

Readers Lives **Cold hands, hot water**

Thomas Knoll gamma tool?

With PhotoShop 4 came a great tool call Gamma Version 2. It is not a plug-in but a standalone application which allows you to adjust the Gamma of your monitor on the fly. It DOES NOT actually alter any images themselves that you are working on - it simply alters the whole screen appearance temporally. Unfortunately it only works under Mac OS9. I have searched the web to see if Thomas Knoll ever wrote one for OSX but have drawn a blank. Does anyone know if he did or if there is an alternative please? Note: I want only to adjust the screen itself temporarily, quickly and on the fly - I know how to do more permanent changes!

The actual reason for doing this is to blow the gamma right out on an image just using the monitor. Then be able to work on the image in photoshop with the gamma still blown. Do any subtle changes that you cannot see on the screen with normal gamma setting then obviously change the gamma back to normal again - or is there a different way to do this?

Charles Hood
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First, thanks for your great magazine!

I was slightly concerned by something I saw mentioned several times, the idea of warming cold hands by dumping warm water into the gloves. You mention it after your iceland trip, and an earlier article (UwP13??) in the context of an ice dive.

I learned how to dive in Sweden, so am used to cold water. In my CMAS 2-star course we were told NOT to warm our hands in warm water. The risk is that the blood vessels in the hands open up too quickly, allowing still-chilled blood to flow into the heart. This can cause problems. The other risk is that opening the capillaries means that they are no longer catching any small gas bubbles that otherwise may have been stopped at the hands (Not that we would ever push the limits of dive tables and get bubbles...)

Look, I've got nowhere near your dive experience, and maybe I'm being over cautious, but I was curious if you had considered these possibilities?

Glenn
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*Hi Glenn
I guess sometimes you are so cold you forget the rules! The water*

we used was warm rather than hot but I can imagine that water which was too hot would cause problems.

Both Charlie Hood and I survived and he has a shot of me on the front cover of Time UK magazine this week. (See his explanation later in this issue).

Ed

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