Chapter 1

Get to know Sony Movie Studio Platinum 12 5

What's what and what it does

The Sony Movie Studio 12 interface 6
The Project Media window 7
The Explorer window 8
The Transitions window 9
The Video FX window 9
Media Generators 10
The Trimmer 10
The Preview window 11
The Timeline 11
Additional "Pop-up" windows 12
The Video FX dialog window 12
The Audio FX dialog window 12
The Plug-in Chooser 13
The Pan/Crop Motion dialog window 13
Customize your workspace 14
Resize the windows 14
Maximize/Minimize the windows 14
Undock the windows 14
Save and load a Window Layout 15
Basic editing moves 16
What's new in version 12? 22
Improved performance 22
New effects and transitions 23
3D Titling with the Platinum Suite 23
Pixelcast 24

Chapter 2

Start a New Project 25

Smart beginnings

The Welcome Screen 26
Start a new project 26
Select settings in the New Project dialog box 27
Set up your project based on your source footage 28
Set up your project based on your planned output format 28

What is 24p? 28
Match Media Settings 29
Set up your project for 50p and 60p video 30
Change Project Properties 31
- Full Resolution Rendering Quality 31
- Deinterlace Method 31
- Set Project Properties default 31
- Video, Audio and other Project Properties 32

Cut and paste between projects 32

Chapter 3

Get Media Into Your Project 35

Gathering your assets

Add media to your project 36
Titles and Media Generators 36
Capture video from a miniDV camcorder 37
Batch Capture your video 40
Capture video from an HDV camcorder 41
Capture video from an analog or non-DV source 43
Get video from an AVCHD or hard drive camcorder 44
Import video from a DVD or DVD camcorder 46
Scan your photos with Sony Movie Studio 47
Extract audio from a CD 50
Download video from the Web 51
Import media from your hard drive 52
Create specialized media with the Media Generator 52
- Preset media clips and textures 53
- Preset title templates 53
- Customize generated media 53
- Set a Generated Media clip's length 55
- Save Generated Media settings as a preset 55
- Re-edit a Generated Media clip 56

Add media from the Explorer window 56

Chapter 4

Order and Prep Your Clips in the Project Media Window 57

The catalog of your imported media

Get to know the Project Media window 58
- Media clip views 58
- Preview your Project Media clips in the Trimmer 58
- Organize your clips in Media Bins 59

Media Offline warning 59
Remove All Unused Media 60

Locate a media clip on your hard drive 60
Pre-stabilize a media clip 61
Pre-apply an effect to a "media" clip 62
Tools for working with still photos 63
- Red-Eye Reduction 63
- Rotate Clips 63

Remove a clip from your Project Media 64
Replace a clip in your Project Media 64
Recapture All Off-Line Media 64

Chapter 5

Prepare Your Media in the Trimmer Window .. 65

Previewing and pre-setting your clips

Open a clip in the Trimmer 66
Trimmer history 67
Pre-trim a clip in the Trimmer 67
Launch the Trimmer with a double-click 67
Create a sub-clip 69
Add Audio Only or Video Only from Project Media 70
Add Audio Only or Video Only from the Trimmer 70
Add Media From Cursor or Add Media Up To Cursor 71
Timeline Overwrite options 72
Place the Trimmer in its own panel 73
Open the Trimmer on an External Monitor 74

Chapter 6

Edit Video on the Timeline 75

Where your clips become a movie

Add media clips to your timeline 76
Preview your timeline 77
Arm a video or audio track 77
What to do if your timeline playback lugs 78
Trim an event clip on your timeline 78
Split an event clip on your timeline 79
The danger of over-extending an event clip 79
Create an Automatic Cross-Dissolve between events 80
Separate a clip's audio and video 80
Speed up or slow down an event clip 81
Play an event clip in reverse 81
Basic Timeline controls and views 82
- Zoom in or out on your timeline 82
- Scrub the timeline 82
- Position the Timeline Cursor at a precise point on your timeline 82

