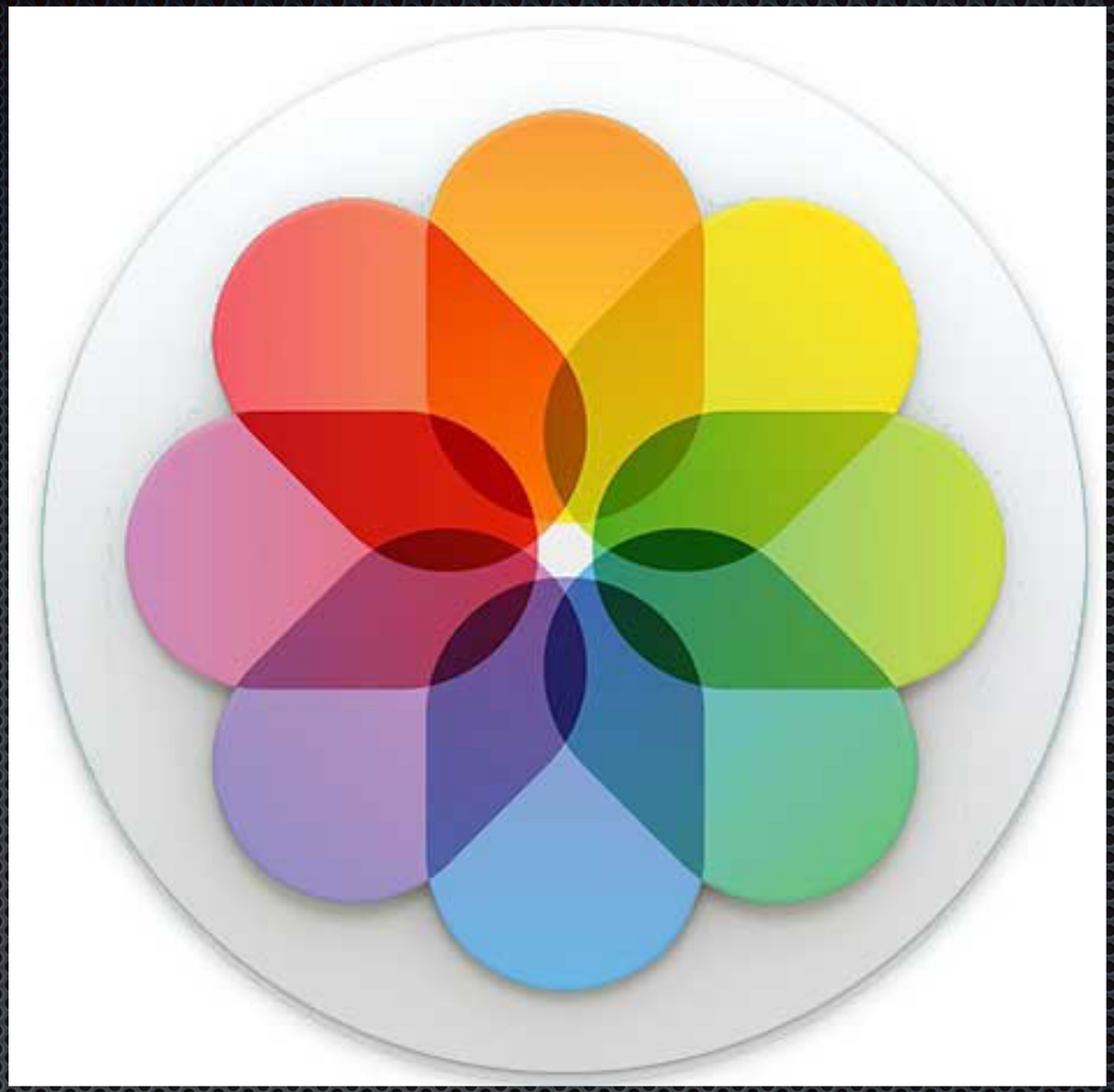


Photos for Mac

Larry Kerschberg, Roy Wagner, Ken Goldman.

Outline of Talk

- What's new in Photos compared to iPhoto and Aperture?
- Importing and consolidating your existing libraries to Photos;
- Deciding whether to store your photos on your Mac or on iCloud servers;
- Enabling iCloud storage and syncing to Macs and iOS devices;

Outline of Talk

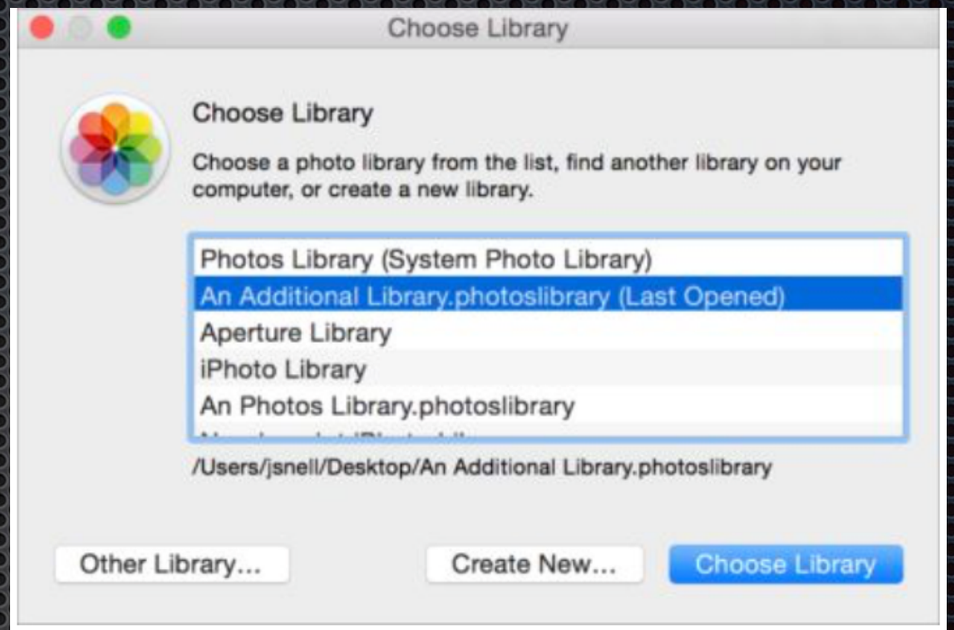
- Cost of iCloud photo storage;
- Exploring the new Photos user interface;
- Sharing photo albums with family and friends;
- Editing your photos: easy and advanced techniques;
- Incorporating Photos into your photo-taking workflow.

What's New in Photos for Mac?

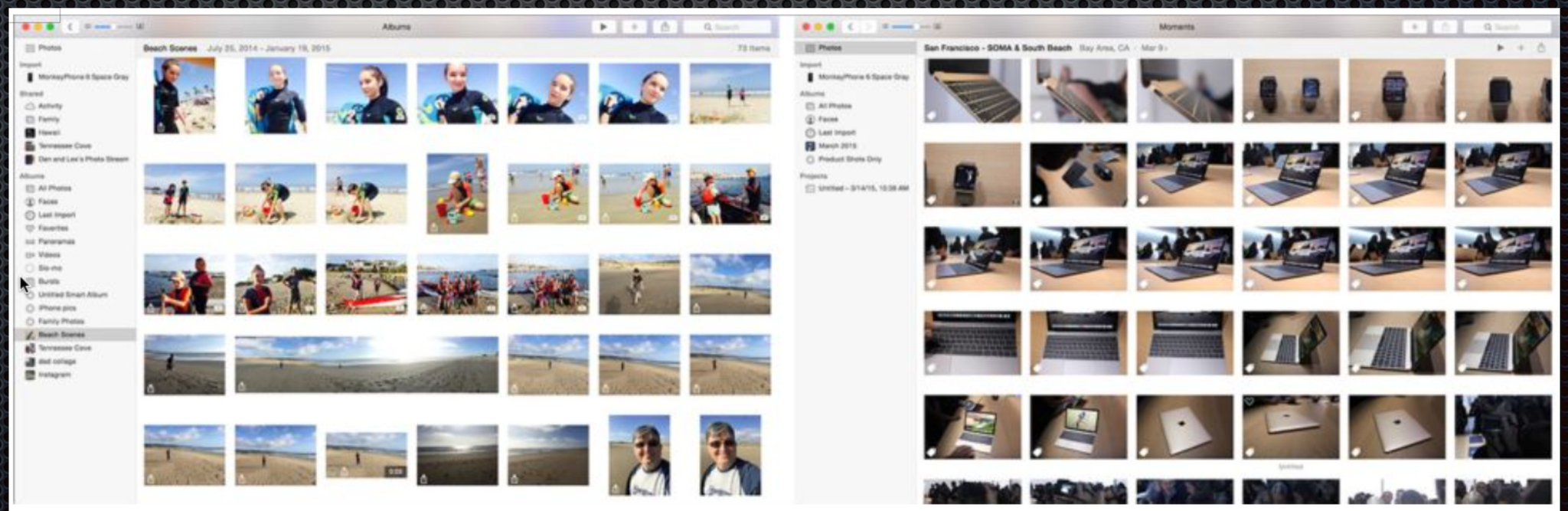
- In 2002, Apple introduced iPhoto as a "digital shoebox for your photos;
- In 2005, Apple introduced Aperture, a professional-grade tool for curating and editing photos.
- **Photos for Mac** will be the *main photo app* from Apple and replaces both iPhoto and Aperture;
- Both iPhoto and Aperture have been removed from the Mac App Store; They will not by updated!
- **Photos for Mac** is compatible with Photos for iOS, and embraces **iCloud storage**.

