



Viou V2.8.1

D.LAUNAY

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Thanks to **my family** for the time I need to achieve this project.

Thanks to all the icons design contributors providing their work for Viou.

Thanks to the people of my team involved in my work.

Thanks also to people helping me in beta testing the pre-release.

Many people have really been taking the necessary time to send me an eMail ! Thanks to them !

Many tests and improvements have been achieved for Leopard.

INTRODUCTION:

Viou helps you to very easily and automatically design and apply icon on folder containing application. It also provides some icon models for that purpose.

>Additional features :

Since version V2.1, Viou can also open and show picture files from finder contextual menu without having to open any app. You can also copy and paste icons to any files or folder without the need of the Finder file information window.

WHAT'S NEW ? :

The main topic of this release is the Panther compatibility. It took some times because I decided to add a frequently requested option : the shear effect. Thanks to this graphic effect it is now possible to distort icons to make them look like really

“stuck” to folders.

Some other “buried” improvements have been achieved (mainly memory management optimization).

INSTALLATION:

New Installation :

Two steps :

- 1) Just drag the Viou folder where you want on your hard disk. The “application” folder is highly recommended.
- 2) Place the folder “ViouCMM.plugin” into your “Contextual Menu Items” folder that you will find into your local “Library” folder.
- 3) Now you need to restart your session (or your computer).

WARNING : One typical error is to place the plugin into the system library. In that case Viou won't work properly. The plug-in must be installed into :

~/Library/Contextual Menu Items

(where ~ is your home folder)

If this folder does not exist please just create it but mind to apply the correct spelling.

UPDATE :

Viou V2.8.1 is the 14th public release if you have previous versions installed just trash them and follow the install process.

COMPATIBILITY :

Viou V2.8.1 is cocoa and so :

- compatible with Mac-OS X V10.4 and optimised for V10.5 (Leopard)
- Unfortunately Viou won't work on Classic.
- Some people encountered troubles with MacOS X V.2.1 Finder
- Viou is expected to work properly both on PPC and Intel architectures

USAGE:

- First : Design icons for your application folders.

Different ways to create the folder's icon :

1) Drop a folder containing an application on Viou icon or in the dropped zone. Viou will look for the icon of the application contained inside the folder. It will create the appropriate folder icon based upon a model and apply this icon to the folder. This process can be batched so several folders may be dropped at a time.

2) This method can be deactivated in the “option” drawer. Drop a file (and no folder nor bundle) on Viou icon or on the drop zone and the parent directory of the file will be created using the selected model and the icon of this file.

- Second : Design your own folder icon changing the size, location and transparency of the application icon incrustated onto the folder icon.

- Third create even more personal design : Since V2.4b it is now possible to add a logo (drop a file on the logo drop zone). You can then select it for placing and resizing.

It even is possible to design folder's icon using your own icon folder models. You can do this by dropping an icon or an image on the “background” drop zone.

3) Since Version 2.0 you can even use the CMM plugin for an access fully integrated into Finder.

The contextual menu (CMM) is used into the finder with a “ctrl-clic” or “right-clic” of the mouse when folders are selected. The Contextual menu may use any of the models found in Viou application. Choose a model in the “Viou” application and save it by clicking the appropriate “save” button.

You will find up to 8 options (this depends on the selected files) :
Standard folder icon : this option is provided to place the “standard os X” icon on the selected folder.

Create icon from application : Viou will automatically create the

selected folder icon using the saved model and applying it to the application found inside the folder. If there are many applications then a popup window will appear for you to select the application.
Create from previously copied icon : Viou will create the icon based on the saved model and the previously copied icon.
Create parent folder : The selected icon will be used to create the icon for it's parent folder (the folder containing the file).

Copy Icon : Just copy the selected icon.

Paste Icon : Just copy the selected icon.

Create thumbnails of pict. files : Regenerate "thumbnails" image of selected picture files.

Preview picture file : See the picture of the selected picture file (works with single selection only). Once the window is open other files may be displayed simply dragging them on the window.

Preview composed icon : See how the icon generated looks like before applying it (works with single selection only).

Open viou... : open viou application.

HISTORY:

Version 2.8.1 :

- Public stabilized realease
- Both PPC and Intel on 10.4 (Tiger) and 10.5 (Leopard)
- Save for CMM option redesigned

Version 2.8b :

- Leopard compatibility
- Save for CMM option redesigned

Version 2.4b :

- Panther compatibility
- Shear effect added
- Optimized in memory usage

Version 2.3 :

- A huge number of new icon templates have been added

thanks to contributors.

- The show picture file widow now accepts files to be dropped inside and then displayed.
- Copy/paste icons on file and folder directly has been optimized.
- A conflict with some applications (internet explorer) has been solved.

Version 2.2 :

- Includes alternate views for icon models.
- iPod family icons (Thanks to Helmer, you may see his work on www.Xicons.com)
- Previewing picture files with the contextual menu, very useful though not really in Viou scope.
- Threading batch processed, keep control of the finder when applying V2.4b viou to huge number of items.
- Previewing icons before applying them.

Version 2.1 :

- Added drop shadow effect
- Optimized copy/paste icon in contextual menu
- Remove some minor MMI bugs

Version 2.0.1 :

- Viou english and french
- A contextual menu plugi, english and french
- Dynamic panel update

Version 2.0 :

- A contextual menu plugin
- Dynamic panel update
- Additional models

Version 1.5 :

- Slightly different interface
- One more drop action in the panel (for parent folders)
- Additional models

Version 1.4 :

- Capability to add a “logo” in the icon
- Capability to create your own background icon
- And always some more folder icon models

Version 1.3 :

- A panel has been added with several “drop” action tools
- Some more folder icon models
- A drawer with tools to sender the application icon

Version 1.2.1 :

(first non beta public release)

- Corrects some minor side effects
- Includes a “select icon on the fly” window when more than one application is found in a folder
- Includes a new icon model in the shape of an iron drop
- Includes an “abort” button and a “running” whirl

Version 1.1b1 :

- A drawer window has been added with options.
- It is now possible to rotate the icon.
- There are now several folder models instead of one.
- Many folders may be processed at a time.
- Viou can also process parent directories from a dropped file.
- Folder icons models have a background and an overlapped front face.

Version 1.0b1 :

- First public release...

COMING SOON :

I have planned to develop the following capabilities :

- Resize and move background models.
- Add user design overlay capability.
- Undo option.

If you've got some any other ideas please keep me informed !

PURPOSES:

- System utility to designs and paste appropriate icon to folders containing applications.
- Since 2.2 version some other tricks have been added (thumbnails making, picture preview etc...)

WARRANTY / SUPPORT:

- You must consider mistakes might have been inadvertently placed in the data software.
- As a free software, the creator won't feel engaged in providing any support for the software (though most of the time I provide answer to incoming e-mails).
- Using it means the user implicitly accept the risk.
- The author won't be responsible in any case for any damage, the application Viou may generate.
- Bug-report are welcome via e-mail (d.launay@wanadoo.fr).

LICENSE:

- Viou is... free! This is just an eMailWare...!
- The author is free to change the modality of the software without prior notice.
- As it took hours to design the package would you please take the few necessary seconds to send me an e-mail to inform me you are using it.
- Just add-up "RELEASE Viou" in the subject if you want to get information about releases and other products information.

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