Overview of Premiere Elements workspace

When you start Premiere Elements, the Welcome screen (**Figure 1**) provides two options:

- The Organize button opens Elements Organizer. In the Organizer you can organize and manage your videos, do quick editing, create projects automatically by using these videos, and share the videos. (The same Organizer is used with both Photoshop Elements and Premiere Elements.)
- The Video Editor button opens the Premiere Elements Editor, which provides a rich set of features for editing videos. When you click this button, two options are presented: the Existing Project button presents a list of projects that you recently edited; or, the New Project button opens the Premiere Elements Editor with a blank project.

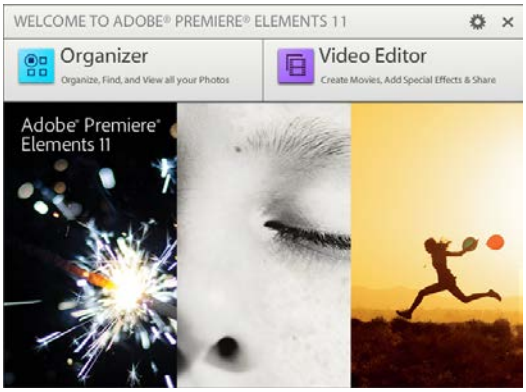

Figure 1 Premiere Elements Welcome screen

The Organizer workspace

Elements Organizer (**Figure 2**) works with both Photoshop Elements and Premiere Elements. The Organizer is available as an option on the Welcome screen.

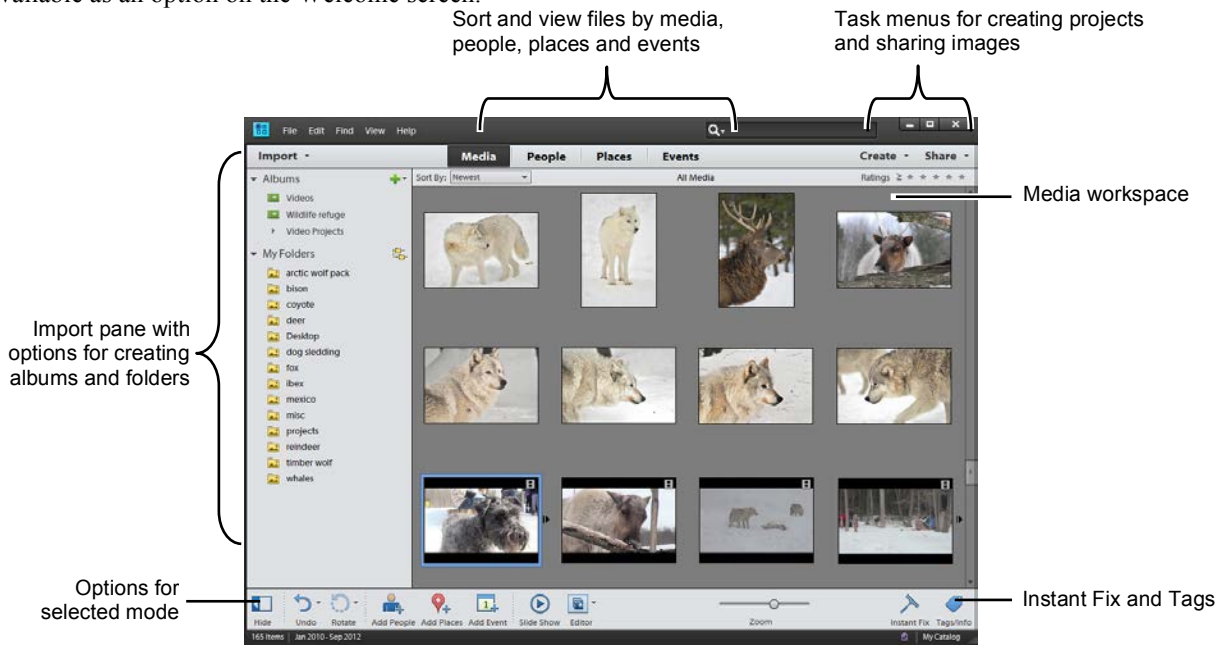

Figure 2 Elements Organizer

Using panes and menus in the Organizer

You can filter your files and perform a number of quick tasks in the Organizer without opening either Premiere Elements or Photoshop Elements.

The Organizer has the following four filtering modes above the workspace:

- *Media:* The Media workspace displays all your videos and images (**Figure 2**). You can select images and videos in the Media view and use the toolbar at the bottom to name people, add locations, and tag photos by event.
- *People:* Displays all the people you have named and tagged.
- *Places:* Display photographs and videos by location (**Figure 3**).
- *Events:* View the events you have created.

