

Jan's Gems – September, 2019

Artists and Photography . . .

With being a one-woman-band in my studio, I am constantly learning new techniques for my art. Lately though, I am giving more attention to improving my photographs for my website and e-commerce shops online. I have a long way to go, but for online shops it has become more important to have really fabulous photos. Personally, I am excited that I understand my camera a little more, and pictures of my jewelry and other artwork have looked a tiny bit better in that effort. For years, I have wanted to have Photoshop in my repertoire for resizing and cropping and have studied their monthly packages for that reason. Since I'm only a want-to-be "professional" photographer, I haven't signed up with Photoshop. Maybe because I have used PicMonkey, and found I could use certain applications, eventually realizing the "Monkeys" don't have all that I crave for or need. Ha! Maybe not having Ps has been a mistake, but I do employ outside help when it's really needed. Thank you, Jodi, thank you, Dai, and thank you, Don!

Well okay, this year I was getting antsy to make a decision about Photoshop when in my quest, I found another interface - Affinity Photo. Much like Photoshop, I was pretty excited to find Affinity Photo, especially after hearing good reviews on YouTube. I was psyched to try it, and selling points, for me, included all that I would get with Ps, but . . . with a one-time fee of \$49.99 - Yahoo! I don't budget very well, usually, but without those monthly charges I would have had with Photoshop, I will save the thousands of dollars that could have multiplied within several years.

Now that I have Affinity Photo, I've been studying my workbook applying the many steps, and will let you know how it goes as I learn the ropes. For anyone looking for a photo design interface, I recommend you look into Affinity Photo. I also have learned professional photographers are using what Affinity Photo offers alongside their own Photoshop programs. Quite magical!

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