Webinar Lesson - Episode 7

Editing to the Beat
Using the Templates for Chapter and Main Menus in DVD Arabesk 4

The following notes and procedures were demonstrated in the Casablanca Expert Webinar on 4/28/09. You can view this webinar online at www.CasablancaExpert.com

Editing to the Beat

To prepare for this lesson, you should have already loaded the clips/scenes from the Disk Transfer DVD. Select the scene labeled 'm-Action 20' - this is a scene with music. Click on Special and scroll down to find 'Scene>Sample'. Click 'Ok. You should see a brief progress bar as the audio is copied from your Scene over to the Audio menus.

1. If you're ready click into the Audio Record/Edit menu
2. Select the audio sample 'm-Action 20' and click on 'Split
3. Ensure there is a check-mark (tick mark) in the box to the right of 'Insert as Scenes in storyboard'
4. Click on the playback button (triangle at top right of this Split Sample menu
5. When you come to a point in the music you want to split, click the 'use' button
6. Continue to split (clicking the 'use' button) through the song.
7. You can continue through the entire song - or as I did in the Web Lesson, click the Ok button to exit this splitting function whenever you wish to be done with this part of the process - you should now see a progress bar labeled 'Creating video' as the system adds video black to the audio segments you chose.

When you go back to the Edit screen you will see a new storyboard with multiple scenes with your song/audio as the original audio track. Note the colored musical note icon in each scene in your storyboard (this is an indication that something special is about to occur!).

Now select a scene from your Scene Bin to use as the first scene in your music video. With a scene selected in your Storyboard (with the musical note icon) click "Replace" and the video scene in your Scene Bin will be added to the Storyboard – on top of the highlighted Storyboard scene. You will hear that this new scene retains the audio you split. NOTE: You must use Replace, not Add or Insert for this auto-trim function to work.

If the scene you use is longer than the audio segment, the end of the scene will be automatically trimmed to fit the segment. Continue on and replace all of the scenes in the Storyboard, and you are now finished. You may add titles or Image Processing Effects.

Editing to the Beat (continued)

This editing to the Beat function is designed for hard cuts where the new scene accents a sharp beat in the music. Transitions will change your audio timing and are not designed for easy use with this effect (though there is a method to do this by manually calculating the new times with added scene length for the transitions).

* You could manually split your audio element (music or voice) if you wanted to precisely make a split. To do this, follow the above steps but instead of the above step #4, click on Split Audio, scroll the trackball to mark the split location and then click on 'Use'. Then again click on 'Split Position', scroll trackball to find the next split location and click 'use. Repeat the process until your entire audio element is split as you desire.

BONUS: There _is_ a special PowerKey function that allows you to perform an almost automatic insertion with this special feature *(you must have the optional Power Key software activated)*

If you have preformed the split music/audio to the beat you can use this special Power Key combination to add scenes to all the audio samples now sitting in the Storyboard. It's actually the same idea as the 'Repeat Add Scenes' you may already be familiar with in PowerKey except this time you use the 'p' key instead of the insert key:

1.   Select the first photo/scene in your Scene Bin that you wish to become the first insert onto the Storyboard
2.   Press the 'Control'+ 'Storyboard' and 'p' keys on your keyboard (all at the same time). This will add the first clip to the Storyboard while also selecting the next clip in the Scene Bin.
3.   Then add the subsequent scenes by pressing 'Control' and 'r' together. This brings up the Repeat menu,
4.   Click on 'r' and select the number of scenes you wish to add to the storyboard (up to 999).
5.   Click OK (or Return/Enter) and it will take just a few moments to add all those scenes to the Storyboard.

Using the Templates for Chapter and Main Menus in DVD Arabesk 4

With DVD Arabesk 4 we are not only provided awesome new menu creation capabilities, there is a great new ability to use Menu Templates. These are already loaded in the software and can be used right away with your version of DVD Arabesk 4 software. You can also modify or customize these templates or create your own DVD main and chapter menus from scratch and archive them for future use.

This is a _huge_ time-saver than can give you really cool looking DVD menus in a matter of minutes!

First, let me clarify that there are two places where you can use these Menu Templates - in the Main Menu and in the Chapter Menu/s. The Main Menu is the top menu, the menu that your audience sees once you begin playing back the DVD (or after the Trailer if you are using the Trailer+Menu control function in Arabesk). The Chapter Menu/s are the sub-menus or title menus that can choose to create for each of your films or projects/titles in Arabesk. The standard is to use between 1 and 9 films, each of them can have a Chapter menu if you so choose.

To perform this exercise - first take the 12 scenes from the AVI Disk Transfer files and add them to the Storyboard. These short scenes will become our 'test' film with which to build the chapter menu in DVD Arabesk.

Let me first walk you through the capability in the Chapter Menu as that is where you would likely first use a Menu Template (as Arabesk loads the film first and guides you through the creation of each film with or without the chapter menu).