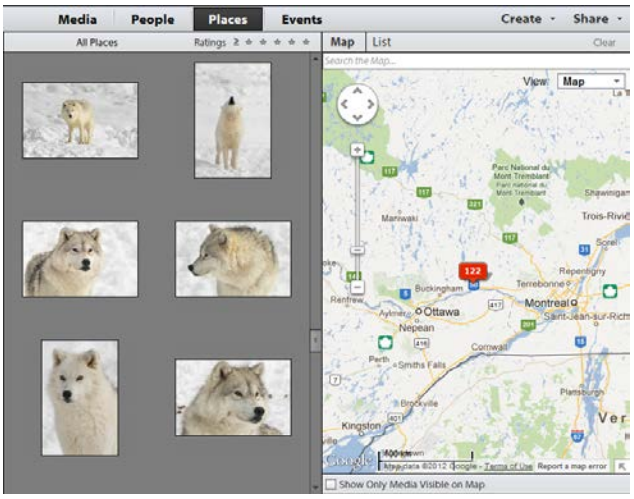

Figure 3 Places tab

The Organizer has the following two quick task buttons in the lower right of the workspace:

- *Instant Fix:* Perform quick edits on photos, such as fixing redeye or automatically adjusting levels. For example, you can quickly apply the Auto Color or Auto Levels command to photos (**Figure 2**).
- *Tags/Info:* Assign media keywords and specific tags so you can find them later. You can also give caption and notes for individual images (**Figure 4**).

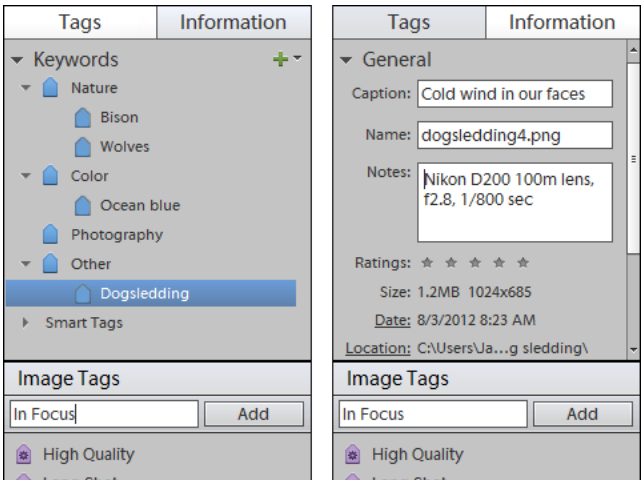

Figure 4 Tags and Information panels

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The Organizer has the following four filtering tabs above the workspace:

- *Create:* In the Create workspace, you can quickly create photo collages, photo books, DVDs, and other projects (**Figure 5**).
- *Share:* In the Share workspace, you can generate versions of videos and images to share. For example, you can share images and videos via social sites or to another user's computer or mobile device (**Figure 5**).

Figure 5 Create and Share tabs

Premiere Elements Edit workspace

The Adobe Premiere Elements workspace presents a simplified interface for enthusiasts. It organizes features into the Quick view and Expert view based on their complexity (**Figure 6**).

The Quick view aggregates basic features that enthusiasts commonly use to quickly edit video footage and share with others. It optimizes common tasks that you perform with clips, such as editing clips, creating menus for DVDs and Blu-ray discs, and sharing movies.

The Expert view includes advanced features and tools, such as Audio Mixer, Time Stretch, that professionals use to perform intricate video editing tasks.

To switch between views, click the tabs at the top of the workspace.

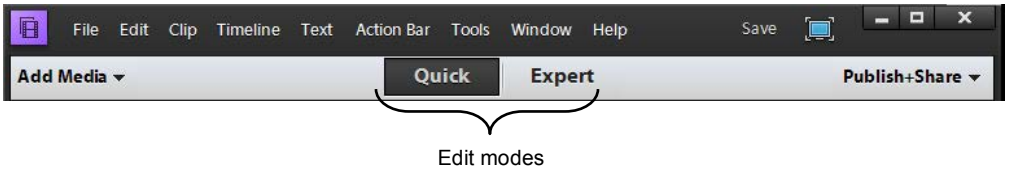

Figure 6 Premiere Elements view modes

Using menus and panels in the Editor

The Premiere Elements workspace is optimized for the major phases of a project: importing and organizing footage, editing and enhancing a movie project, and sharing a finished project. (**Figure 7**).

