



You'd Better Read Me News

May 2023

May is here so it is time to sharpen your Photoshop Skills — literally!

For the May 20, ATX meeting we will be back on Zoom, with the famous and infamous Dennis Dunbar!

Dennis is a well known photo retoucher in the advertising world. He has been “working on photographs” for so many years, working with product shots, automotive photos, food, lifestyle, you name it!! He has also “retouched” so many movie posters that you probably have seen his work without knowing it!

Dennis has also been teaching workshops on high end photo editing techniques, compositing, and color correction all over the world. And when you teach you learn - so Dennis has just gotten better and better at what he does!

For our May 20, Zoom meeting, we are lucky to have Dennis, also a long time ATX member, teach us the ins and outs, the edges and borders, of sharpening. Digital camera images already start out sharper than most traditional film images. Stephen Johnson explained and demonstrated that at an ATX meeting way back when people were hesitant to give up film cameras... And yet, all digital camera images include a certain amount of blur that needs to be sharpened for the finished image. Ah... but add too much sharpening and the image looks fake. Not enough sharpening and the image looks blah or blurry.

So how much sharpening do you need and how do you know when to stop? Oh wait— are you sharpening for on screen viewing or for print? And if it is for print, is the image going to be printed on glossy or matte paper? And is this image going to be part of a composite, and if so how do you handle the other images?

Dennis will help us get a handle on sharpening in Photoshop, and helping you learn to use the tools, and apply the techniques that will make your images stand out!

He will show us some of the techniques of the pros, divulge some tips, trick, and techniques that most Photoshop users and many photographers don't really understand...yet.

Dennis will be using both Photoshop as well as Topaz Sharpen AI. Topaz makes some great Photoshop plug-in as well as stand-alone tools that make editing easier. Topaz tools are great, however, there are some caveats for using AI tools. Dennis will show us when to use which tool. As a master retoucher, Dennis has the experience to explain the differences, and the know-how to help you learn to do your best sharpening.

And yes there will be a raffle at the end of the meeting!!!

For the May 20 ATX Zoom meeting we will not only raffle a full year of the Adobe Creative Cloud but also at least one copy of Topaz Photo AI. Wait, you say, weren't you talking about Topaz Sharpen AI???? Well yes, however...

Topaz Photo AI is a new tool that combines several Topaz tools. Photo AI includes noise reduction AI and sharpening AI into one plug-in or stand-alone tool. And it adds the ability to increase the resolution of a photo with AI. Photo AI can be great for some images. However, you need to know when to use it. Or it is great as a quick-look tool to see how you might choose to edit your photos, with or without Photoshop. You can use it for the end product or as a quick preview tool to see what your image might look like if you work on it in Photoshop with various types of sharpening. You can read more online here:

<https://www.topazlabs.com/topaz-photo-ai>

Remember we will raffle both a full year of the Adobe Creative Cloud and at least one copy of Topaz Photo AI (a \$199 value).

Regards and God Bless,
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