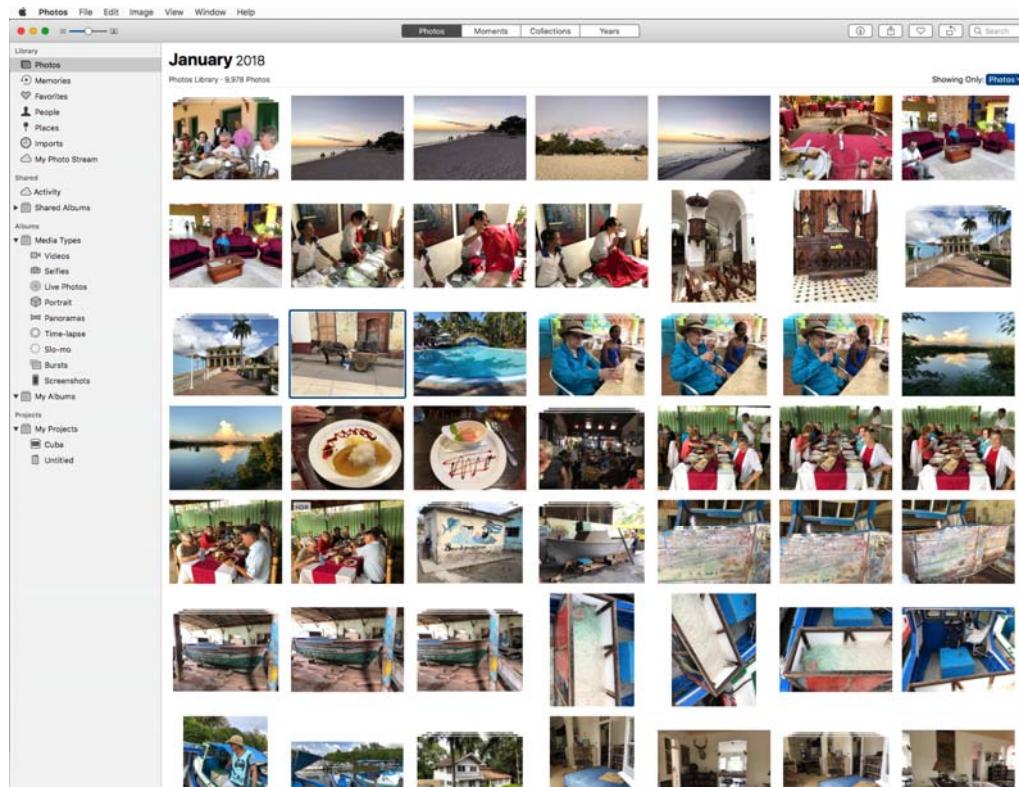
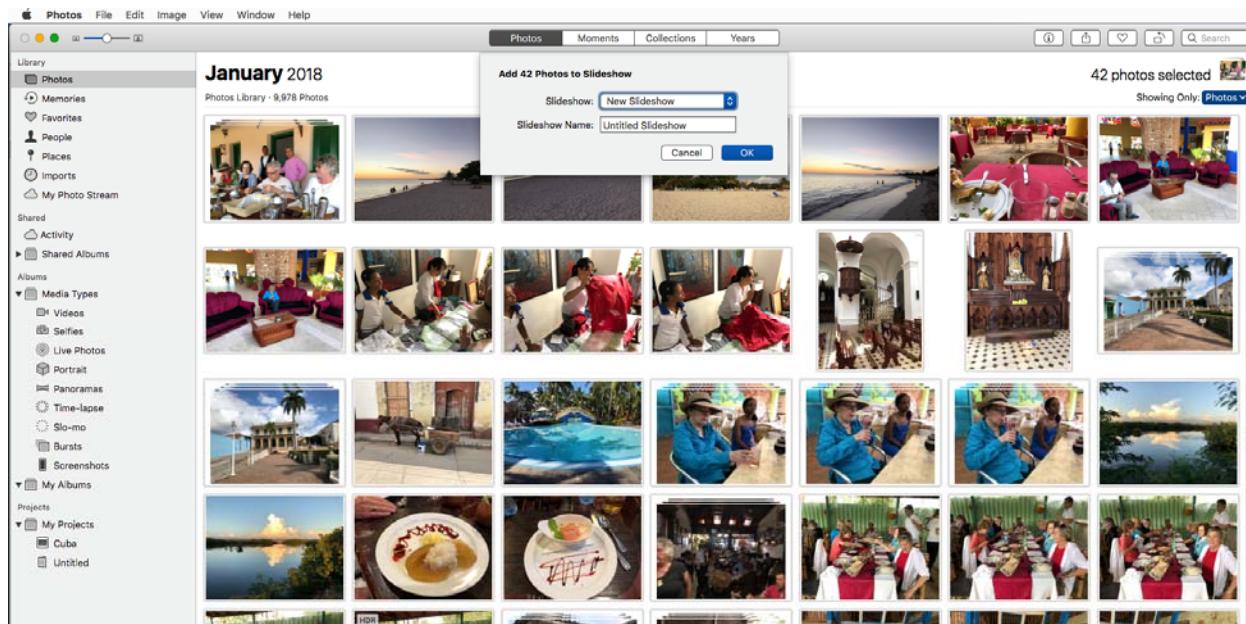