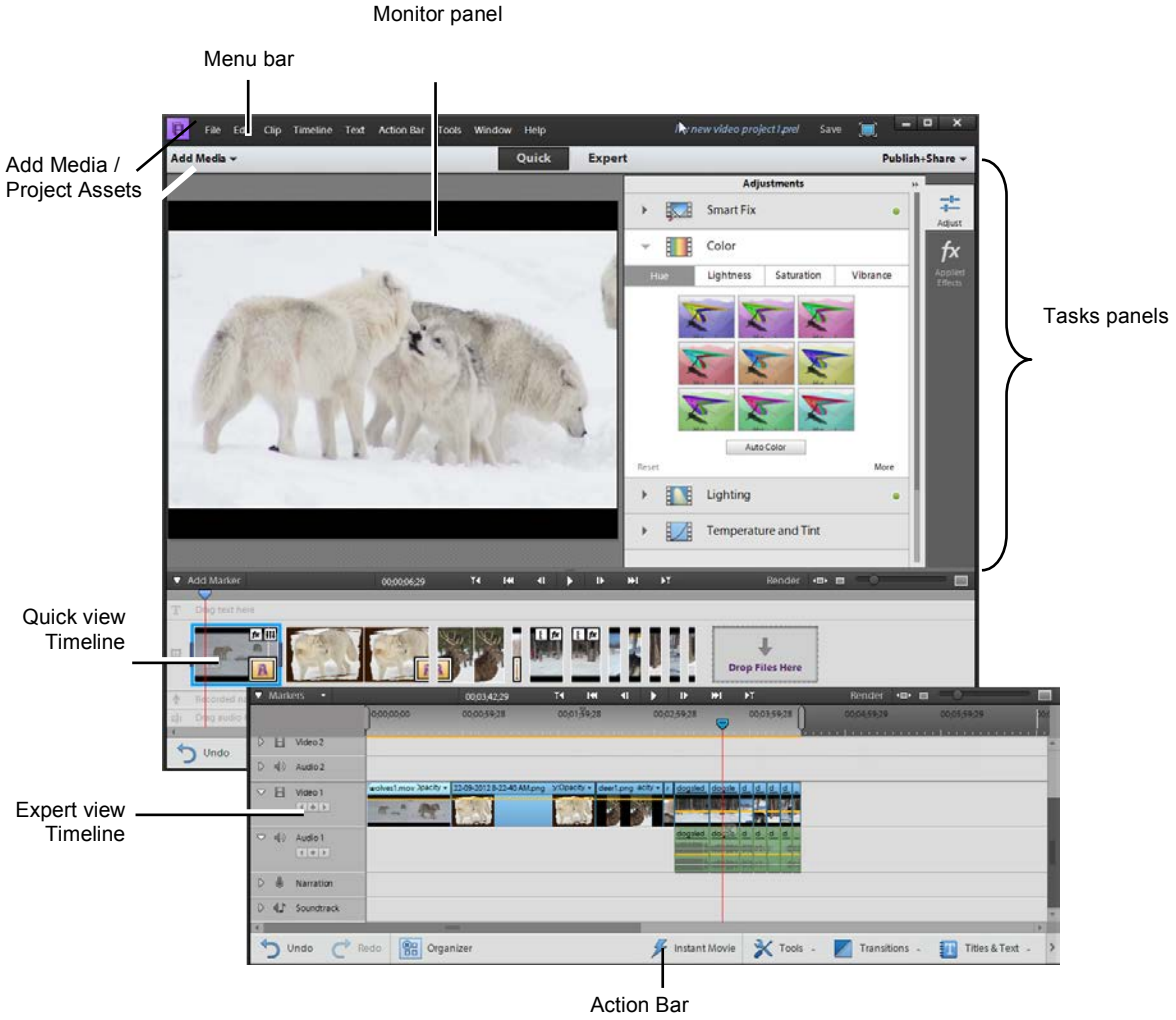

Figure 7 Premiere Elements Editor workspace

Add Media, with Project Assets added in Expert view: Use these panels to add and organizing footage (video, stills, and audio).

Menu bar: Contains menus for performing tasks, organized by topic. For example, the Timeline menu contains commands for navigating through the Timeline.

Monitor panel: Displays your project at its current playback position.

Tasks panels: Offers options for adjustments, refining applied effects and sharing projects.

Action Bar: Contains options that provide easy access to common features you use for editing tasks. Use the options to add titles, transitions, special effects, graphics, music, and markers to your clips.

Timeline: Available in two views, Quick and Expert. Enables you to add, edit, and view a project as lines or clips.

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Importing and organizing media

In the Project workspace you can import, manage, and organize your projects, clips, and other media using the Add Media and Project Assets panel (**Figure 8**).

- In the *Add Media* panel lets you add media files from various sources to the Quick view timeline or so you can rearrange and edit them.
- In Expert view, the *Project Assets* panel displays all video clips, audio clips, and still images that have been added to the project. You can filter this workspace by album, tag, rating, or media type.