Add a Fade In or Fade Out to a video event clip 83
Shoot 3D video without a 3D camcorder 84
Edit 3D video 84
3D formats and Anaglyphic video 85
Set up your video project for 3D 85
Align your 3D video channels 86
Output your Anaglyphic 3D video 86
Add a 3D effect to a title 87
Render and pre-render your video project 88
Selectively pre-render your video 88
Dynamic RAM Rendering 90
Render to a New Track 91
Render only one track of video to a new track 92

Chapter 7
More Timeline Tools 95
The deeper toolkit

Select segments of events on your timeline 96
Create a Loop Region 97
Select individual event clips on your timeline 97
Cut, Copy and Paste clips on the timeline 98
Paste Event Attributes 99
Cut, Copy and Paste between projects 99
Delete events from your timeline 100
Auto Ripple modes 100
Auto Ripple disabled 100
Auto Ripple/Affected Tracks 101
Auto Ripple/Affected Tracks, Markers and Regions 101
Auto Ripple/All Tracks, Markers and Regions 101
Post-Edit Ripple 102
Delete and Close Gap 102
Slip or Slide an event clip or cut/transition 103
Slip a clip 103
Slide a cut or transition 103
Group and Ungroup your events 104
Create a Group 104
Clear a Group 104
Remove individual events from a Group 105
Track headers 106
Add a video or audio track 107
Reorder your video and audio tracks 107
Remove a video or audio track 107
Rename a track 108

Resize your video and audio tracks 108
Use the Timeline Grid as a guide 109
Snap clips to the Grid 109
Add multiple Takes of a scene to your timeline 110
Edit with J-cuts, L-cuts and multiple tracks of video 112
Create a Picture-in-Picture or Brady Bunch effect 114
Parent and Composite your video tracks 116
Mask a composited video 116
Parenting video tracks 117
Blur a face, as on TV's COPS 118
Timeline Quick Edit tools 122

Chapter 8
Work with Photos 123
Slideshows and motion paths

Project Media tools for working with photos 123
Optimize your photo sizes 124
Create a slideshow 124
Create a motion path over your photo 127
Lengthen or shorten your slideshow 129
Reduce Interlace Flicker 130

Chapter 9
Edit Audio on the Timeline 131
Adding and mixing your movie's sound

Add audio media clips to your timeline 132
Add Audio Only or Video Only from Project Media 132
Add a Fade In or Fade Out to an audio event clip 133
Basic audio event editing 133
Monitor your movie's audio levels 134
Adjust the Gain level for an audio event 134
Normalize a clip's Gain level 135
Adjust Volume or Pan for an entire audio track 136
Use Audio Envelopes to adjust audio levels at specific points 136
Interpolate audio keyframes 138
Edit or delete a keyframe or Audio Envelope 139
Adjust an audio track's Pan Audio Envelope 139
Adjust Pan for an entire audio track 139
Adjust Pan at specific points on your timeline 139
Edit your audio in an another program 140
Fill in a missing right or left audio channel 140
Record narration into your project 141

If your microphone isn't recognized... 141
Record alternate narration Takes 143
Pace your recording with the Metronome 143

Chapter 10
Preview Window Tools..... 145
Test driving your video

Adjust your Preview window's size and quality 146
Interlacing and Progressive Scan 148
Display the Safe Areas overlay 148
Project Properties 149
Grab a "snaphsot" of your video 150
Grab and paste your snapshot 150
Save your snapshot to a file 151
Play your video on an external monitor 152

Chapter 11
Add and Customize Your Titles 155
Putting text in your movie

Create a title using Generated Media template 156
Customize a Generated Media title 157
Create a title from a (Legacy) Text template 157
Create a title from a Titles & Text template 160
Set a title's duration 160
Create a title from a Credit Roll template 162
Insert Text Media into your project's timeline 164
Animate your title's properties with keyframes 165
Use special characters for a professional look 167
Edit a title event 168
Add effects to a title event 168
Save a custom look as a preset 168
Save a custom preset 169
Apply a preset look 170
Delete a custom preset from the Preset library 170
The NewBlue 3D Titler EX 170

