

A tale of two iMovies

Written by Darryn Lowe

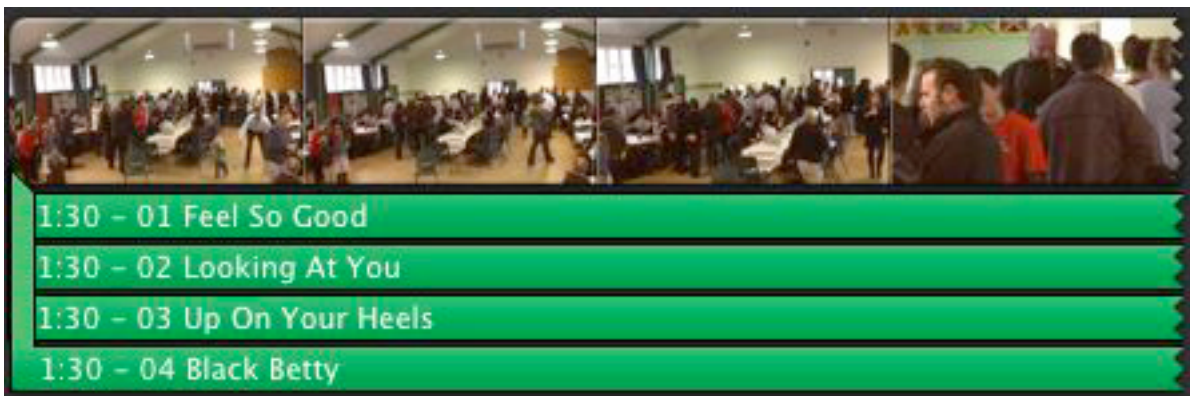
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There's a couple of flaws in the views of Phil's. Firstly to say that the timeline allows more power is actually not true, in fact quite the opposite. While iMovie '06 does allow for a better volume adjustment, the fact that it only allows for two audio tracks + whatever audio is in the video means it is woefully inadequate.

If you strip the audio from the video so that you can edit the volume of the sound you have reduced the overall audio tracks to two. This can be seen in the image Phil showed:



The purple bits represent the audio tracks. Notice the three ticks on the right hand side? That's a tick for video, audio track 1, and audio track 2. Want to see iMovie '08's ability to handle audio?



That's 4 music tracks dragged from iTunes into iMovie plus whatever is in the video itself meaning 5 audio tracks. But wait there's more. At one stage I had 10 tracks and could easily add many more.

But truly powerful audio editing should be passed to the proper app namely GarageBand so whatever shortfalls both iMovie's have GarageBand should be able to pick up. '08's drag and

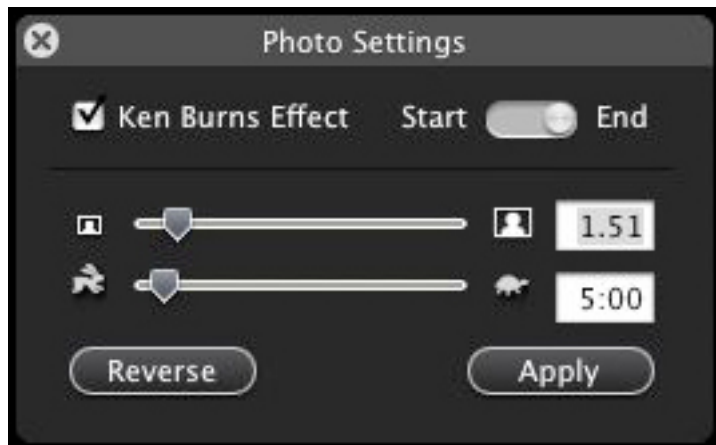
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drop methodology is infinitely more powerful than people give it credit for. This is actually more inline with the Final Cut Pro way of editing which is somewhat ironic considering the arguments. For more powerful audio editing in Final Cut Pro you pass the audio into Sound Studio.

Another example of power simplified is in working with photos. Both apps use Ken Burns Effects but only '08 truly uses Ken Burns Effects. Here's the settings under '06:



It's not bad but super simplistic to the point of being useless. Now for '08:

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