Import iPhoto libraries to Photos

- The first time Photos is launched, it searches for iPhoto and Aperture libraries.
  - If one library is present, it imports it.
  - If multiple libraries are present, it opens a *Choose Library* dialog.



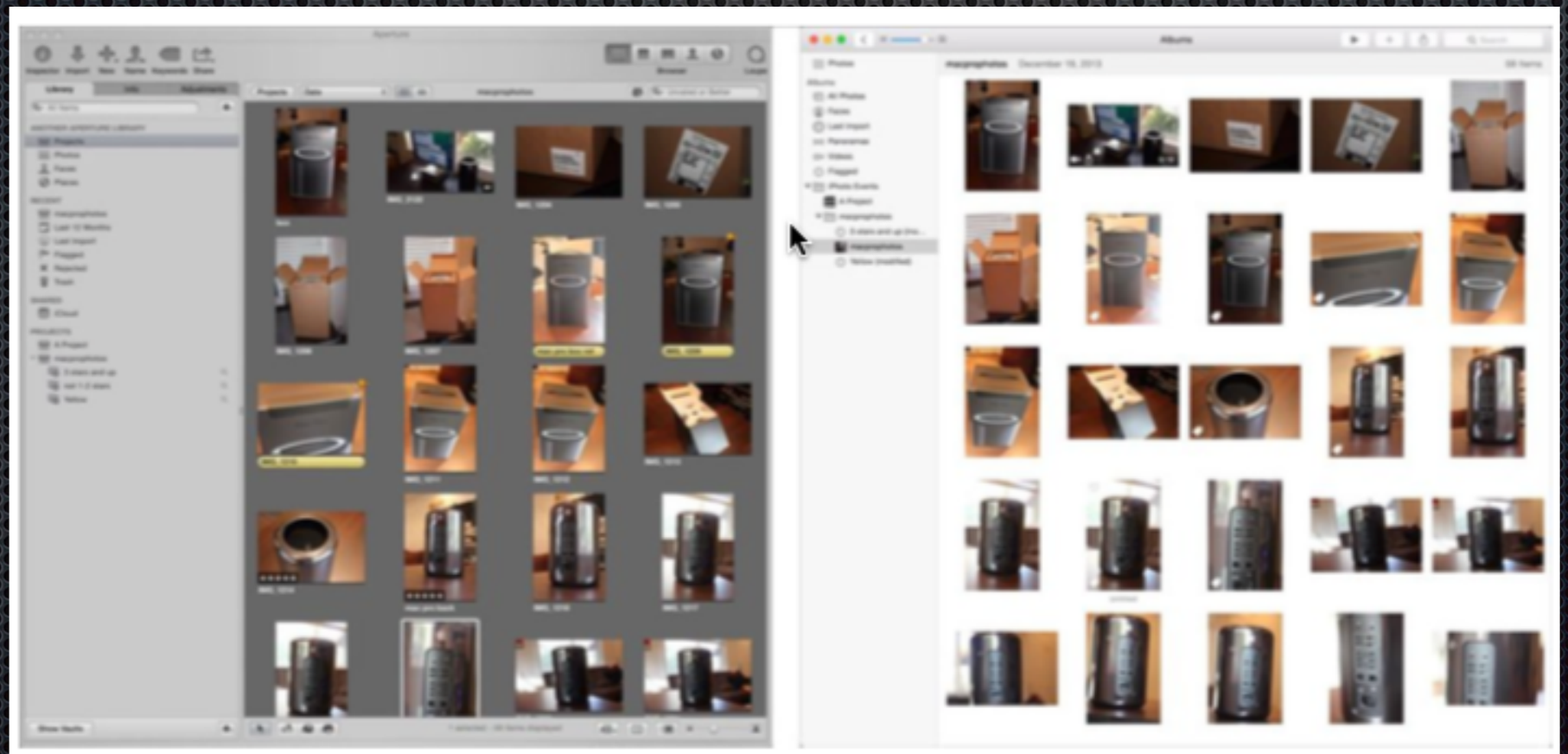
② Hold down Option while opening Photos to see the Choose Library dialog.



① Two different Photos libraries, with entirely different sets of media.

Import Aperture libraries to Photos

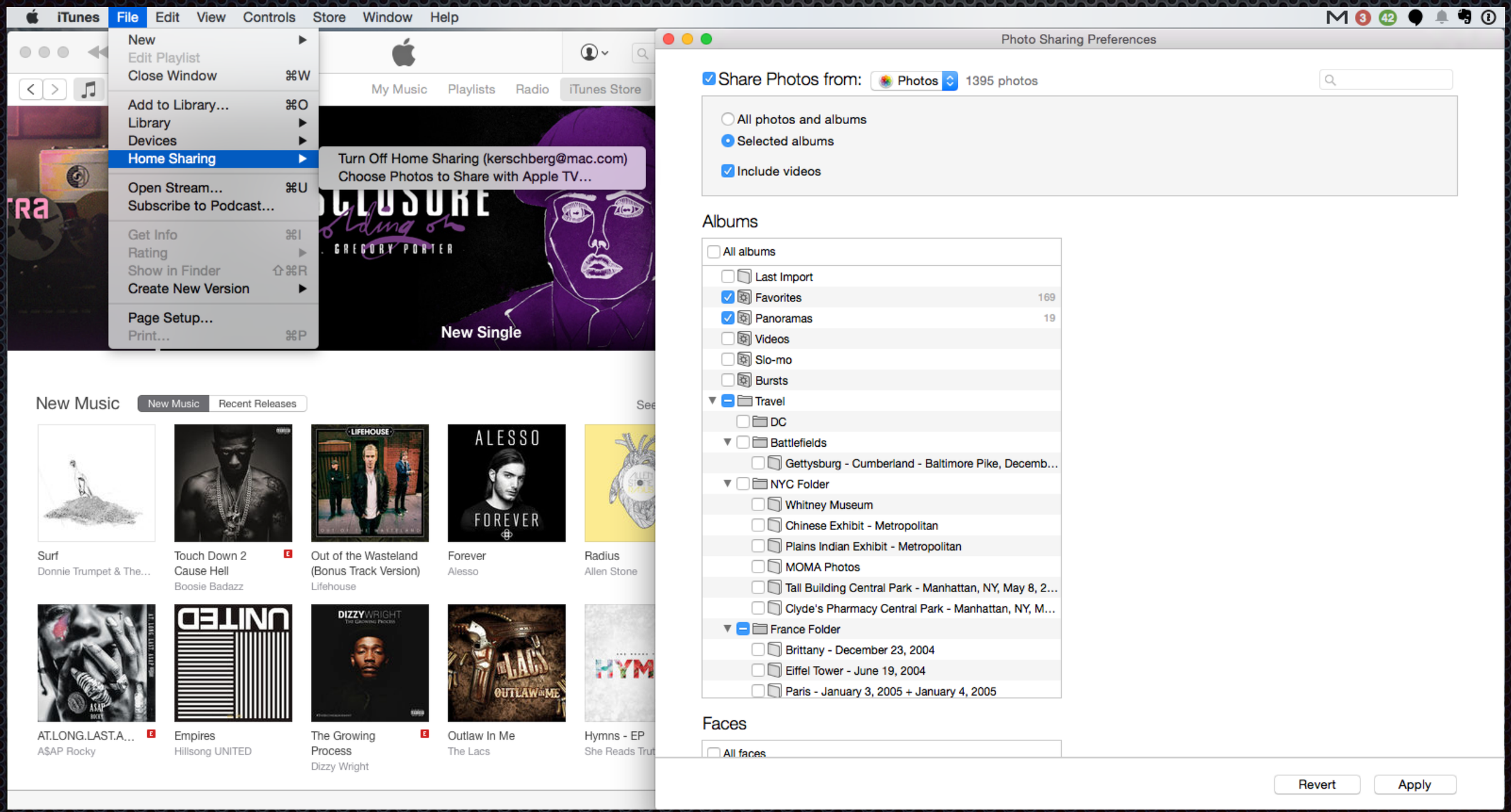
- The first time Photos is launched, it searches for iPhoto and Aperture libraries.
  - If one library is present, it imports it.
  - If multiple libraries are present, it opens a *Choose Library* dialog.



① The Photos version (right) of an Aperture library (left) retains most, but not all, of the previous library's stuff.