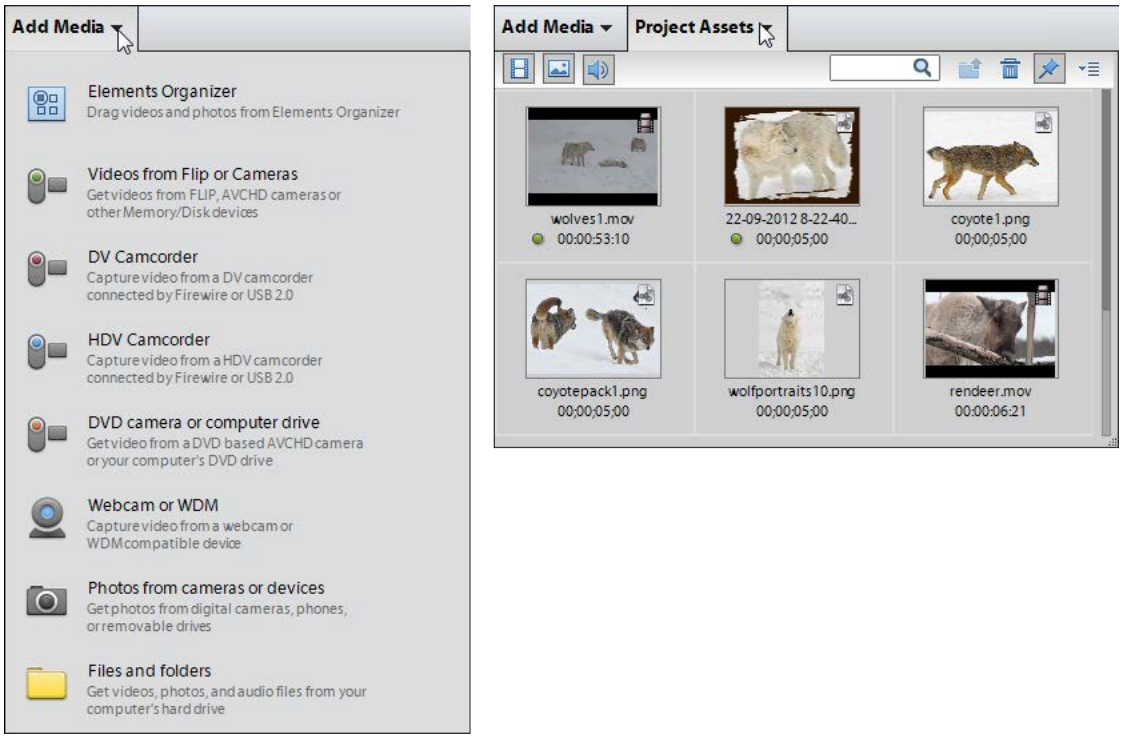

Figure 8 Add Media and Project Assets panels

Editing and enhancing your project

The Monitor panel

You can preview all or part of a movie at any time in the Monitor panel (**Figure 9**). To preview a movie, Adobe Premiere Elements must first prepare the clips on all the tracks for viewing, applying effects, motion, opacity, and volume settings. Video quality and frame rate are dynamically adjusted to let you preview the movie in real time. Movies that use only cuts between clips generally preview at normal quality and frame rate. Complex movies (with effects and layered video and audio) may require rendering before you can preview them.

Figure 9 The Preview window

You can view safe zone margins (guides) in the Monitor panel to determine if any text or objects in your project fall outside the safe zone (**Figure 10**). When text or objects fall outside the safe zone, they may be clipped when played back on certain screens. Safe zone margins are for your reference and are not included in previews or export.

Figure 10 Safe zones in the Monitor panel

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To see the greatest detail in a clip or movie, preview it in full-screen mode (**Figure 11**). This mode fills the computer screen with video, suggesting how clips and movies appear on TV screens. Full-screen previews also let you easily share your work with others in the room.