1. In DVD Arabesk 4, add the film that you put the 12 scenes in the Storyboard. Click 'Add Film' and use 'Select Project' to bring that storyboard into Arabesk 4
2. Click 'Edit Chapter Menu'
3. For Chapters (bottom of Edit Chapters menu) select 'Scenes>Chapters'
4. You may choose either Numbered or Names for Chapter names
5. Then click on 'Edit Chapter Menu'
6. You are now looking at the Chapter Menu for this film -- click on Archives to load the template we want to use.
7. Click 'Load'
8. Select '6 chapter vertical' and click 'Ok'. It may take a moment but will load your storyboard into this chapter menu template.
9. In the Web Lesson I take you through the steps to change/add a background, modify the stamps, change the border/edge and the shadow (I have pasted those steps below for your convenience).
10. Once you are happy with the look of your Chapter Menu , click OK to leave the menu menu (you could choose to archive or save this menu layout if you have changed it from the original template and like what you have created). To do that, click Archives, and Save before leaving the menu

Using the Templates for Chapter and Main Menus in DVD Arabesk 4 (continued)

Now on to the Main DVD Menu

1. Back in the main Arabesk 4 menu, click Add Films to add another film. This can be any storyboard you have in your editor (we won't be burning or modifying this, we will just use it for the menu design exercise).
2. This time you do not have to create a Chapter Menu, so after the film has been selected (like Step 1 above) simply click OK (and not Edit Chapter Menu) and you will close that menu
3. You are now looking at the main or top DVD menu -- there should be two stamps/icons (representing your two films/storyboards).
4. Click on Archives
5. Click 'Load' - this brings up the template list of the menu designs that are saved on your hard drive.
6. Select '2 films vertical' and click 'Ok'. It may take a moment but will load your storyboard into this chapter menu template.
7. In the Web Lesson video, I point out that this template provides not only the main stamp or icon for each film but also a 2nd button that enables your audience to click right into the Chapter Menu... very cool!
8. Also in the Web Lesson video, I showed you how to delete this chapter menu button for the 2nd film we added as we did create a Chapter Menu for that film
> (To do this yourself, click on the button/icon that you want to clear/delete and then with your Title Menu menu set to 'Control', click on 'Remove Button' and it will disappear)
9. You can modify this menu to suit your preferences, like the background, border and shadow of the stamps/icons, etc. Please use the tutorials below for this purpose.

Remember that when you create a new menu. either the chapter menu or the main menu -- archive (save) those menus to save you oodles of time for future projects.

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DVD Arabesk 4 Editing the Chapter & Main Menus
Supplementary Material for Web Lesson Episode 7

Editing Chapter Menus
'Start Chapter' - This causes the currently selected scene (in your menu window) to become a new chapter. This identifies it for your viewers as a new portion of your video and allows your viewer to access this part of your project from the Chapter menu you will create as well as from their DVD Remote Control

'Undo Chapter' - This changes the currently selected scene (in your menu window) from a new scene to be part of the previous chapter (see application below)

Scenes>Chapters' - This is a quick way to convert all your scenes to separate chapters. You can then go back and click on 'Undo Chapter' to have 2 or more consecutive scenes appear as one chapter.

'Edit Chapter Menu' - This opens a new menu with several choices that affect how your audience will view your new Chapter Menu/s:

Context - In DVD Arabesk 4, your Chapter menu will display up to 6 chapters on each Chapter page (in the Settings menu on the lower right you can select 6, 7, 8 or 9 chapters per page). If you have 8 chapters, you will see the first 6 chapters on the first page and the remaining 2 chapters (7 & 8) on the 2nd page. This simply allows you to move from one chapter menu page to another. Click on the slider to select a page to view (the finished Chapter Menu has arrows to allow navigation between multiple pages in the chapter menu).

NOTE: The following 8 menu options affect your Chapter Menu globally – that is your background, Title, text attributes will be the same for all the Chapter menu pages in this Project/Film. You can have different choices for each Film/Projects Chapter Menu.

Background - This is where you select the background for your Chapter menu. You can choose from a color background or a Pattern (from the Image Pool) or you can have a still scene as the background of your Chapter menu. To use a scene, select 'Scene, then choose the Project your scene is in and then select the specific scene. It will use the first frame of that scene for the background NOTE: unlike the main DVD menu in DVD Arabesk 3 you can only have a still scene, not animated and no audio. This will be the Background for all the pages of this Chapter Menu.

Title - This will create the Title of your DVD Chapter Menu, the title on-screen the audience will see. Its default is 'Chapter Menu' - Click in the text box and type-in your title. Then you can adjust the Font/Size, Style (text color, border size/color and shadow size/color). If you wish to have more than one line of text in the title click on 'Alt' and the return key to force a line change.

DVD Arabesk 4 Editing the Chapter & Main Menus - continued

<u>Editing Chapter Menus</u>
Lastly click on 'Position' to move the Title into the precise space you desire for the DVD menu. Again, this will be the Title for all the pages of this Chapter Menu.