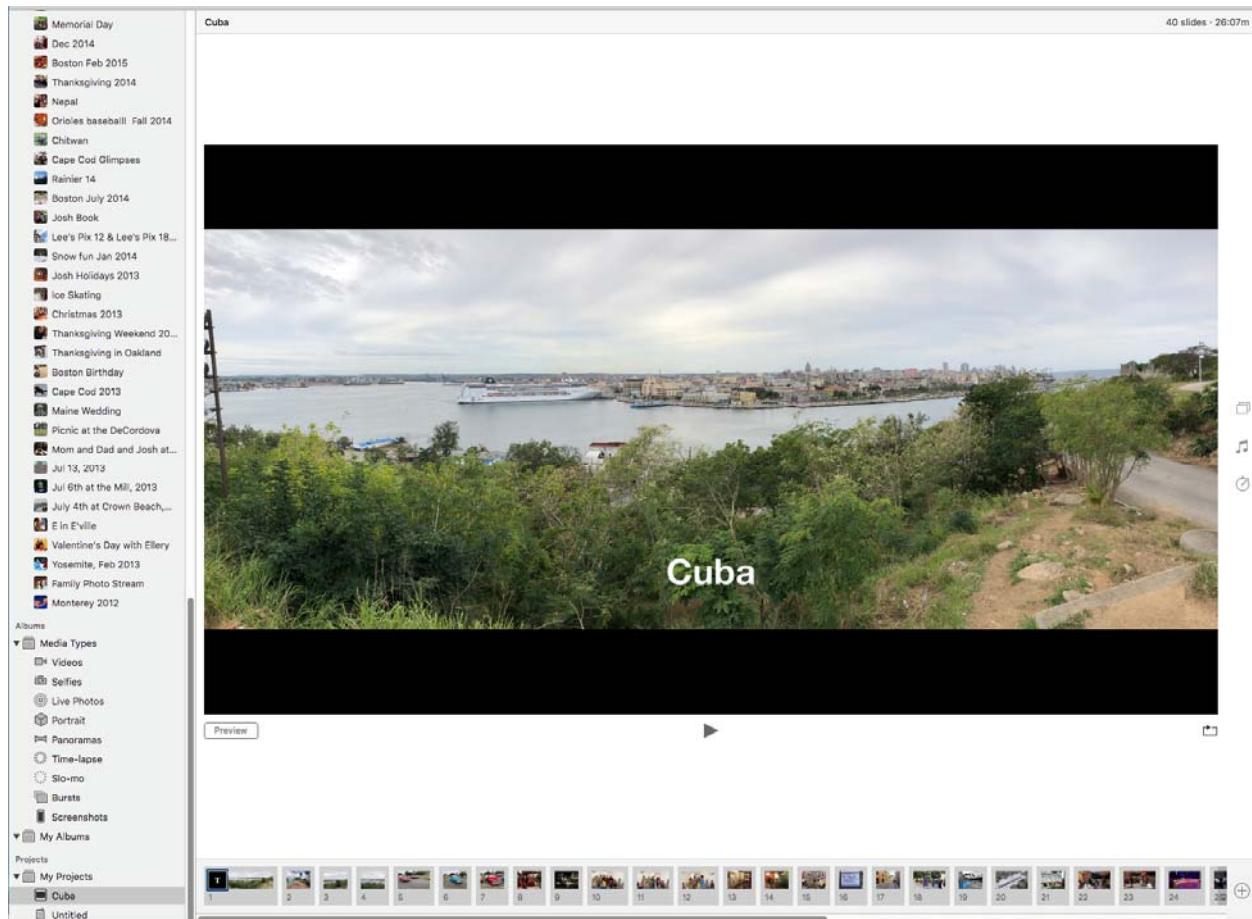
The basic process of a Photo Essay is pretty simple. You make a slideshow, add music and export the finished slideshow as a movie. Open Photos on your Mac and then choose a set of photos (40 or less) and then order them as desired.



