CiderPress

http://www.lamug.com   News from the Lewiston-Auburn Macintosh Users Group

New iMacs

Apple Unveils New iMacs With CD-RW Drives & iTunes Software. Rip, Mix, Burn Your Own Custom Music CDs

MACWORLD EXPO, TOKYO—February 22, 2001—Apple® today introduced a new line of iMacs™ with CD-RW drives and iTunes, Apple's amazing new "jukebox" software, which lets users create and manage their own music library and burn their own custom audio CDs. With fast new PowerPC G3 processors running at up to 600 MHz, up to 40 GB hard drives, FireWire® ports and iMovie™ software on all systems, the new iMac family comes in two dazzling new patterns, Blue Dalmatian and Flower Power, as well as the two most popular iMac colors, Indigo and Graphite.

"iMac has evolved into an entertainment center, where you can create desktop movies, manage your digital music library and burn custom music CDs," said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO. "iMovie and iTunes are so easy to learn and use, even your parents can use them without getting confused."

iTunes, which has been downloaded more than 750,000 times since its debut in January, lets users import songs from their favorite CDs into their iMac and compress them into the popular MP3 format; organize their music using powerful yet easy to use searching, browsing, and play list features; watch stunning visualizations on their computer screen; and create custom music CDs with the new iMac's CD-RW drive.

All iMac models come prein stalled with Apple's iMovie 2, the latest version of the world's most popular, easy-to-use consumer digital video editing software, and offer two FireWire ports for easy connection to a variety of high-speed peripherals such as digital camcorders and digital cameras. Movies can be saved back to the camcorder, copied to videotape or posted to a user's own website using iTools, Apple's suite of free Internet services.

Every iMac comes standard with Apple's optical mouse and full-size Apple Pro Keyboard, and is AirPort™ ready. AirPort, Apple's revolutionary wireless networking solution, provides totally untethered Internet access at speeds up to 11 megabits per second.

iMac's other great features include near-silent operation, reducing noise levels to half that of competitive systems; ATI RAGE 128 Pro accelerators for outstanding graphics; built-in 10/100BASE-T Ethernet for easy DSL and cable modem access and an all-digital sound system designed in collaboration with Harman Kardon.

Pricing and Availability
The new iMac models are available immediately on The Apple Store™ (http://www.apple.com) and through Apple Authorized Resellers in three standard configurations:

• iMac, available in Indigo, features a 400 MHz PowerPC G3 processor and contains 64MB of PC100 SDRAM, 512K backside cache, a 10GB Ultra ATA hard disk, a slot loading CD-ROM drive, ATI RAGE 128 Pro with 8MB of SDRAM, a built-in 56K V.90 modem, two FireWire ports and two USB ports, VGA video mirroring and is AirPort ready for a suggested retail price of $899 (US).

March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5	**6**	**6:30 pm 7** **Adobe** Fairview School	**8**	**9**
12	**6:30 pm 13** **AppleWorks** Fairview School	**14**	**6:15 pm 15** **Officer's Meeting**	**16**
19	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**
26	**6:30 pm 27** **AppleWorks** Fairview School	**28**		

Events

March 7th
Tim Plumer of Adobe will present a selection of Adobe products.
Visit http://www.lamug.com/adobe.html to find out more.
General News
Question and Answer

April 10th
Back to Basics
Library Room Discussion
Possible Guest Speaker - Stay Tuned!
General News
Extended Q 'n A

March 13th and 27th
AppleWorks SIG (Special Interest Group)

Schedule is subject to change.

Volunteers Wanted

• Digital Art Contest committee

• Tutor senior citizens through the Auburn Adult and Community Ed Dept.

• School Liaison Directors - inform group of school events which LAMUG could participate in

• Community Projects Directors - inform group of charities and seek volunteers to create committees to work on projects

• Auction Project - volunteer for this committee today

• Writers for CiderPress

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above, please contact Denise Scammon at 783-5203 or sammeyeamm@exploremaine.com

FreeHand 9

by Skip Lalemand

Company: MacroMedia
http://www.macromedia.com

Reviewed on: Macintosh G4,
384 MBs RAM

"Now this is more like it!"

Boy, I've been using Freehand for what, 4, 5... 6 years now, and somehow they just keep making it better.

What is Freehand? Well it's a drawing program. Not just for drawing - it is also great for web site work, Flash elements (I'll get into this later) and more.