Buttons - This is the portion of the menu where you set the size and position of the icons that represent the chapter icons in your DVD Chapter menu. By default the first frame of your Chapter scene is selected and shown. You can vary the size of each button and their position. You can also choose to just have the text (name of the chapter) without an image/stamp. Remember that the position, size, etc of these buttons affect globally the other buttons in this Chapter menu.   Example: When using 6 chapters - if you change Chapter 1's stamp to small size, Chapter 7, 13, 19, etc will also exhibit those characteristics.

Chapter Texts - These will be the titles for each of the 1-9 Chapter Icons – if you followed my hint above, your Chapters are already named! Select any film Icon and then type in the Text box to change the title/text for any film. You can also change the position of the text relative to each Film Icon.

Chapter Text-attributes is used to select the font and font styles for the Chapter text. This selection impacts/affects all the Icon Texts (all your Chapter texts).

Borders, Active Borders and Shadow all affects your Chapter Buttons

When you have completed the above steps, click 'OK' and this Film will be added to the DVD memory. When the on-screen indicator shows it has completed the Adding of the Film, repeat steps 1-4 to add any additional Films for this DVD title (up to a maximum of nine (9) films).

DVD Arabesk 4 Editing the Chapter & Main Menus - continued

<u>**Editing Main (Top) Menu**</u>
Control
This feature lets you program the DVD so it will boot up and play the first project only, go directly to the DVD Menu, or to the trailer Film first, then the DVD menu. In DVD Arabesk 4, the Trailer is automatically the first Film you add. If you are producing a DVD with only one film and you wish it to automatically play once it is inserted into a DVD player, then select Trailer Only. To have the DVD menu play upon boot-up with the 1-6 films select Menu. If you wish to have the first Film (Trailer) play automatically then go to the DVD menu for the audience to select from the other films then you would use 'Trailer+Menu'. (Trailer is useful for introduction with your company logo, copyright warning, contact information, etc).

Background
This is where you select the background for your DVD menu. You can choose from a color background or a Pattern (from the Image Pool) or you can have a still or motion scene as the background of your DVD menu. To use a scene, select 'Scene, then choose either Still or Animated (Motion). Then click on Select to choose the project and the specific scene to have as your background. You can choose a scene up to 0:59:29 for your background. Check the 'Audio' button if you wish to use the audio from your animated scene for the main menu.

Texts
This will create the Title of your DVD Menu, the title on-screen the audience will see (read).   Click in the text box and type-in your title. Then you can adjust the Font/Size, Style (text color, border size/color and shadow size/color). If you wish to have more than one line of text in the title click on 'Alt' and the return key to force a line change. Lastly click on 'Position' to move the Title into the precise space you desire for the DVD menu.

Buttons
This is the portion of the menu where you set the size and position of the icons that represent the 1-6 films in your DVD menu. Many producers use a still scene from the project to identify the Film. Select 'From Scene' and then click on 'Select Scene' to grab a scene to represent the film (it will take the first frame from any scene in your Scene Bin). The Background Stamp, under Type enables you to create what is called an 'Easter Egg' to represent the button the audience clicks on for the DVD menu but shows through to the video underneath to allow use of motion Film icons (see tutorial on our website here)

There is a new feature in this button in DVD Arabesk ... this new choice provides you with the means to program DVD Arabesk 4 as to how you wish each Film to appear to the viewer: do you want the audience to see the Chapter Menu when they click on that film or do you want the Film to begin playing? If the latter, the audience can still access the Chapter menu you created by clicking on the Chapter Menu button on their DVD Remote.

<u>Editing Main (Top) Menu</u> (continued)

This function is decided under the Edit Menu button of DVD Arabesk 4; select the 'Buttons' choice and click on the choice next to 'Action': 'Start Movie' will launch the video/film when the audience clicks on that Film in your DVD Menu 'To chapter Menu' will open the Chapter Menu for the audience to select a specific Chapter to begin playback.

The film will playback the rest of the chapters in that film before coming back to the DVD Menu. You can program each Film to either Open Chapter menu or Playback.

If you use the 'Trailer Only' or 'Trailer + Menu' function on DVD Arabesk 4, ensure you have the first film programmed to 'Start Movie'.

You can select from Small, Medium and Large sizes of the Icons - or even select no Stamp, which allows you to just use the Title of a Film for the launch of that film. Position allows you to move and position the Film Icon anywhere on-screen. Simply click on any Icon on-screen to affect these properties.

Button Text
These will be the titles or texts for each of the 1-6 buttons. Select any button and then type in the Text box to change the title/text for any film. You can also change the position of the text relative to each Film Icon.   This selection impacts/affects all the Icon Texts (your 1-9 Film texts) as long as you have the check mark for the 'Apply Attributes to All' in the Settings menu in Arabesk 4.

Button Border enables you to add a Border (or edge) to your Film Buttons/Icons. You select the size and can also add a color or even a pattern to the border/s. This one choice also affects all 1-9 Film Icons.

Button Shadow is where you set the Drop Shadow for the Film Icons. Again, this one choice affects all 1-9 Film Icons.

Button Activation is used to select the colors that show the Film (Icon) has been highlighted when the audience is accessing the DVD menu with their DVD remote control. This one choice also affects all 1-9 Film Icons.