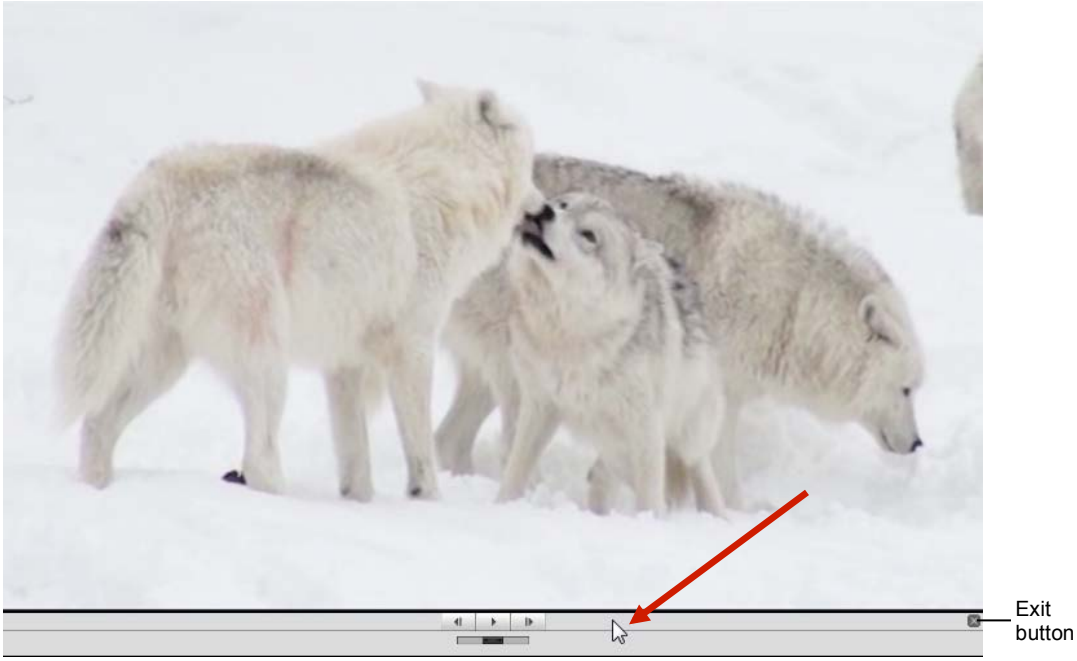

Figure 11 In full-screen preview, move the pointer across the screen to display the player controls.

Timelines

The Timelines let you assemble your media into the desired order and edit clips. You use the Monitor panel to preview the clips you've arranged in either the Timelines. The Timeline is available in Quick view and in Expert view (**Figure 12**).

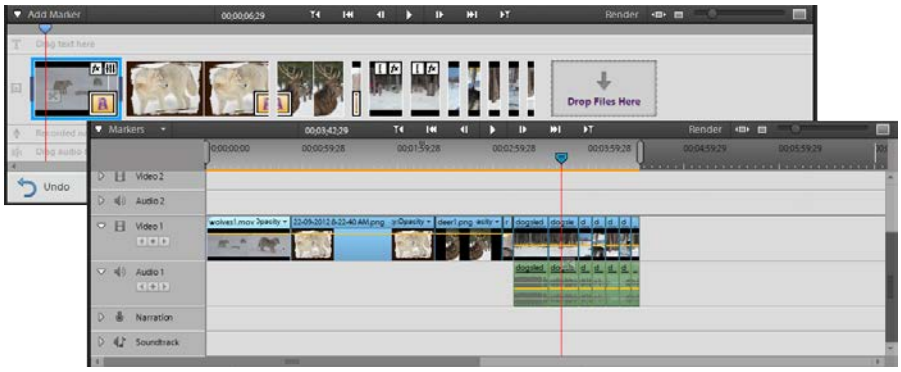

Figure 12 Quick view Timeline (top) and Expert view Timeline (bottom)

The Quick view timeline contains the following tracks:Video, Titles, Sound, and Narration. The Quick view timeline displays each clip as a series of frames that span the entire clip length. You can trim unwanted portions within individual frames and rearrange them. You can also swap the position of a clip with another to make a coherent movie sequence.

For more advanced editing, use the Expert view timeline. The Expert view timeline graphically represents your movie project as video and audio clips arranged in vertically stacked tracks. When you capture video from a digital

video device, the clips appear sequentially as they occur. The Expert view timeline uses a time ruler to display the components of your movie and their relationship to each other over time. You can trim and add scenes, indicate important frames with markers, add transitions, and control how clips are blended or superimposed. Compared to the Quick view, the Expert view timeline has more tracks.

Adjustments and Applied Effects

Use the Adjustments and Applied Effects panels to improve the appearance of your clips, and add effects to your clips:

- The *Adjustments* panel provides you an easy way to adjust Color, Lighting, and Temperature and Tint. Use the SmartFix option to apply automatic adjustments to your footage. Expert view provides advanced adjustment options for Color (RGB) and Gamma Correction (**Figure 13**).
- The *Applied Effects* panel enables you to refine any effects you have applied to your video. Here, you can do everything from adjusting color levels to giving your project the appearance of an old film (**Figure 13**).