Chapter 12
Add and Adjust Video Effects..... 171
Adding magic to your movies

Add FX to your video 172
Event vs. Track vs. Media vs. Video Output FX 173
Apply an effect from the Video FX window 174
Select an effect from the Plug-In Chooser 175
Video FX Plug-Ins defined 176

Magic Bullet QuickLooks 180
Adjust a video effect 181
Multiply effects in a chain 182
Chroma Key a background 183
Remove a video effect 183
Bypass or disable an effect 186
What are OFX effects? 187
Pre-render your video effects 188

Chapter 13
Add and Adjust Audio Effects..... 189
Shaping your movie's sound

Apply an audio effect 190
Add an audio effect to an event on your timeline 190
Add an effect to an audio track 192
Add an effect to your entire movie's audio 192
Audio FX plug-ins defined 193
Adjust an audio effect 196
Remove an audio effect 197
Remove a Non-Real-Time effect from an audio event 197
Remove an effect from an audio event, track or master audio 197
Swap between alternative audio Takes 198

Chapter 14
Add and Customize Transitions 199
Smooth moves from clip to clip

Create a simple audio or video Cross-Fade 200
Convert a Cross-Fade to another transition 201
Interpolate your transition 201
Transition preferences 202
Add a video transition to your timeline 202
Add a transition from the plug-in library 203
Add a preset transition from the Transitions window 203
Transitions defined 204
Change the duration of a transition 206
Change the length of the overlap 206
Stretch the transition 206
How transitions work 207
Customize a transition 208
Save a custom transition preset 209

Add transitions to several events at once 210
Add transitions between selected clips 210
Automatically add Cross-Fades as you add your clips 211
Use an effect as a transition 212

Chapter 15
Create Animations with Keyframes 213
Adding motion to your effects

Keyframe and video animation basics 214
Get to know the Keyframe Controller 216
Create an animated Pan/Crop motion path 216
Interpolate your keyframes 219
Keyframe a Video FX animation 220
Create an animated transition 221
Keyframe a Generated Media animation 222
Create a Generated Media graphic animation 223
Create a Generated Media "legacy" title animation 226
Create an animation on a Titles & Text template 227
Create a custom interpolation using Curves 228
Use Video Envelopes to set levels at specific points 229
Lock your keyframes to your clips or your timeline 231

Chapter 16
Prep Your Movie for Output to DVD or BluRay Disc 233
Putting your movie on disc

Regions and other uses for Timeline Markers 234
Add and save Scene/Chapter Markers to your video project 235
Edit and remove your Markers 237
Understand non-square pixels 238
Output your video to a DVD or BluRay disc 238
Manually output DVD-ready or BluRay-ready files 240

Chapter 17
Make Your Movie 241
Sharing your project with the world

Output your video to a DVD or BluRay disc 242
Video output options 243
Save your movie to your hard drive 244

Archive a high-quality version of your movie for later re-editing 244
Output finished video for use in a larger project 245
Output the Loop Region only 245
Save your movie in a format that's optimized for online viewing 246
Create an Image Sequence 247
Create a movie from an Image Sequence 248
Output your video for a portable device 249
Output your video to a Sony PSP™ 250
Save your video back to a miniDV or HDV camcorder 251
Upload your video to YouTube 252
Share your video online 253
Share your video and music to ACIDplanet 254
Share your video to Pixelcast 255

Chapter 18
An Appendix 257
Advanced Sony Movie Studio 12 tricks

Key program preferences 258
The Video tab 258
The Editing tab 258
Key project properties 259
Internal preferences 259
Set where your captured video is saved 260
For MiniDV video 260
HDV video 261
Maintain your Windows computer 261
Do this weekly: 261
Do this monthly: 262
Valuable free or low cost tools and utilities 263
Capture utilities 263
Our favorite free audio editing utility 263
FTP software 264
How to Proxy Edit your video 264
Helpful Sony Movie Studio keyboard shortcuts 266
Project shortcuts 266
Editing shortcuts 266