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Digital Masters: B&W Printing: Creating The Digital Master Print (A Lark Photography Book)



Synopsis

George DeWolfe is a master of the fine print: he studied with photographic geniuses Ansel Adams and Minor White, and worked as a consultant to the most significant companies in the digital photography world. Now, he passes on his considerable expertise to all, in a breathtaking new DIGITAL MASTERS guide that combines artistic concepts for taking beautiful photographs with an array of practical techniques. With interest in black-and-white exploding, digital photographers will rush to take advantage of the knowledge he imparts.Â Â Â Â

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

George DeWolfe has published three books and is currently a senior editor for CameraArts magazine and an advisor to Epson America, Adobe, Hahnemuhle and Polaroid, and his honours include the Award for Artistic Excellence from The National Park Service.

To be honest, I was looking forward to something a little more sophisticated than an expo or how to do manual. The book relies solely on using Lightroom and Photoshop to create a black and white print and ignores a host of other products and procedures that work as well and in some cases much better than the CS/LR pathway. The main topic is introduced by an lecture on perception which, in my opinion adds nothing to the task at hand, creating an excellent master print. The body of the book is oversimplified to the extent that it provides little information for dealing with a difficult

or complex conversion. So, if simple conversion is your way to go, this book will suit you fine. However if you are looking for a more professional and detailed discussion of black/white conversion, this book is not for you. If I could, I'd get my money back. It isn't worth \$20. David M.

I've been a professional photographer for 34-years, and rarely have I read a book that inspired me to shoot more and print more. Not only are George DeWolfe's images beautiful, but the book is informative with knowledge and tips that even an old pro (I've worked with Photoshop since 1992) could learn from. While the book is somewhat Lightroom-centric (not necessarily a bad thing), there are useful tips that anyone can use. Personally, I picked up the use of the history brush for dodging, burning, contrast, etc. in Photoshop. Additionally, the reader will learn the best methods for maximizing printing from Lightroom, which the author feels is superior to the options in Photoshop. After reading this, I printed thirty new prints from the images in my book, "Vanishing Ireland" for a recent show. The book helped me improve and streamline the process. It's well worth the money for any photographer's library. You're never too old, and never too experienced to learn something new.

While some of the examples are interesting, the book's print quality is not nearly good enough to illustrate the before/after examples. Many times the "after" does not look as good as the before. DeWolfe's message in a nutshell is to strive for the longest dynamic range possible, yet the section on HDR technique is only four pages and somewhat misleading. The technical details presented here fall dramatically short for anyone striving for a "digital master print" - whatever that means. The author chooses instead to reference his Photoshop plug-ins, making the book a rather disappointing advertisement. I found the self aggrandizement style very off putting, especially for such a mediocre effort. For superior treatment of the subject of fine art digital printing, see *Fine Art Printing for Photographers: Exhibition Quality Prints with Inkjet Printers, 2nd Edition* and *Mastering Digital Printing, Second Edition (Digital Process and Print)*

Some good ideas and information wrapped around a hard sell for the author's own product.

An excellent book which reveals how the black and white masters produce exhibition quality images. This is not by pressing a button with 3rd party software but by editing using simple tools much as an artist would

I have read and used this book extensively. Yes you need Lightroom and Photoshop to correctly follow George's workflow. But the results are amazing. I have also taken George's class in Santa Fe and can say that from a practical experience the DeWolfe workflow works and it works well. I bought the book before I attended the class. I found the workflow to be simple to use. What most digital photographers miss today is a good workflow. They go into photoshop fool around a little bit each time and come out with different results each time. Those of us that have worked in the darkroom know better. For consistent results in photography you need a reliable process and that is what George provides. Its repeatable every time. I have even outlined the workflow so that I can use it every time the same time. Yes you need LR and PS, but if you want to get good this book is the best way to start, period.

Great book

I would like to share with another (even potential) customers my experience from the first reading of this book. It is very good and well positioned essential of everything most important about B&W photography, in this concrete thing about printing. Of course, it is not only this book but I found here more than expected, very transparent and helpful. Thanks Jiri Pavel, Czech republic

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