This is one of three or so programs on the market right now, that do similar things, but differently. You might be asking yourself, "then why use this one?" and that would be a fair question to ask. And here's my answer

"It slices, It dices, It makes great Julienne fries." "You can even use it to cut onions without shedding a tear!" Yes folks the amazing Freehand can do it all. Ok, ok - yes I like this program. Now that's not to say the other programs don't do some great things. Remember, it is the program you start using - that you'll most likely end up liking the most.

What I like about FreeHand:

 Ease of use
 Useful Features
 Custom keyboard short cuts, and toolbar customizing
 Overall look and feel of the program and it's layout, I must admit, Adobe Illustrator files look much better, MUCH better at viewing on screen. Something I'd like to see MacroMedia do with FreeHand.

 Great, Cool tools:
  • Lens effect - Great for transparent effect
  • Shadow effect
  • Tracing tool
  • Punch, Union, Cut, Paste into, Custom page sizes with a click, Inset, Transform Color pallet, Freeform tool,

And my favorite - FIND & REPLACE! This outstanding feature allows you to have a color graphic open and change all of the colors with great ease, and this same feature is available for - Fonts, Stroke and more. It's also great for finding and replacing words, symbols and more. So let's say I wrote this whole article and spelled a word wrong (and used it 20 times) once it came to my attention, I could open the "Find and Replace" feature, type in the misspelled word, ask it to find it throughout the document, then type in the correct word and tell it to replace all of the wrong ones with the right one, and they ALL get corrected.

Now it's not to say FreeHand couldn't use a few new features, and here's what I'd like to see with the next version of FreeHand:

 Pre-made Custom fills (like Canvas). Great for applying a metal, chrome, pattern look to fonts and more.
 Pre-made Paint brushes (like Illustrator). Just more options for paint brushes.
 Give me a minute, I'll think of more.

Now I know users of Illustrator who can't stand FreeHand, and vise versa, and that's to be expected. It is like that with almost all programs, drawing, word, internet and so on. But in my humble opinion FreeHand rules!

Oh yes - I highly recommend this program.

"It slices, It dices, It makes great Julienne fries. You can even use it to cut onions without shedding a tear! Yes folks the amazing Freehand can do it all."

LiveMotion

by Skip Lalemand

Company: Adobe Software
http://www.adobe.com

Reviewed on: Macintosh G4, 500 MHz, 384 MBs RAM, System 9.0.4

Not having the time needed to learn a animation program, but REALLY wanting to add these cool effects to web sites, I decided to give Adobe LiveMotion a try. "Wow" it was real easy and straight forward - just what I was looking for.

Now don't get me wrong MacroMedia Flash is an outstanding program - 2, 3, 4, 20 million whatever it is, users can't be wrong. And it may be easier to use then I think, but I wasn't able to just jump right in and make an animation like I was able to do with LiveMotion.

Now I have got a few of these up so far, and yes there pretty basic, but it was easy, and that's the key.

There's one at http://www.exploremaine.com/~lalemand/ karlscollectibles/ and another one at http://www.aquavendofnewengland.com.

Again both are pretty basic, but they took only 20 minutes or so to make.

The features are numerous and I'm sure with time they will increase, as will my ability to find and use these features. LiveMotion is a new program (while the leader has been around for a few years now) with a great future. It works well with all of the other Adobe products, which is growing to be a great selection.

The interface is simple, yet offers many of the same features as programs costing much more, as well as being a to easier to learn then those programs.

Now a pro and or someone who is used to Flash is not likely to switch over, in my opinion, but the newbie will like LiveMotion and will likely stay with it for a long time.

Priced very reasonable, and easy to use, I see a bright future for Adobe LiveMotion and recommend it to anyone looking to add animation to web sites.

If I can do it - so can you.

New iMacs *Continued from Page 1*

• iMac, available in Indigo, Blue Dalmatian and Flower Power, features a 500 MHz PowerPC G3 processor and contains 64MB of PC100 SDRAM, 256K on-chip backside cache, a 20GB Ultra ATA hard disk, a slot-loading CD-RW drive, ATI RAGE 128 Ultra with 16MB of SDRAM, a built-in 56K V.90 modem, two FireWire ports and two USB ports, VGA video mirroring and is AirPort ready for a suggested retail price of $1,199 (US).
• iMac Special Edition, available in Graphite, Blue Dalmatian and Flower Power,

features a 600 MHz PowerPC G3 processor and contains 128MB of PC100 SDRAM, 256K on-chip backside cache, a 40GB Ultra ATA hard disk, a slot-loading CD-RW drive, ATI RAGE 128 Ultra with 16MB of SDRAM, a built-in 56K V.90 modem, two FireWire ports and two USB ports, VGA video mirroring and is AirPort ready for a suggested retail price of $1,499 (US).