

Adobe Camera Raw Plugin

John Woods ACE PS7

With the introduction of Photoshop CS (version 8) Adobe included their Camera Raw Plugin module as part of the Photoshop package. This module takes the raw data from a digital camera and allows you to correct the raw image before sending the image to Photoshop.

The camera raw image information is directly captured from the camera's Charged Coupled Device (CCD) or Complementary Metal-Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS) without filters and adjustments applied by the camera.

A camera raw image file does not throw away any image information to generate a file, it is lossless. The camera raw image files has the advantage of being smaller than uncompressed TIFFs. Only camera raw images contain the actual data captured by the sensor without any in-camera processing.

To open the Camera Raw plugin module click on **File>Browse** on the Photoshop banner bar as shown in Figure 1. Navigate to a folder which contains Camera Raw Files.

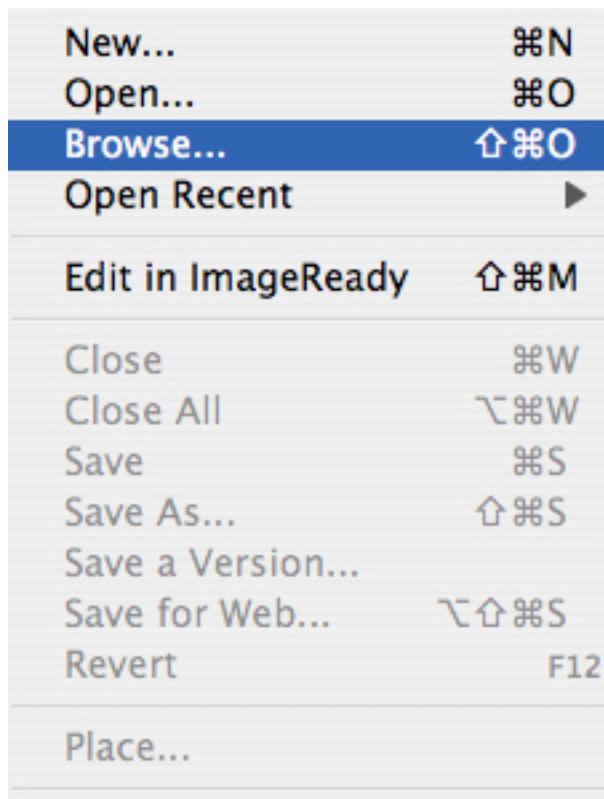
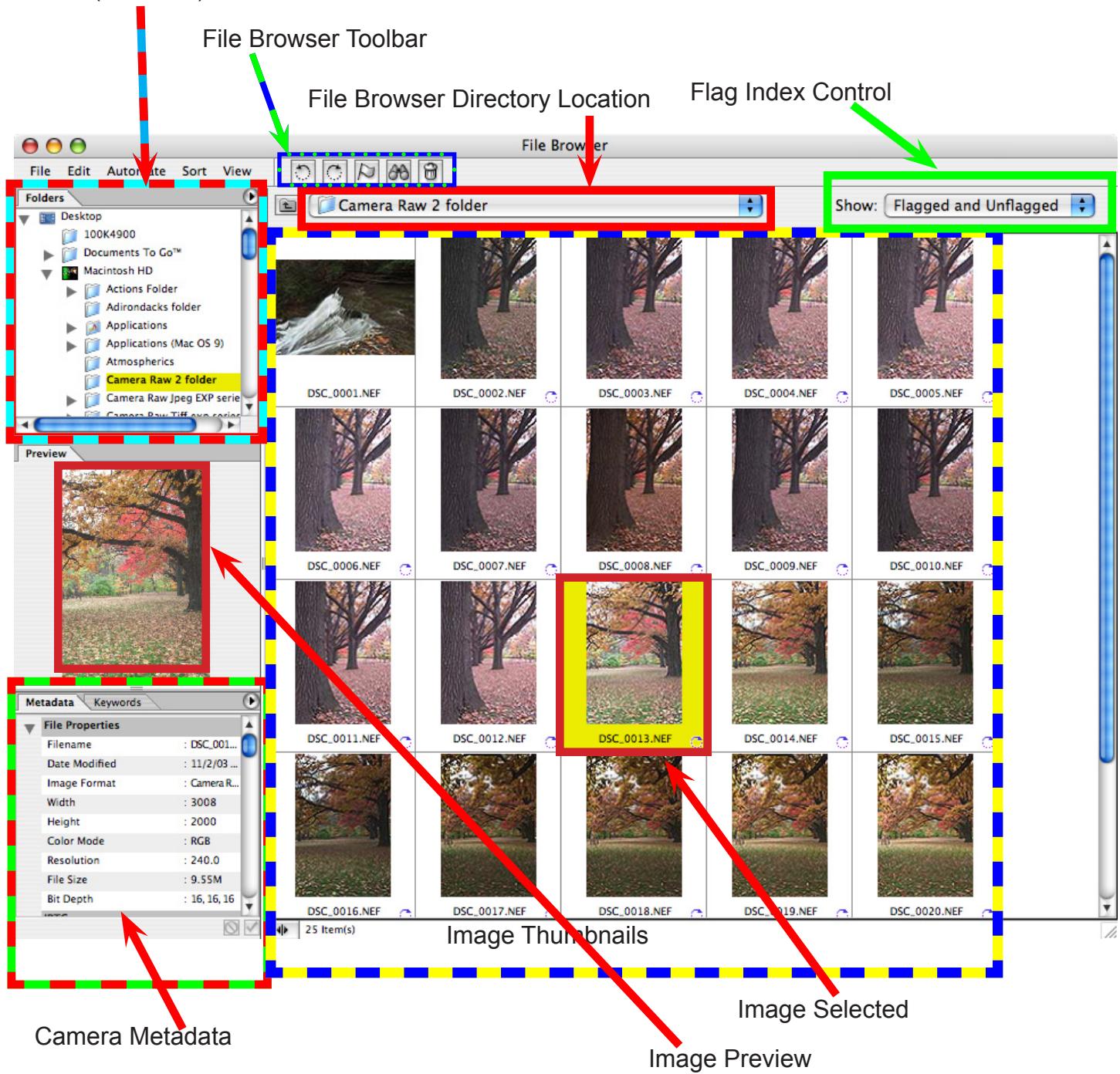