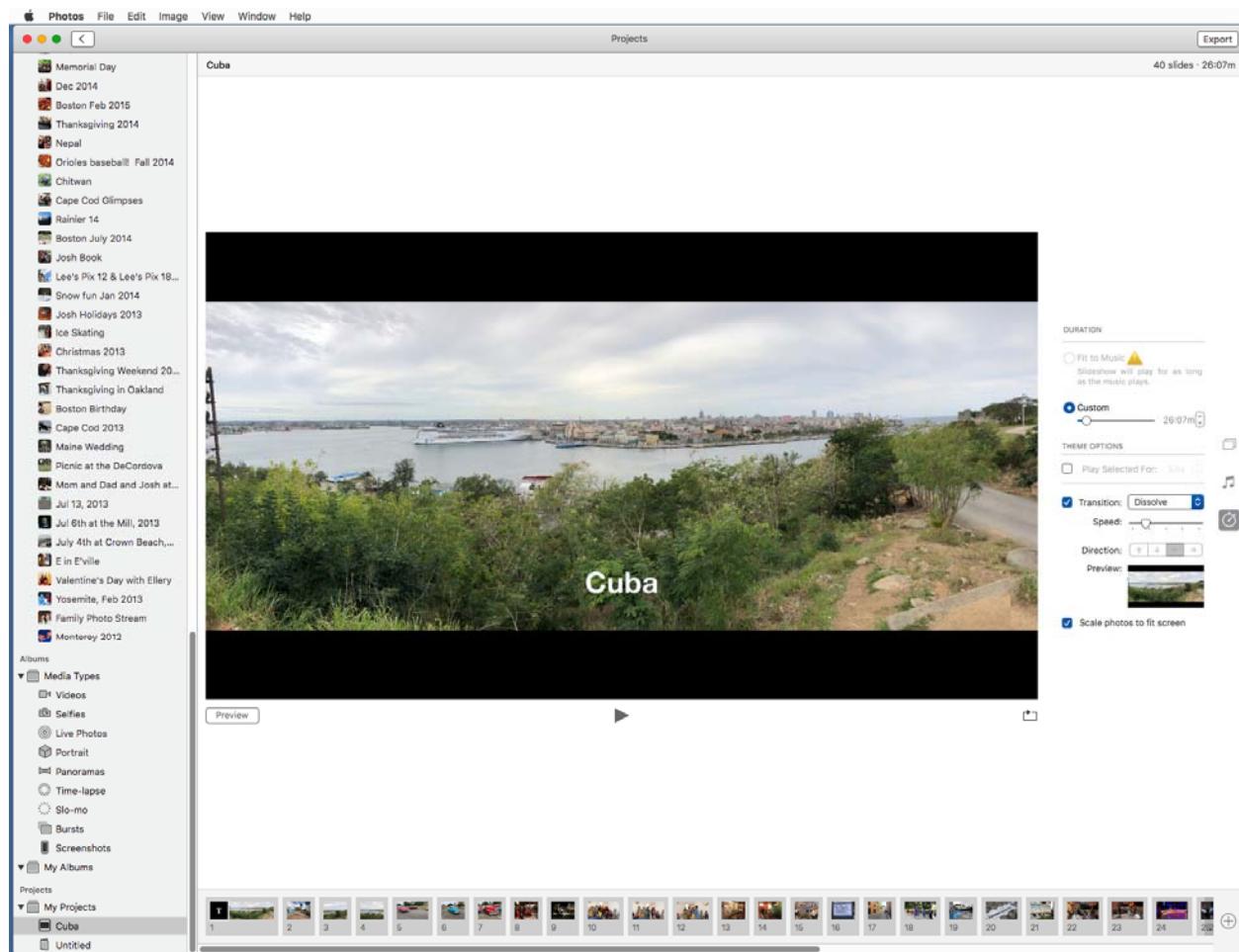
Then select all and choose Create (slideshow) as a new project at the bottom left of the screen, or alternatively select New Slideshow under the File/Create Menu.



You will then be presented with a slide show that you can edit to your hearts content. You can add or subtract photos to the original selection by simply deleting an individual image or sliding it in from the main photos screen. If you look to the right-hand side of the slideshow you will see some very small symbols that let you choose the theme for your slideshow or modify the music and duration.