Sharing Photos on AppleTV

- In iTunes, Choose **File > Home Sharing > Choose Photos to Share with Apple TV** and select **Photos**



Consolidate multiple libraries to Photos

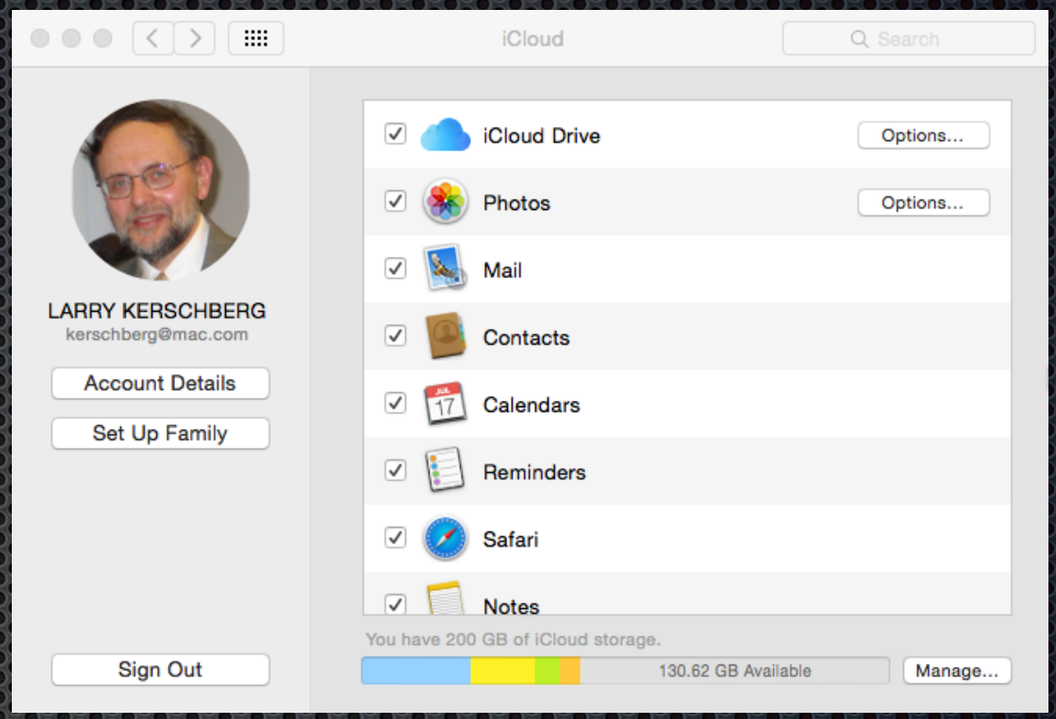
- Suppose you want a single consolidated library in Photos for Mac;
  - Use Aperture to consolidate iPhoto libraries first;
  - Second,Choose File > Import > Library to import into Photos
  - Fat Cat Software publishes an app called iPhoto Library Manager to help consolidate iPhoto libraries before importing into Photos.
- You can also use the iCloud feature: *Merge Libraries in iCloud*.
  - Merges libraries on multiple Macs to same iCloud account.
  - On the same Mac, open the Photos library, designate it as the System Photo Library, and iCloud sync does the rest.

To iCloud or not to iCloud …

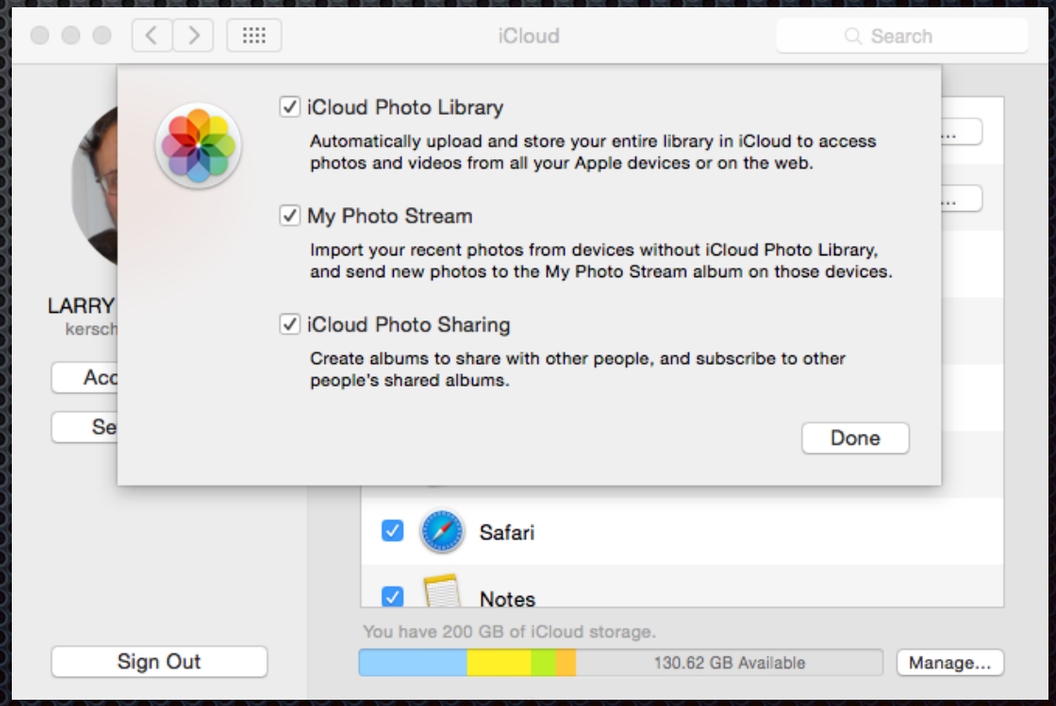
- **Photos for Mac** (Photos) works fine as a standalone image library.
- However, to really take advantage of Photos on all your devices, you will have to turn on ***Sync with iCloud***.
- The fun begins when you begin syncing with iCloud.
- Uploading your entire library to iCloud (10, 20, 50, 300 gigs of images?) It will kill your Internet connection during the upload which can take days!.
- Creating and sharing albums with friends;
- Editing a photo on a Mac, iPad or iPhone and seeing the changes “instantaneously” on all your devices!

Managing iCloud Storage & Services

- Use *Systems Preferences* to manage your iCloud Storage and Photos.

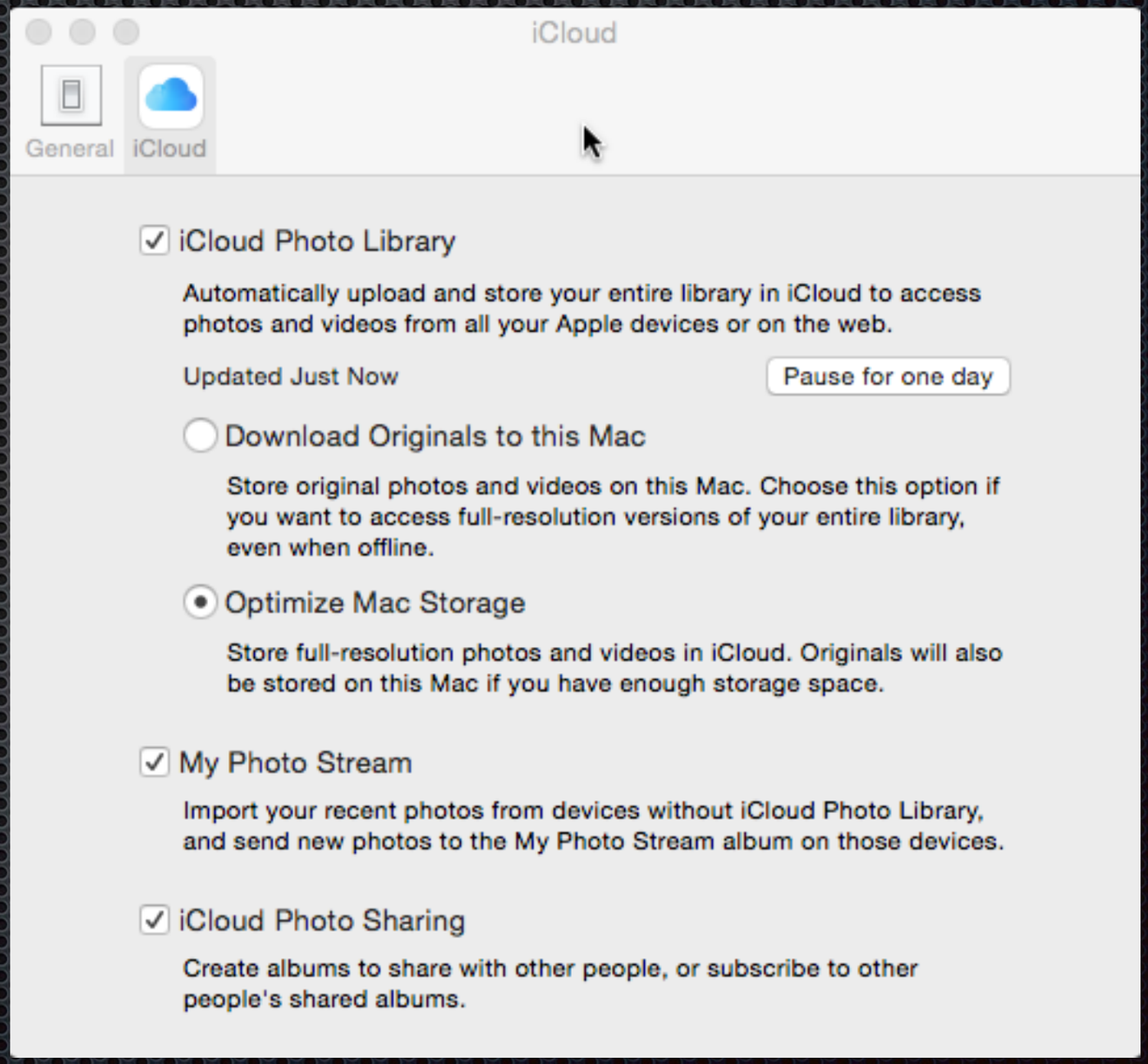


- Click on the Photos options to select the options you want:
  - iCloud Photo Library
  - My Photo Stream
  - iCloud Photo Sharing



Preference in the Photos app

- **iCloud Photo Library**
  - Watch out for Internet slowdown when uploading your libraries to iCloud!
- **Download Original to this Mac**
  - Choose a Mac that will be used to download all your photos, and then backup that Mac using Time Machine, or some other backup program.
- **Optimize Mac Storage**
  - Let iCloud keep the full-resolution originals and download them to your Mac or iOS device as needed.
- **iCloud Photo Sharing**
  - Share albums with friends, add comments, and add photos to your shared library.

