step from having to do this within the menu options and is a time saving tip in working with layers.

I particularly like his sections on adjustment layers and how to utilize them to fix problem areas in a photograph. Almost everyone has a photo that they like which needs some lightening in the foreground or detail extraction in the background. This book goes into detail on how to correct these problems in a photo and end up with a final product that looks exception.

I am not a fan of all his photos in this book. To my taste many of them are a bit over "Photoshopped". However since the techniques are outlined in detailed instruction, you can adjust the techniques to suit your taste as a photographer.

The book is a wealth of information for individuals struggling with layers, adjustment layers, camera raw, blending modes, masking and compositing techniques. You would spend a lot more money than this to attend seminars only to come back from them and forget the manner in which to conduct actions within Photoshop. If you work through the book slowly, you will most likely receive the answers you have to operating all the basic functions within Photoshop.

For all the iPhone photo lovers out there, he has a section addressed to turning your cell photos into a work of art. I think this is fun and a good way to keep yourself as a photographer involved in "self-assignments" to work on your craft daily.

The book might be a bit better if there were some photos that people could download from a website to practice with in order to achieve the end photo result as shown in the book. However, you can master the techniques by utilizing your own photos.

If you invest in the book and then invest in the time to read slowly through the book and try all the actions he is describing in the text, you will be less frustrated with Photoshop and realize the true power of Photoshop as a program and a photographic tool. If you are a wiz with Photoshop, this book will probably not help you. If you are a self-taught beginner and struggling to learn all the functions in Photoshop, this is your book.

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On an overcast, gray day, I took the RER (Réseau Express Régional) out of central Paris to the suburb of Bourg-la-Reine. From the train station in Bourg-la-Reine I carried my gear the mile or so to the Parc de Sceaux (pronounced "Park de So"). The Parc de Sceaux is a less-well-known masterpiece of landscape design by André Le Nôtre, the seventeenth-century landscape architect of Louis XIV responsible for the gardens at Versailles, the Tuilleries, and other famous formal French gardens.

As I explored the area, my concern was that the looming clouds might turn to rain, making photography difficult. But as I approached the long channel of water that radiated across the width of the gardens in a cross formation, the clouds parted and the sun emerged, making the reflections just so...beautiful!

This image is a composite blend of five exposures. Each exposure was shot using a 35mm lens on my full-frame camera at f/11 and ISO 100, with shutter speeds ranging from 1/30 of a second to 1/500 of a second. I used a circular polarizer to enhance the reflections, and combined the exposures in Photoshop using layers and masking.

Bixby Bridge by Starlight

Over the years, I've enjoyed photographing the dramatic Bixby Bridge on the Big Sur coast of California at

night, and it is always fun to take a workshop group to this location. Getting out of the car, it is hard at first to see much in the inky blackness except that it is a long way down to the Pacific Ocean. As things resolve, it becomes clear that one can create interesting images, provided one keeps the camera open long enough, since there really isn't much light. But in this case the camera sees more than we do!

Exposure and processing information: Nikon D800, Zeiss 15mm f/2.8 lens, ten exposures, each exposure at four minutes, f/2.8 and ISO 500, tripod mounted; exposures stacked using the Photoshop CC Statistics script, enhanced using LAB color adjustments.

La Tour Eiffel

At night, the area under the Eiffel Tower turns into an exciting display of lights, colors and people -- as you can see in this iPhone shot of this small carousel beneath the Eiffel Tower, the king of all amusement park rides!

iPhone 4 captured using the Slow Shutter app, with colors enhanced using the FilterStorm for iPhone app.

Review

A Best Photography Book of 2013

"The Way of the Digital Photographer by Harold Davis is all about the 'camera-computer partnership' of the digital medium. Using Photoshop as the editing software of choice, the very talented author takes you far beyond Photoshop 101. Instead, he focuses on ways to use Photoshop to enhance creativity, using incredible photography examples. ...This [book] is...for people that want to go beyond the purist mentality; those willing to expand their photos into more artistic realm."-Photo.net

Featured in Top 10 Best Photography Books of 2013

–Photo.net

"Harold is a man of astonishing eclectic skills and accomplishments."

– Rangefinder Magazine

"Harold Davis' ethereal floral arrangements have a purity and translucence that borders on spiritual."

– Popular Photography Magazine

About the Author

Harold Davis is an award-winning professional photographer whose work is widely admired and collected. He is the author of many bestselling photography books, and his popular workshops are often sold out. Harold Davis is a Moab printmaking Master and a Zeiss Camera Lens Ambassador. Learn more about Harold and his photography at photoblog2.com.

This is why we recommend you to consistently visit this web page when you need such book *The Way Of The Digital Photographer: Walking The Photoshop Post-production Path To More Creative Photography* By Harold Davis, every book. By online, you may not go to get the book shop in your city. By this online library, you can locate guide that you truly want to review after for long period of time. This *The Way Of The Digital Photographer: Walking The Photoshop Post-production Path To More Creative Photography* By Harold Davis, as one of the advised readings, has the tendency to be in soft data, as every one of book collections here. So, you may additionally not await few days later on to get as well as check out the book *The Way Of The Digital Photographer: Walking The Photoshop Post-production Path To More Creative*

Photography By Harold Davis.