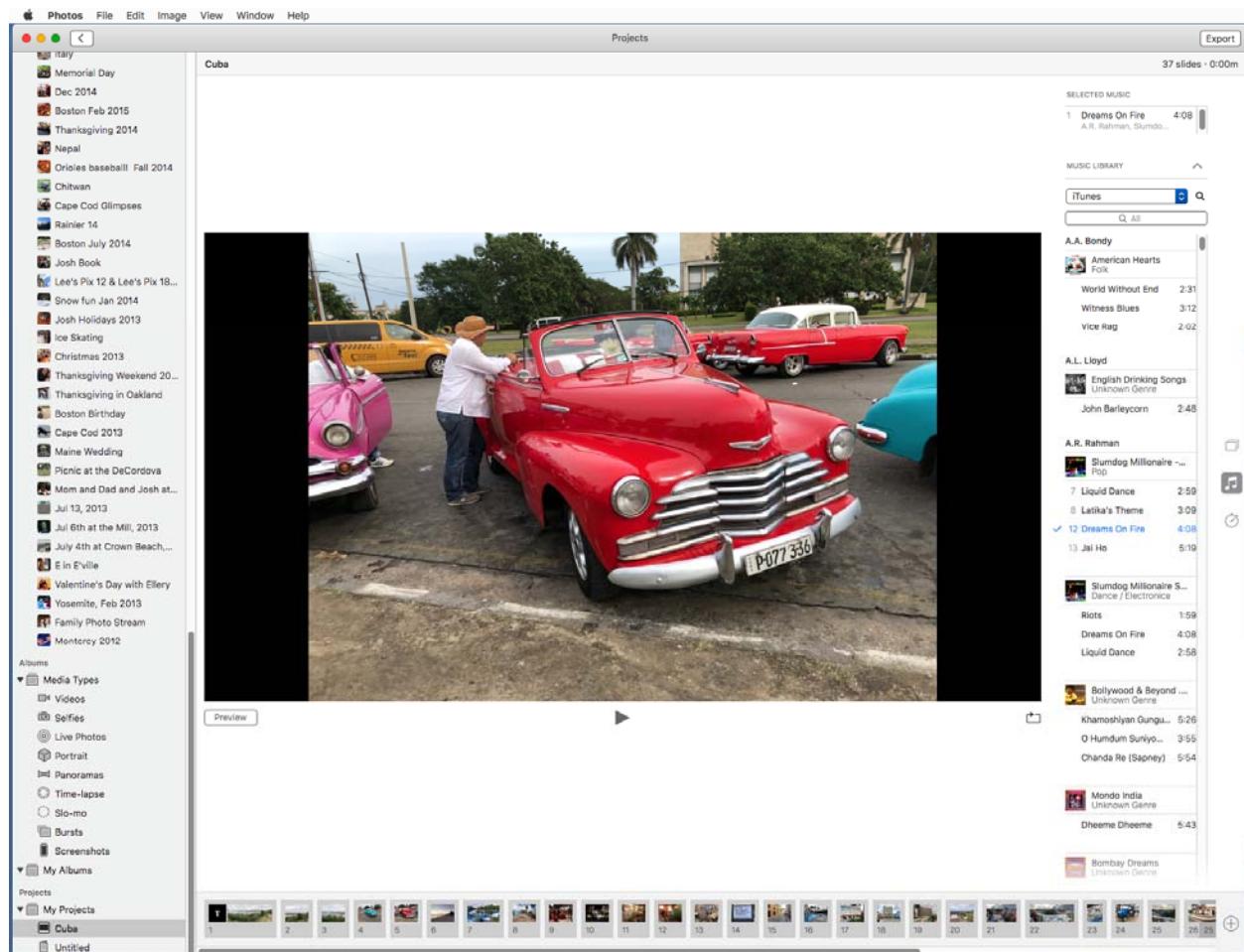
I recommend that you stick to the Classic theme or Ken Burns (which scans the images as they are shown).