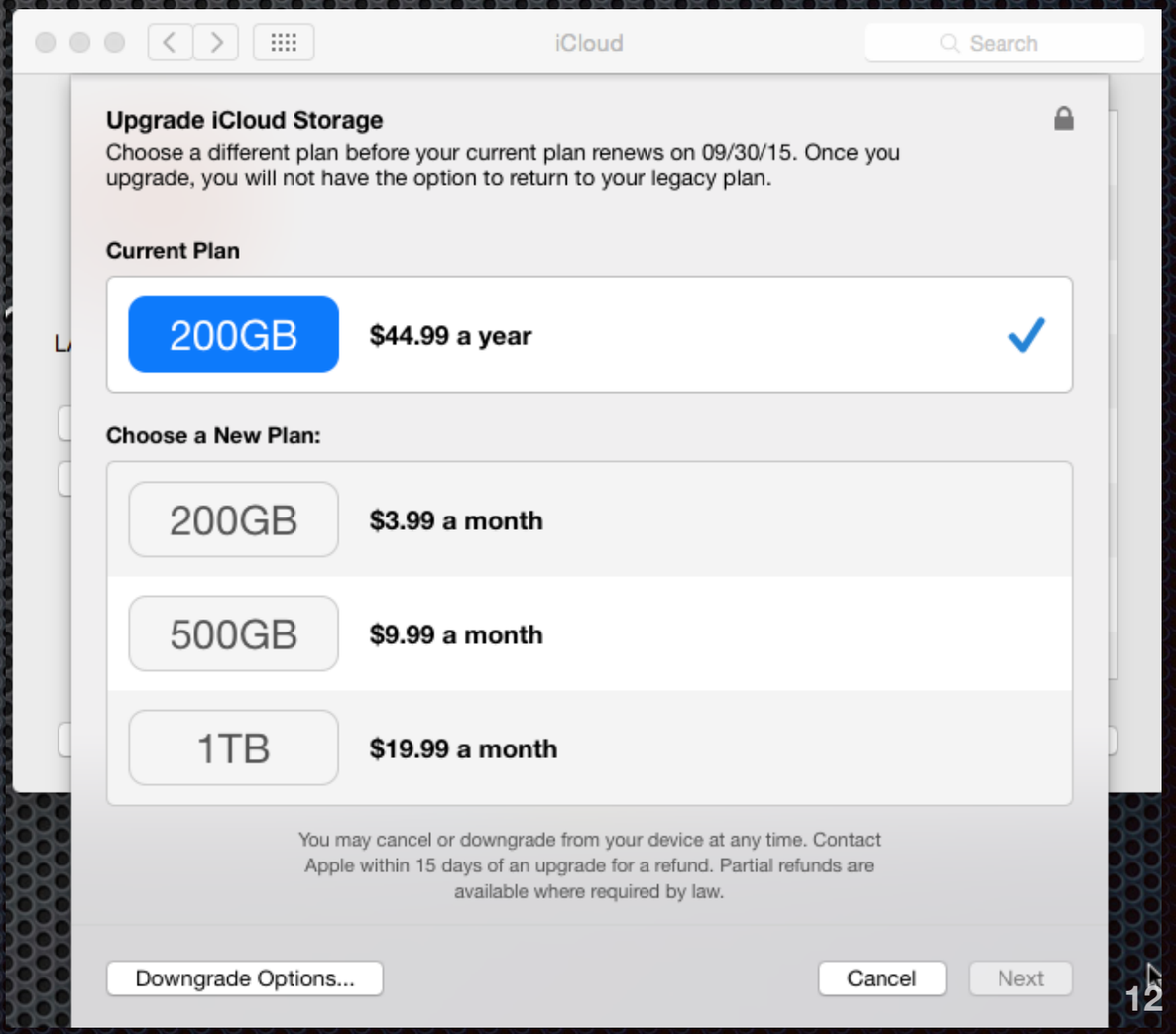


Photos > Preferences

Cost of iCloud Storage

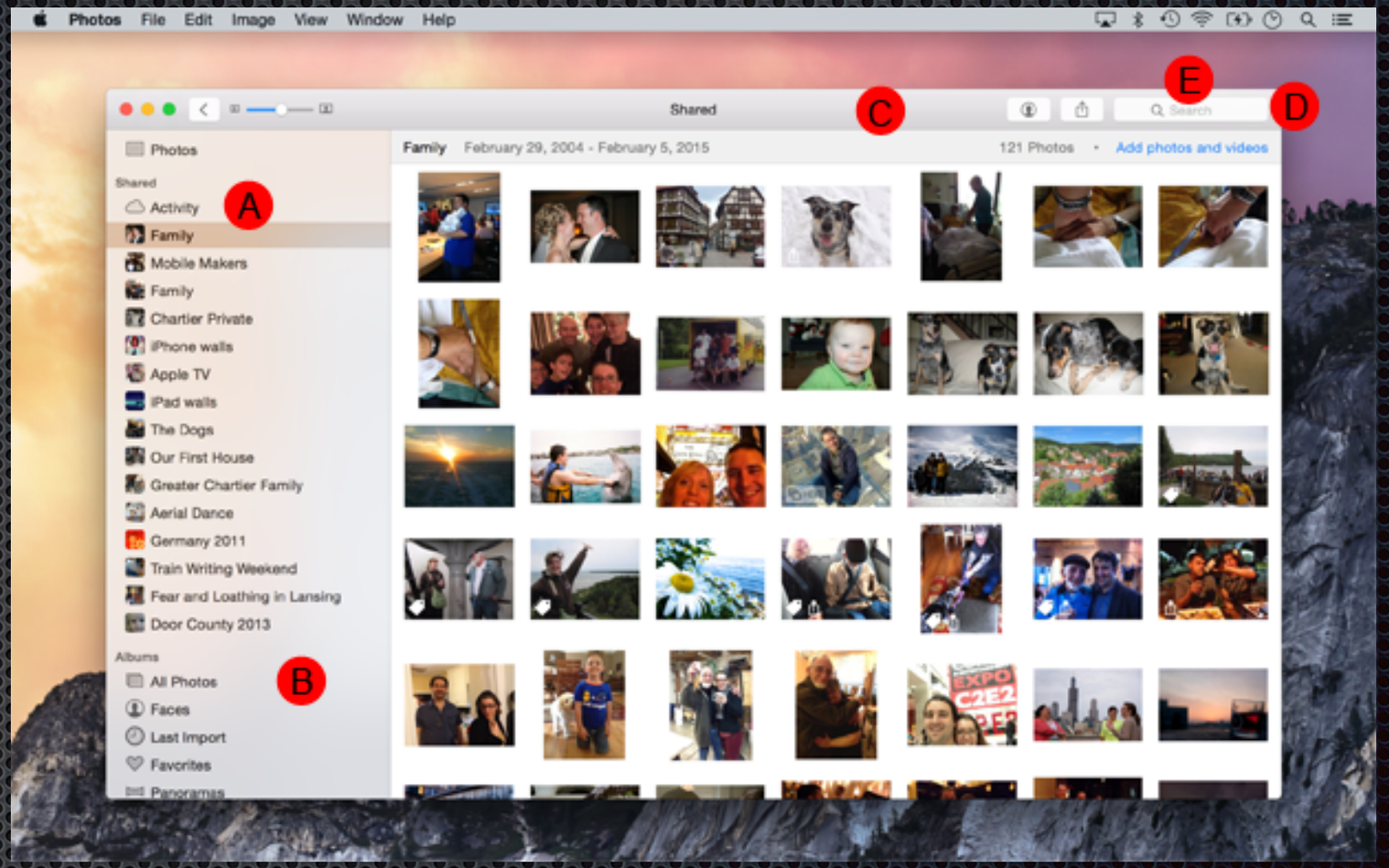
- You can manage your iCloud storage by using:
  System Preferences > iCloud
  and then press the “Manage” button in the lower right, and then click on “Manage Storage Plan” button.

- iCloud storage options and costs
  - 5 Gigabytes - FREE
  - 20 Gigabytes costs $0.99 a month;
  - 200 Gigabytes costs $44.99 a year or $3.99 per month.
  - 500 Gigabytes costs $9.99 a month.
  - One Terabyte (1000 GB) costs $19.99 a month.