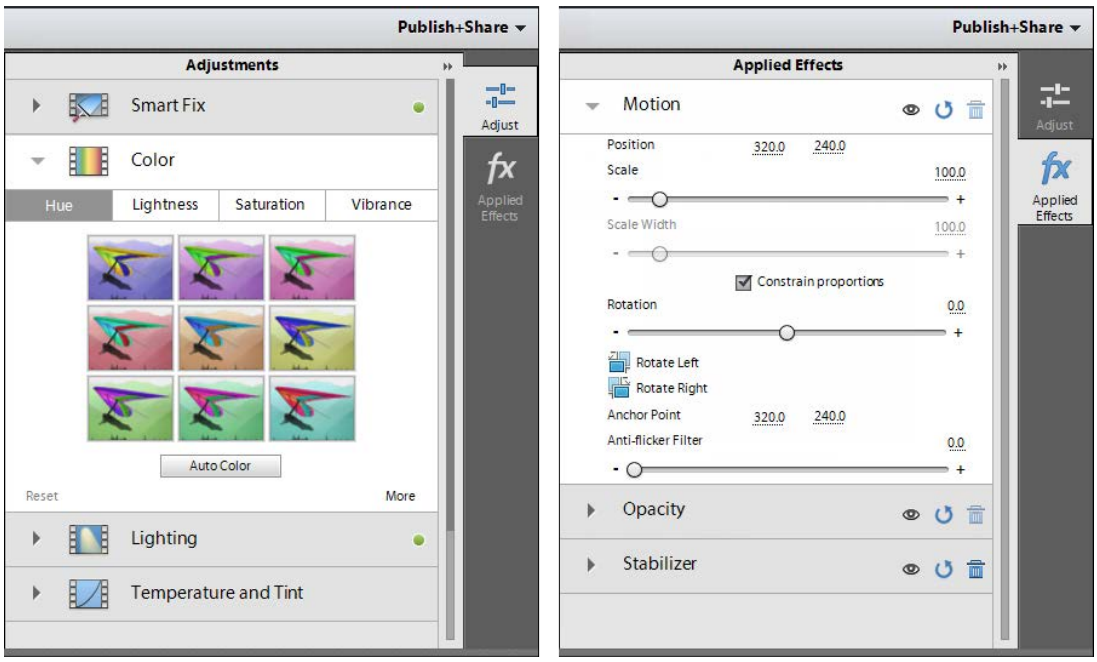

Figure 13 Adjustments and Applied Effects panels

The Action Bar

At the bottom of the Premiere Elements workspace (**Figure 14**) is the Action bar that contains options to provide easy access to common features you use for editing tasks. Use the options to add titles, transitions, special effects, graphics, music, and markers to your clips:

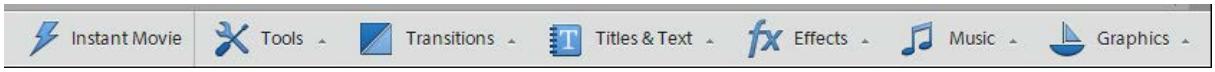

Figure 14 The Action Bar

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- The *Instant Movie* dialog box enables you to automatically create a movie based on a theme from the clips currently in the organizer (**Figure 15**).

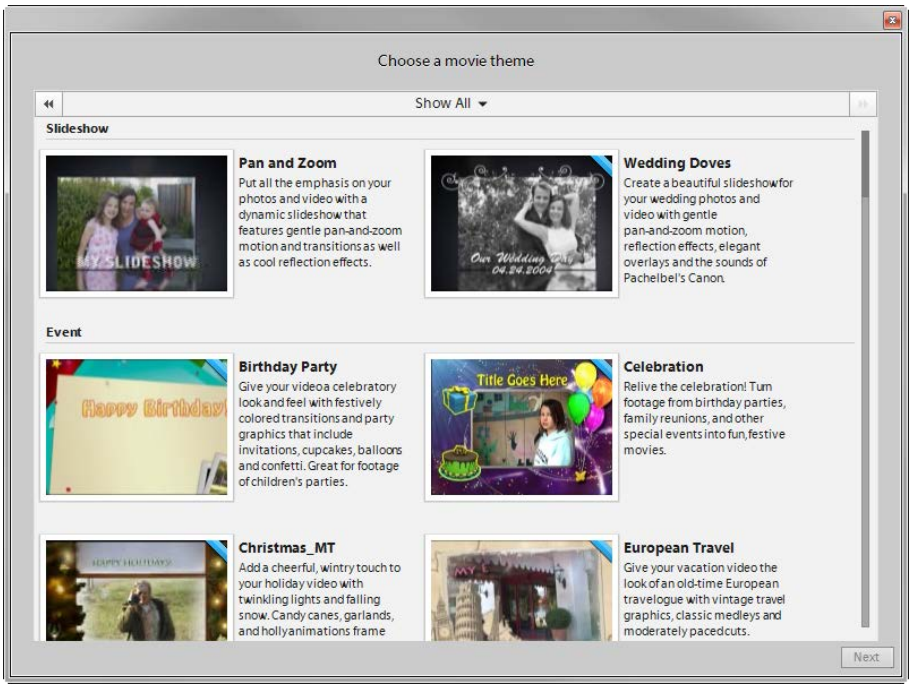

Figure 15 Instant Movie dialog box

- The *Tools* panel provides a wide selection of video editing tools such as Adjustments, Freeze Frame, Movie Menu, Narration, Pan & Zoom, and more (**Figure 16**).