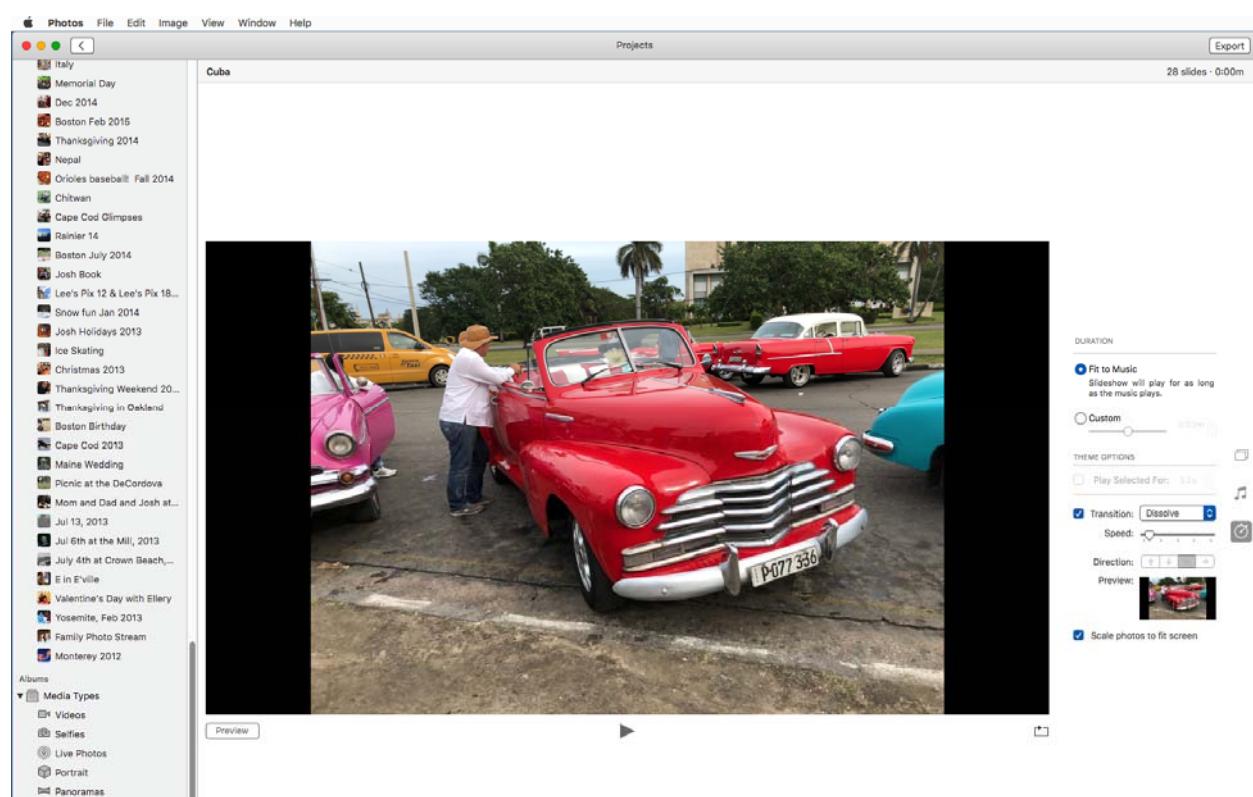
If you had 40 images then showing them for 6 seconds each would get you a 4 min show as requested by photo essay guidelines. I find it is easiest to simply find a 4 min segment of music as I will illustrate in the next section. The dissolve transition is the most common (some of the others are distracting). You do want a title slide and by default this is the title you used for your album but it's easy to select and change. Scaling the photos to fill the screen is most important when you have photos that are not natively the 16:10 format that our projector uses (such as portrait shots) but along with that is the need to hand edit any portrait shots to make sure that the scaling doesn't center on the wrong part of the portrait.

You can specify the length of the show and let Apple provide music but It is more fun to add your own music. Click on the Music icon at the side of the screen to open up the Music settings window. Select from your music library on iTunes and you can choose to create a custom playlist that adds up to 4 mins worth of music or what is simpler is just select a piece of music that is 4 minutes in length.

How to Make an Mac 'Photos' Photo Essay — © John Willis, September 2018



Now you can select the duration to fit to music and it will adjust the display of the slides to match your music.



You can now click preview to see your slideshow. You will notice that some slides may need to be adjusted if they were scaled to the wrong centering for the screen (in the case of a portrait especially) or you may wish to add other effect to an image or a set of images (like the Ken Burns zoom and pan effect). There is not a lot of adjustment ability but you when you select an individual image there is a small overlay in the lower left of the image that lets you decide the starting point for the Ken Burns effect on an individual image.

You can add an text to a slide by clicking on the add object symbol in the lower right of your screen (next to the row of slides). The font, etc. is fully adjustable by selecting the text and using the Edit/font menu.

So, assuming you are satisfied with your preview the next step is to output a movie of your slideshow to share with others. Just use the Export button on the top right hand side of the slideshow window and output the movie at high definition 1080p quality.

For the example movie I've used the total size was 330 MB and took just a few minutes. To share with others you will need to use something like dropbox or a physical thumbdrive.