The Photos interface for Mac

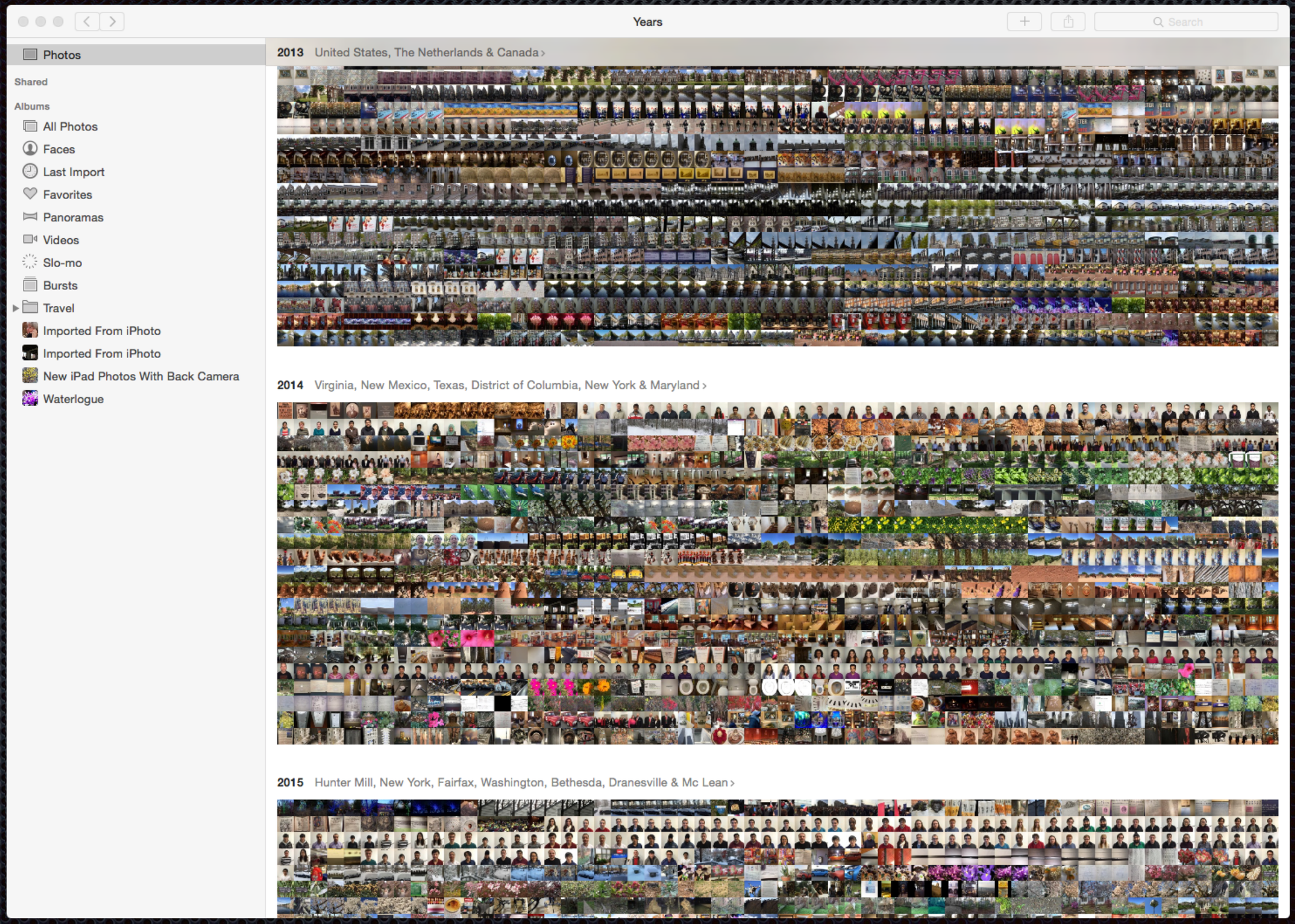
- A: Sidebar with new Albums, Shared Albums, and Folders
- B: Smart Sidebar with Smart folders, such as Faces, Favorites, etc.
- C: Toolbar - Simplified as compared to iPhoto or Aperture
- D - Edit - Suite of tools appear when you edit an image
- E - Search box allows you to search by keyword, location, dates, Faces, etc.



Source: David Chartiers: How to use the new Photos app for Mac, MacLife Magazine, http://www.maclife.com/article/howtos/how-to-use-new-photos-for-mac

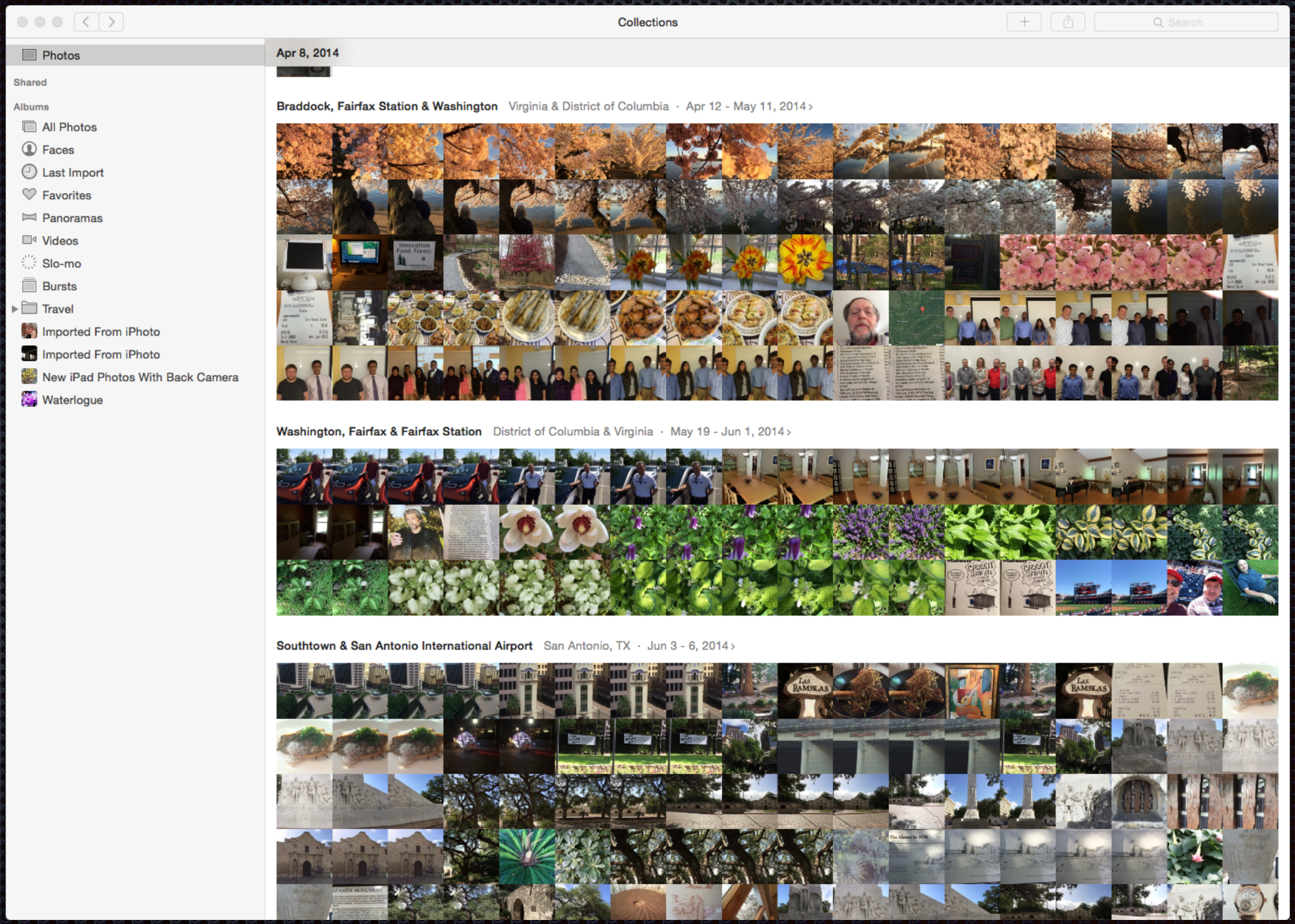
The Photos interface for Mac - Multiple Views