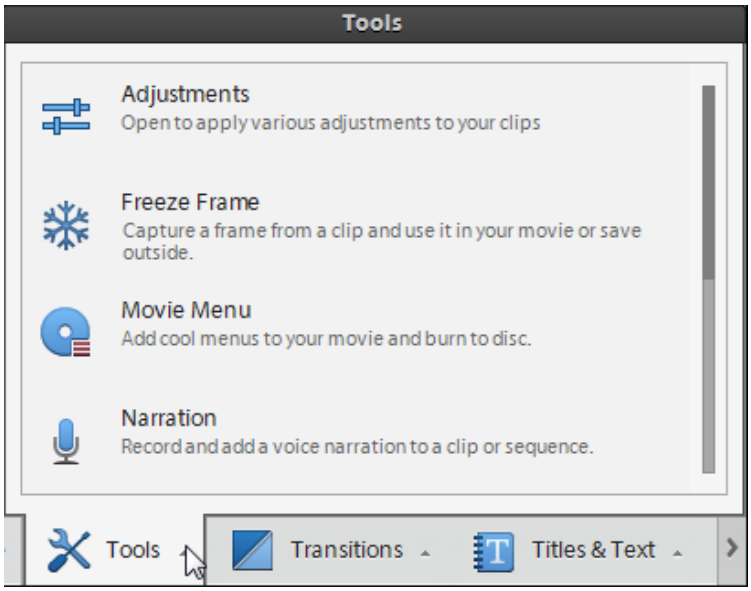

Figure 16 Tools panel

- The *Transitions* panel enables you to add and edit a range of transitions, such as slides, blends, and dissolves (**Figure 17**).

Figure 17 Transitions panel

- The *Titles & Text* panel enables you to add titles and credits to your project, choosing from a range of preformatted templates (**Figure 18**).

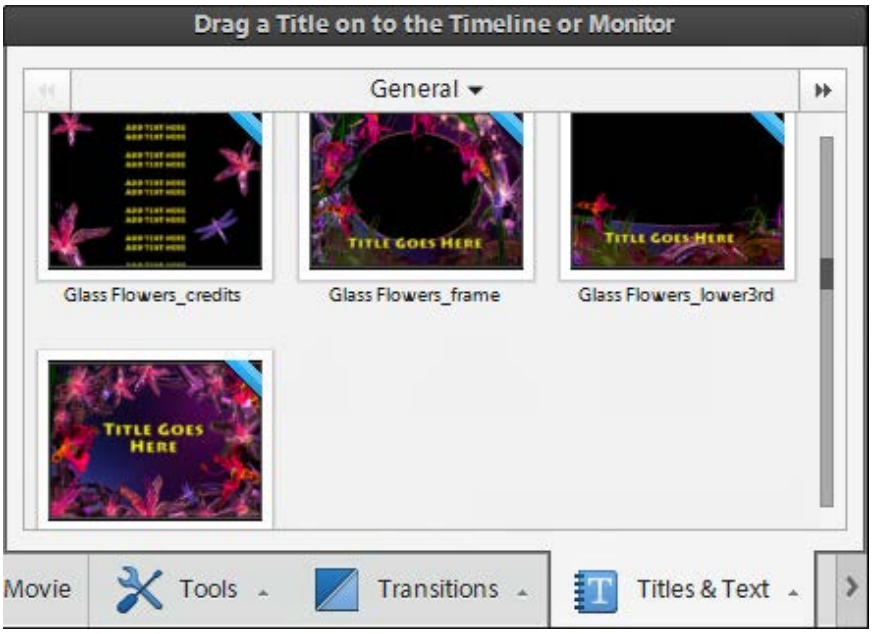

Figure 18 Titles & Text panel

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- The *Effects* panel enables you to add effects to a clip to enhance your movie by dragging and dropping (**Figure 19**).

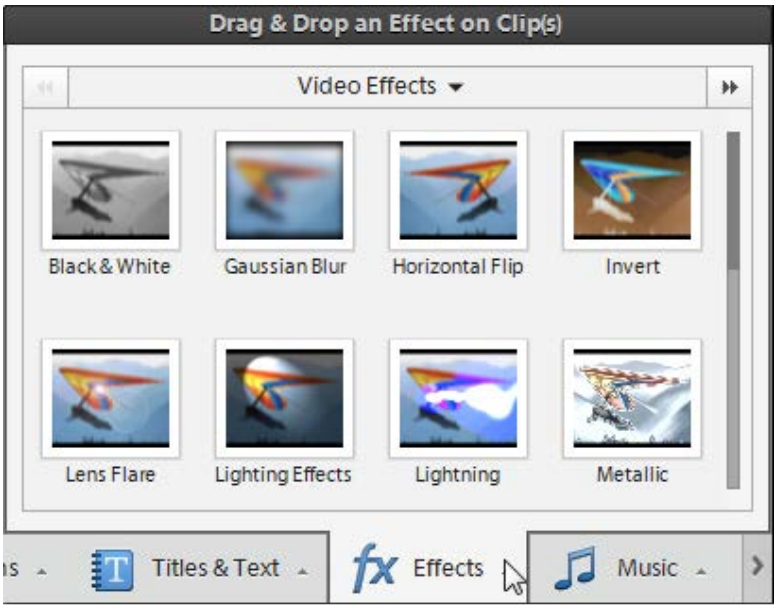

Figure 19 Effects panel

- The *Music* panel enables you to add music to the soundtrack (**Figure 20**).

