

Phocus 3.3 Mac read-me

September 20th 2017

Compatibility

macOS 10.11 or later is required and only 64 bit Mac's are supported. The new extended GPU usage requires macOS 10.12 or later.

In case you need to run Phocus on older versions of macOS please visit our software archive.

Phocus requires at least 4 GB of memory, where 8 GB or more is recommended.

System Requirements

Graphics adapters

As Phocus is taking advantage of GPU processing both in relation to the viewer and for exports, using a Mac with a high performance GPU is definitely an advantage. All current Mac's using discrete GPU's should give good performance, we do not recommend using a Mac that only incorporates an integrated Intel GPU.

Supported products

Image files from all Hasselblad FireWire and USB based digital camera products are supported. Tethered operation will work with the same range of cameras except for the first generation Ixpress series.

Capture of micro-step images is not supported.

Scanner 3F files are not supported.

3F files generated by Phocus are not backward compatible with FlexColor!

New features in 3.3

Extended GPU usage for exports and 100% view

While previously releases has used GPU acceleration for processing directly related to the viewer, this release adds the option to use it for exports and also to speed up the viewer at 100% and above. The improvements made in this release have most effect on higher ISO images where you may see export times being reduced by a factor of more than 3, but even for low ISO images you should see clear improvements.

This feature requires a metal compatible GPU and you will need to run macOS 10.12 or later.

Actual results will of course depend on the hardware - if you are using an older Mac containing only an integrated GPU you may see only a small improvement or it might actually be slower than using the CPU only. For those (hopefully rare) cases we have added an Extended GPU Usage checkbox in Preferences, thereby making it possible to turn off the feature.

Other viewer speed improvements

Apart from the extended GPU usage which also benefits viewer performance at 100% or more, there's also other changes made that helps preparing the 100% image even before you zoom. A few other enhancements will also improve export speed regardless of whether extended GPU usage is active.

BronColor flash control

A new tool named Bron Control has been added, it will not appear by default but can be added manually from the list of tools. The Mac will need to be on the same Wi-Fi network as the flash system.

Once a system has been detected the list of groups will be filled out. Basically you can then select either a group in the left hand list or a single lamp in the right hand list and change intensity and modeling light on/off for the selected lamp(s). The intensity of a selected lamp or group can also be changed using left and right cursor keys. Holding down shift while changing intensity will change in 1.0 steps.

If you are using enterprise mode - meaning that the lamps are connected to an existing Wi-Fi network - Phocus will ignore the studio setting on each lamp, meaning that all lamps will be shown regardless of studio number.

Do note that the functionality integrated in Phocus is not meant to totally replace the standard BronControl software - you will still need this for things like defining enterprise configurations and handling more advanced features.

Various improvements

- adds support for the XCD 120 lens
- adds 'x' as a short cut to the keystone all guides tool button
- also includes various minor fixes