Years



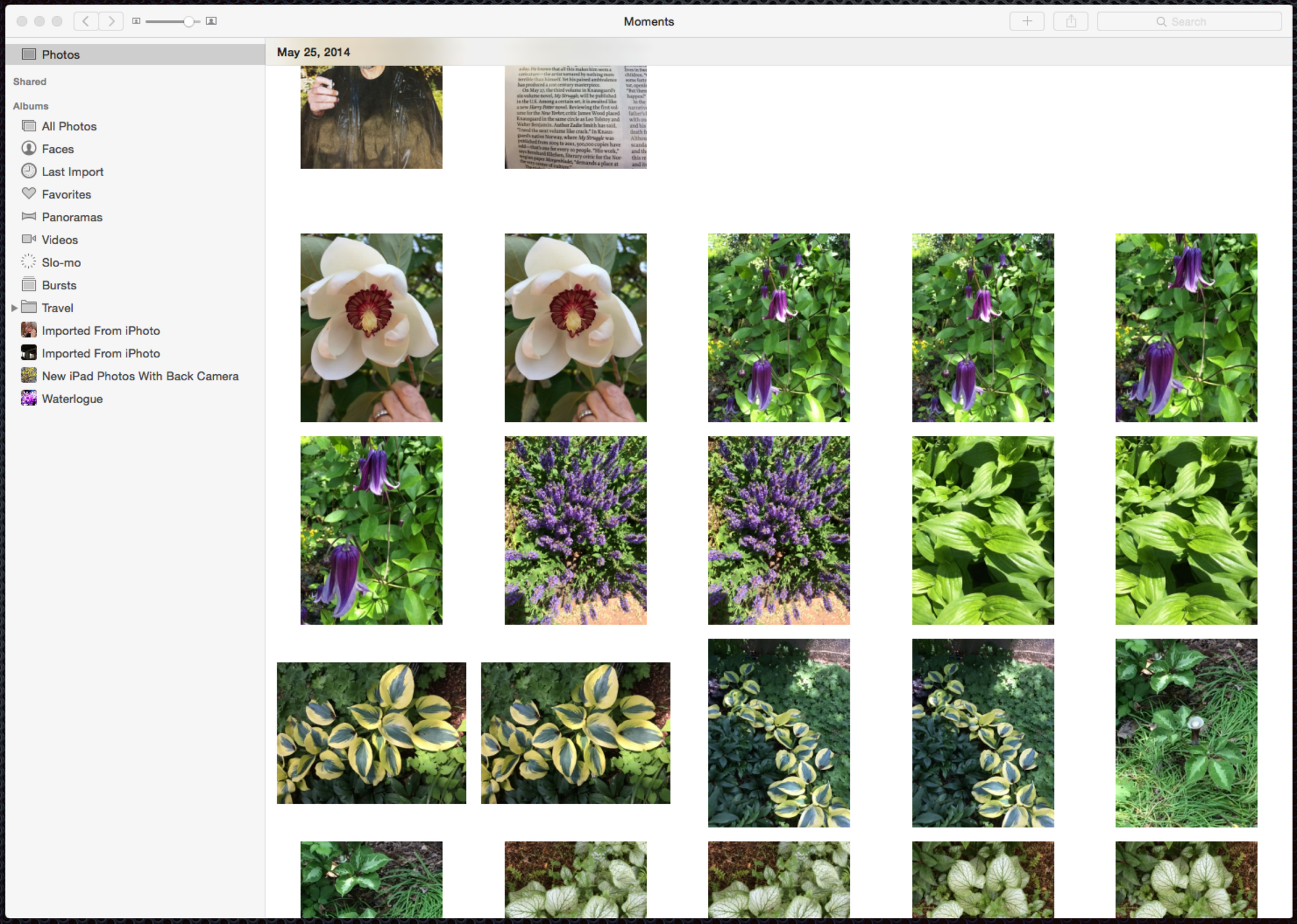
The Photos interface for Mac - Multiple Views

Collections



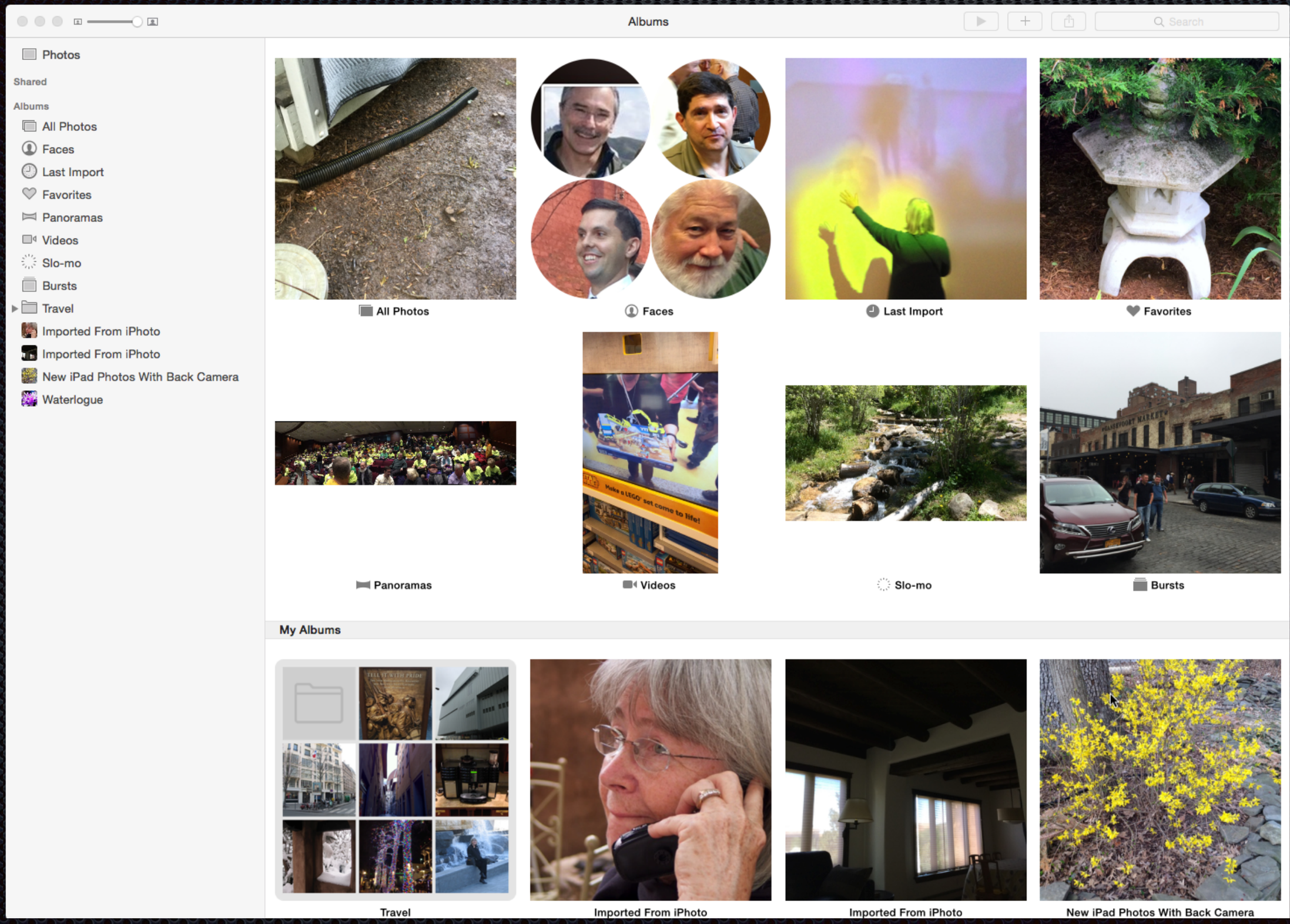
The Photos interface for Mac - Multiple Views

Moments



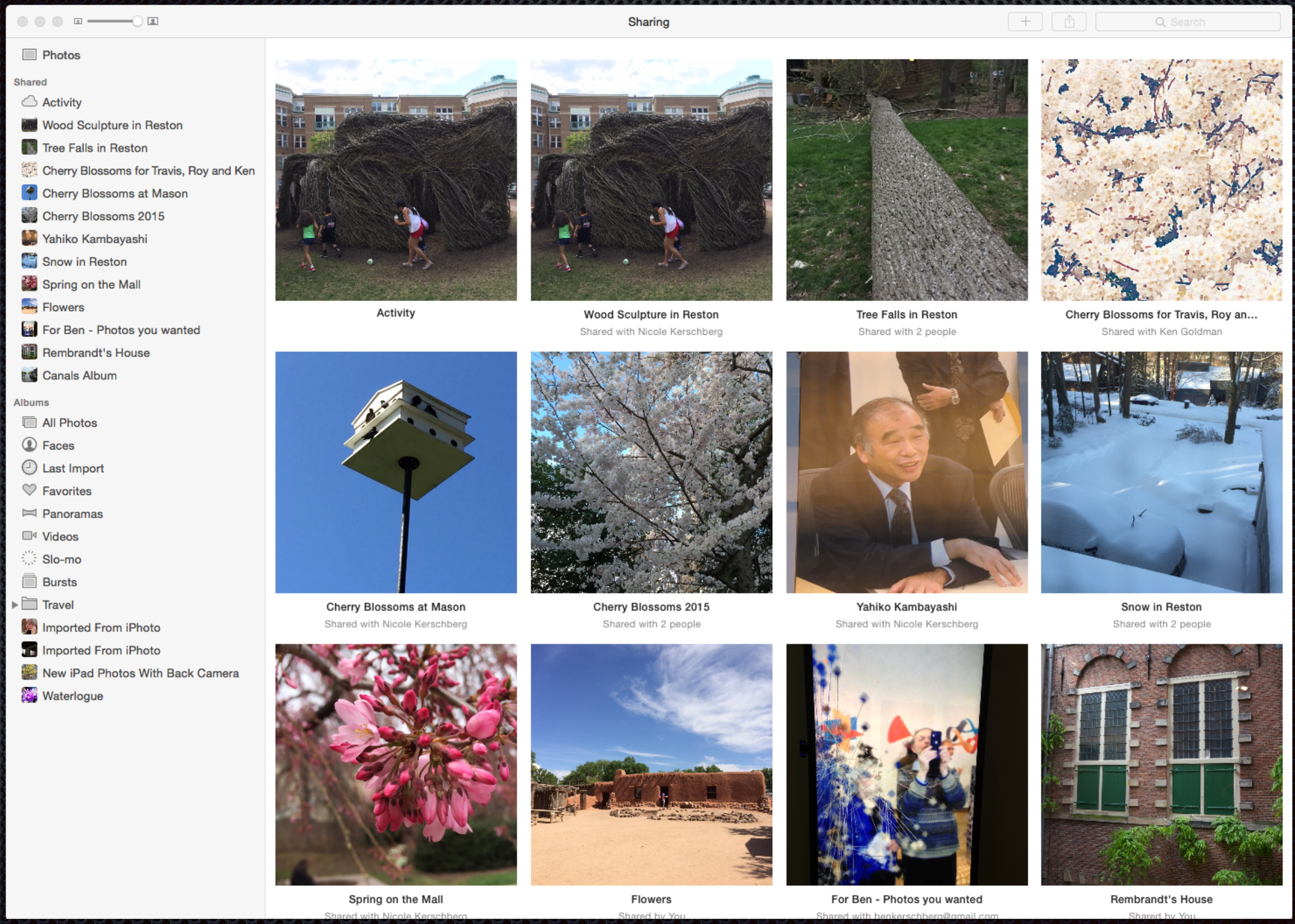
The Photos interface for Mac - Multiple Views