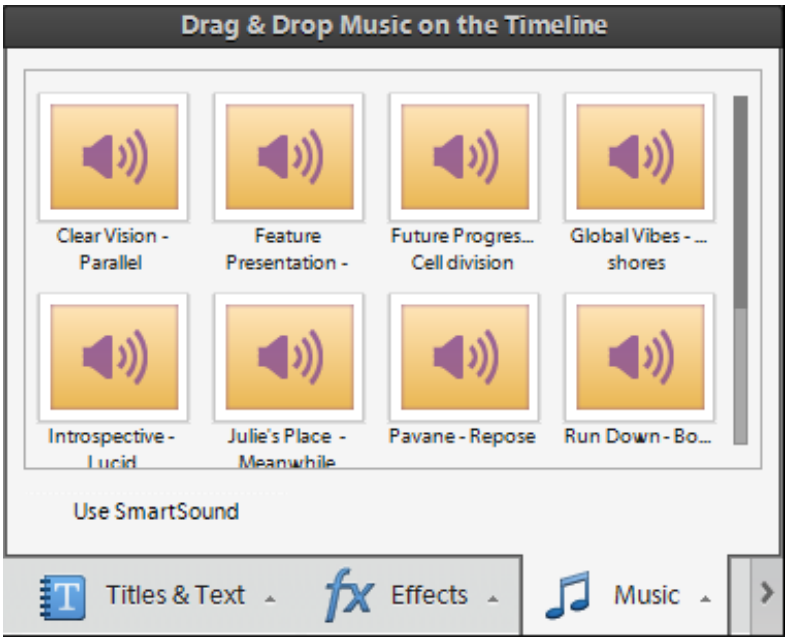

Figure 20 Music panel

- The *Graphics* panel enables you to add graphics and clip art to your video (**Figure 21**).

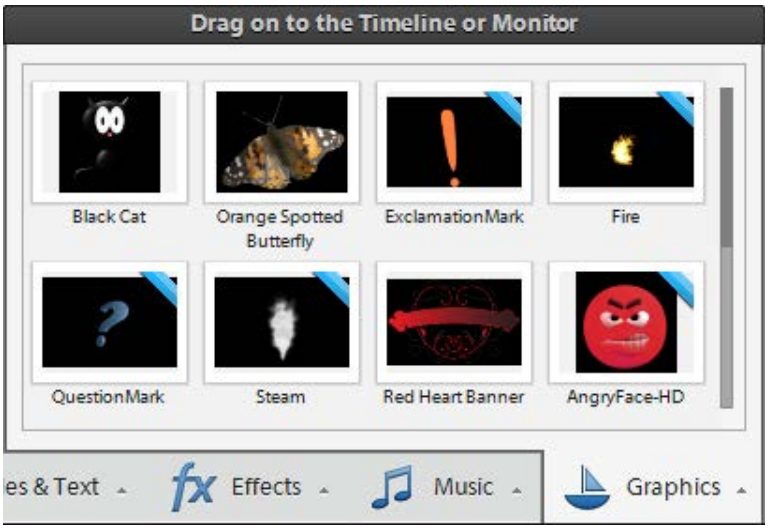

Figure 21 Graphics panel

Sharing your finished project

You can export and share movies, stills, and audio in a variety of file types to the web, mobile devices, videotape, Video CDs, and Super Video CDs. You can also copy and save projects for editing and storage. The Publish+Share panel contains everything you need to share your finished project (**Figure 22**). You can share your project on the web or on a DVD, a mobile device, your computer, and more.

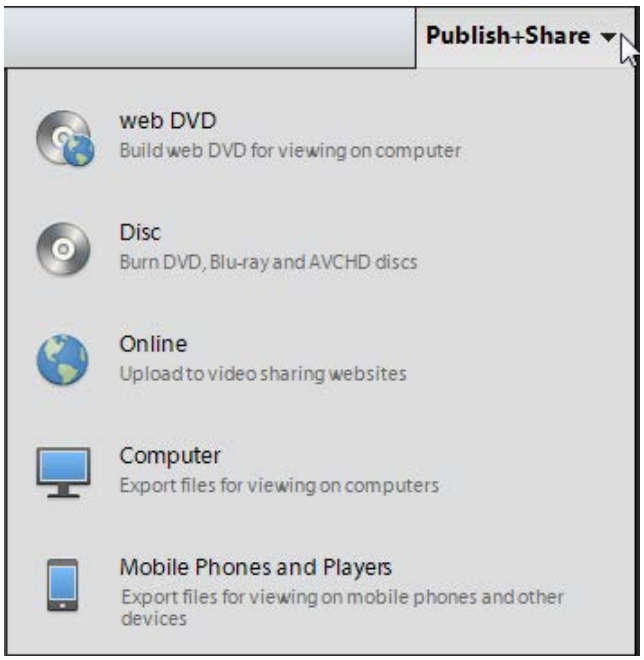

Figure 22 Publish+Share panel

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