Figure 1.

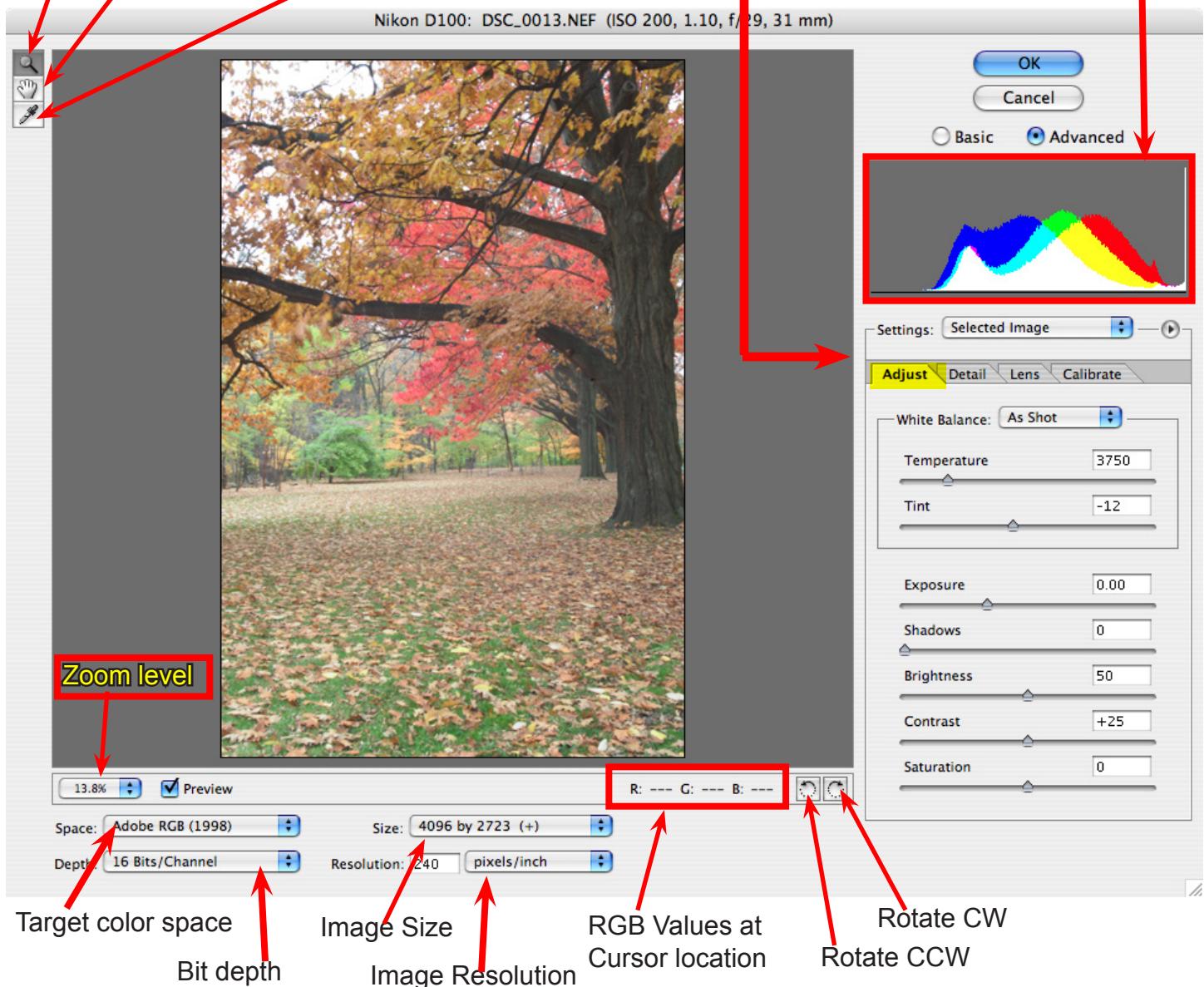
Figure 2.
Directory Navigation Window
(Folders)