Albums



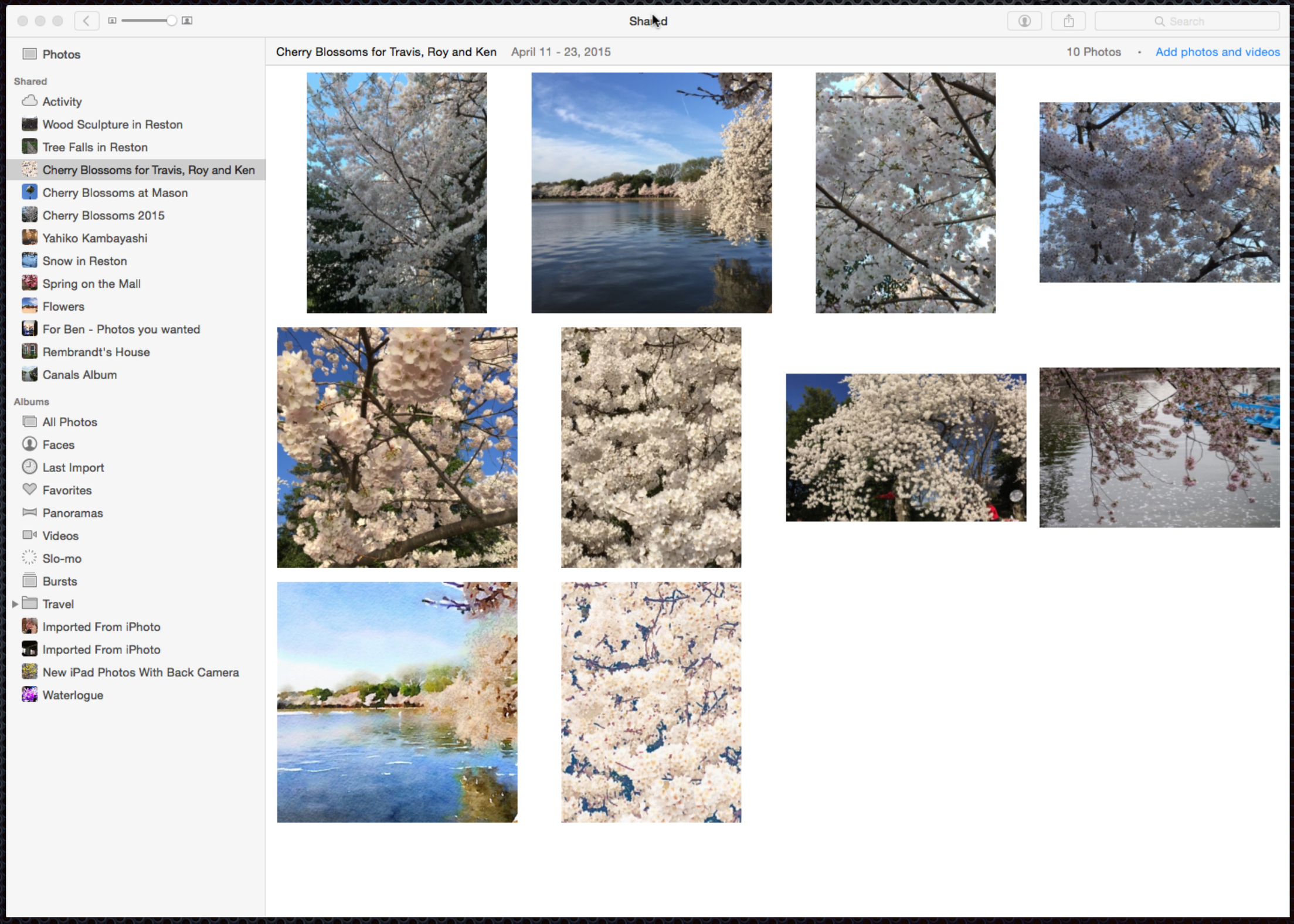
The Photos interface for Mac - Multiple Views

Sharing



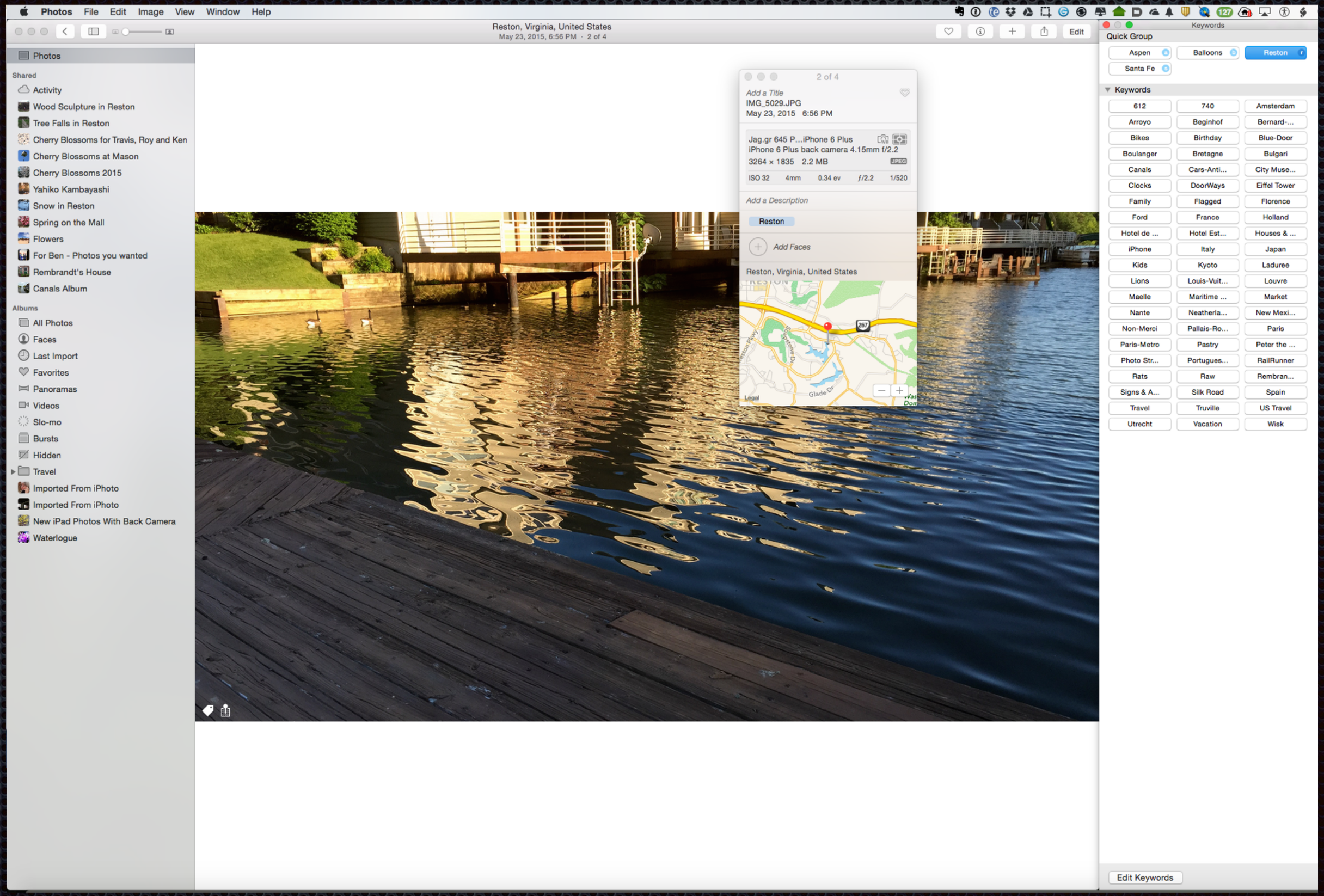
The Photos interface for Mac - Multiple Views

Sharing an Album



The Photos interface for Mac

Keywords and Get Info



Demos of Photos Features

- Navigating the Photos User Interface (Larry)
- Annotating Faces (Larry and Pi Members)
- Viewing Albums (Larry)
- Sharing a photo album with Pi Members (Roy, Larry and Pi Members)
- Editing images in Photos (Ken)
- Discussion of how Photos fits into your workflow (Larry)

Sharing a Photo Album

- First, select some photos you want to share;
- Next use **File > Share > iCloud Photo Sharing** to create and name the album containing the photos you have selected.
- The last step is to share the album with friends, and let them add their photos to the album and add comments about the photos.

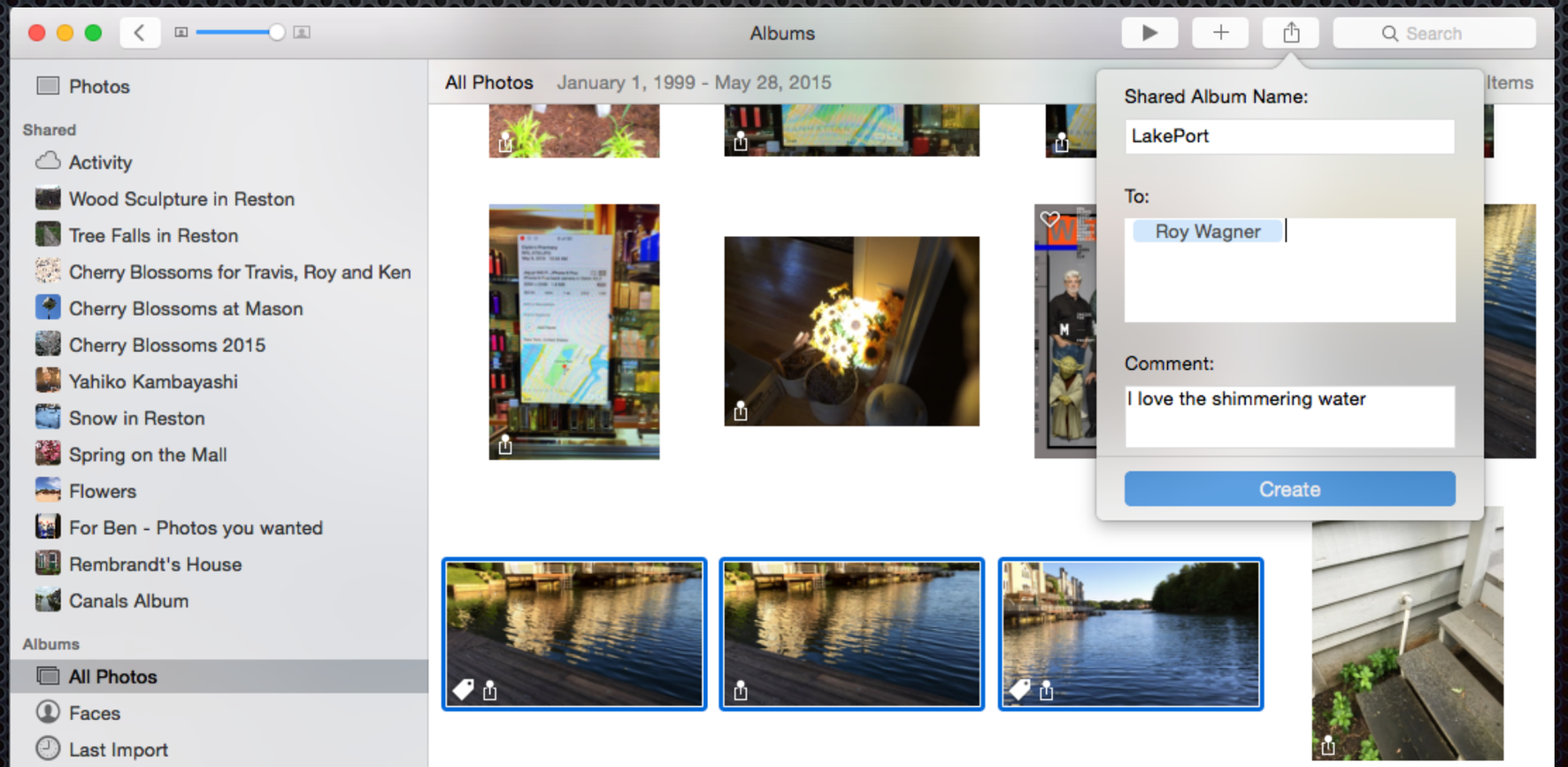


Image Editing in Photos for Mac

- Photos provides many useful tools for the casual photographer
- These tools vary in complexity from single click to detailed work
  - Enhance
  - Rotate
  - Crop
  - Filters
  - Adjust
  - Hidden Adjust Tools
  - Retouch
  - Red eye

Washington Apple Pi
2015 Photo Contest

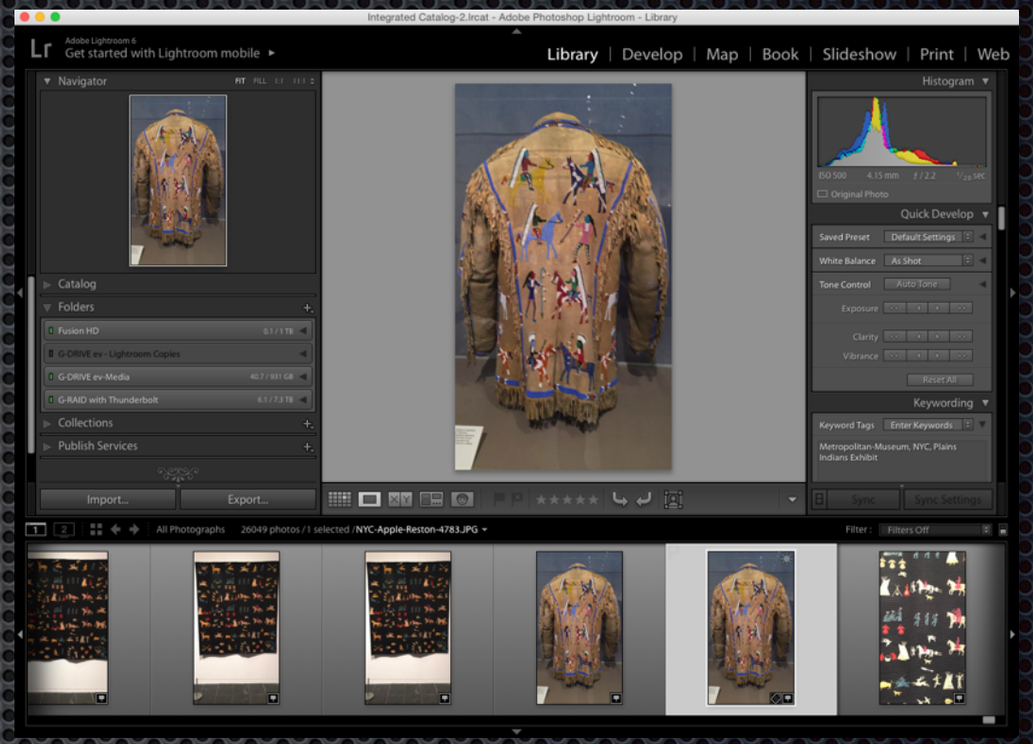
- Images must be taken with an Apple Device (eg iPhone, iPad, iSight Camera)
- Photo must not have been taken earlier than 30 May 2015 and no later than 3 October 2015
- Two Levels - Novice and Advanced
  - Self-selecting
  - All images must be entered at the same level
- There will be two categories:
  - Traditional - Only minor editing (cropping, exposure and contrast adjustments, etc)
  - Unrestricted - You may manipulate the image to your heart's content using any apps that you wish.
- You may submit a total of two images, both in one category, or one in each of the two categories.. Again, pick either Novice or Advanced for all of your images.
- Photos must be submitted for consideration no later than 10 October 2015
- Judging and Awards will be at the October 2015 General Meeting

Resources

- Video Podcast of Karen Messick's Creative Imagery Using iPhone Apps from March of 2014
- Stan Schretter talks how to take and make great photographs
- 16 July 2015 Afternoon Learner's SIG
- 26 September 2015 General Meeting
- Talk to members who are experienced photographers during General Meeting Break or a Clubhouse Saturday

Larry's Photo Workflow

- First, all images are stored and curated in Adobe Photoshop Lightroom version 6;
  - DSLR photos are taken in RAW and JPEG formats;
  - Imported into Lightroom, Geo-tagged with location information, and keyword tagged.
  - iPhone photo-stream also imported into Lightroom



- Selected photos are "exported" to a file with all metadata. They are then imported to Photos.
- Images taken with iPhone and iPad photos are automatically in Photos with location information.
- For backup, the Lightroom catalog, and original images, are stored on a G-Technology 8 TB G-RAID, with G-Drive EV Removable 1 TB drives, and Time Machine backups to 12 TB Promise R6. All are Thunderbolt drives.

Conclusions

- Photos for Mac is a fine image storage and editing app;
- Features are closer to iPhoto than to Aperture;
- Integrates with iCloud storage to sync photos across all devices your Macs, iPads, and iPhones;
- Favorites appear in Apple Watch;
- Sharing your photos with friends is a snap;
- Editing photos is simple and to-the-point;
- Remember to back up your Photos library by designating one Mac as your Photos library local storage and back up using Time Machine.
- Examine your photo workflow to see how Photos fits into it.

References

- Photos for Mac: a Take Control Crash Course, by Jason Snell, http://www.takecontrolbooks.com/photos-crash-course
- iCloud Photo Library: The Missing FAQ, by Joe Kissell, TidBits, April 15, 2015, https://tidbits.com/article/15584
- David Chartiers: How to use the new Photos app for Mac, MacLife Magazine: http://www.maclife.com/article/howtos/how-to-use-new-photos-for-mac
- Jeff Carlson: Review: Photos for OS X is faster than iPhoto but less powerful than Aperture, MacWorld, April 8, 2015: http://www.macworld.com/article/2907180/review-photos-for-os-x-is-faster-than-iphoto-but-less-powerful-than-aperture.html