If you want to learn more about the PSCS File Browser please open the File Browser tutorial, on the tutorial CD.

To open the Camera Raw Plugin, either click on the image thumbnail or on the image preview thumbnail.

Figure 3 Camera Raw Plugin window open Adjust Tab selected



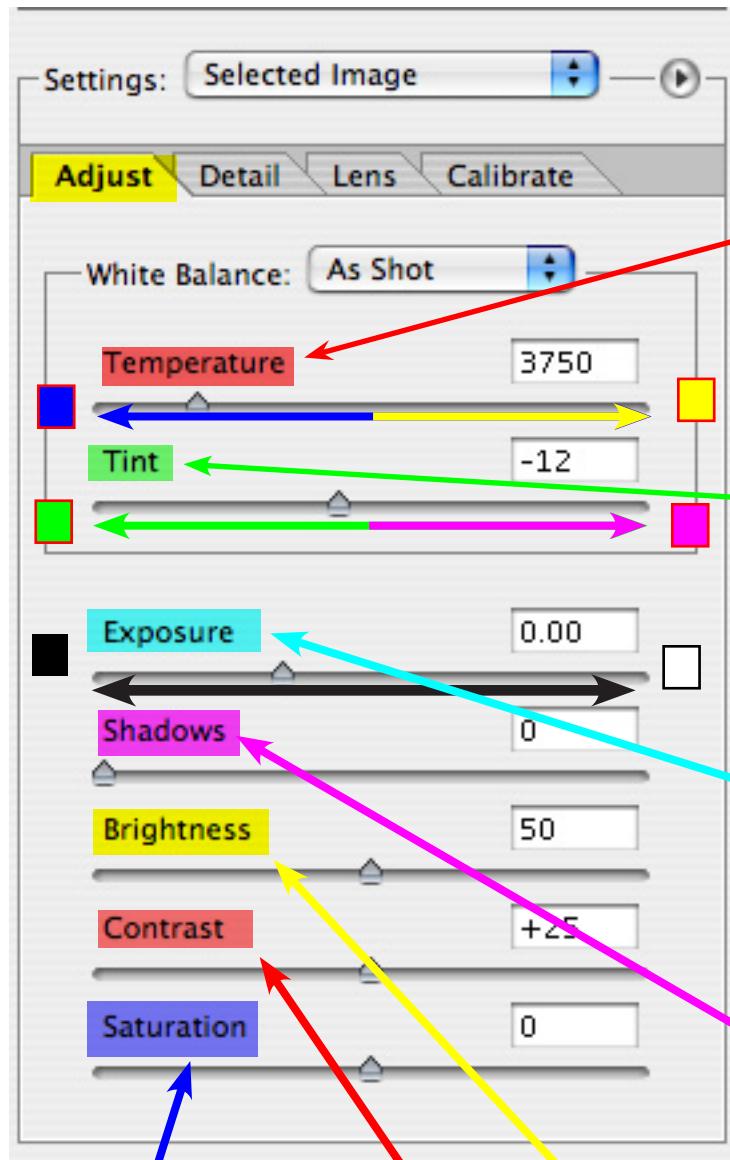


Figure 4 Camera Raw Plugin Settings
Adjust Tab Selected

Temperature Moving the slider left compensates for a photo taken at a lower color temperature (yellowish). Moving the slider right compensates for a photo taken at a higher color temperature (bluish).

Tint compensates for Green or Magenta tint in the photos. Moving the slider left (negative) adds green to the photo. Moving the slider right (positive) adds magenta to the photo.

Exposure compensates for under and over exposed photos. Slider ranges from -2.0 to + 4.0 fstops

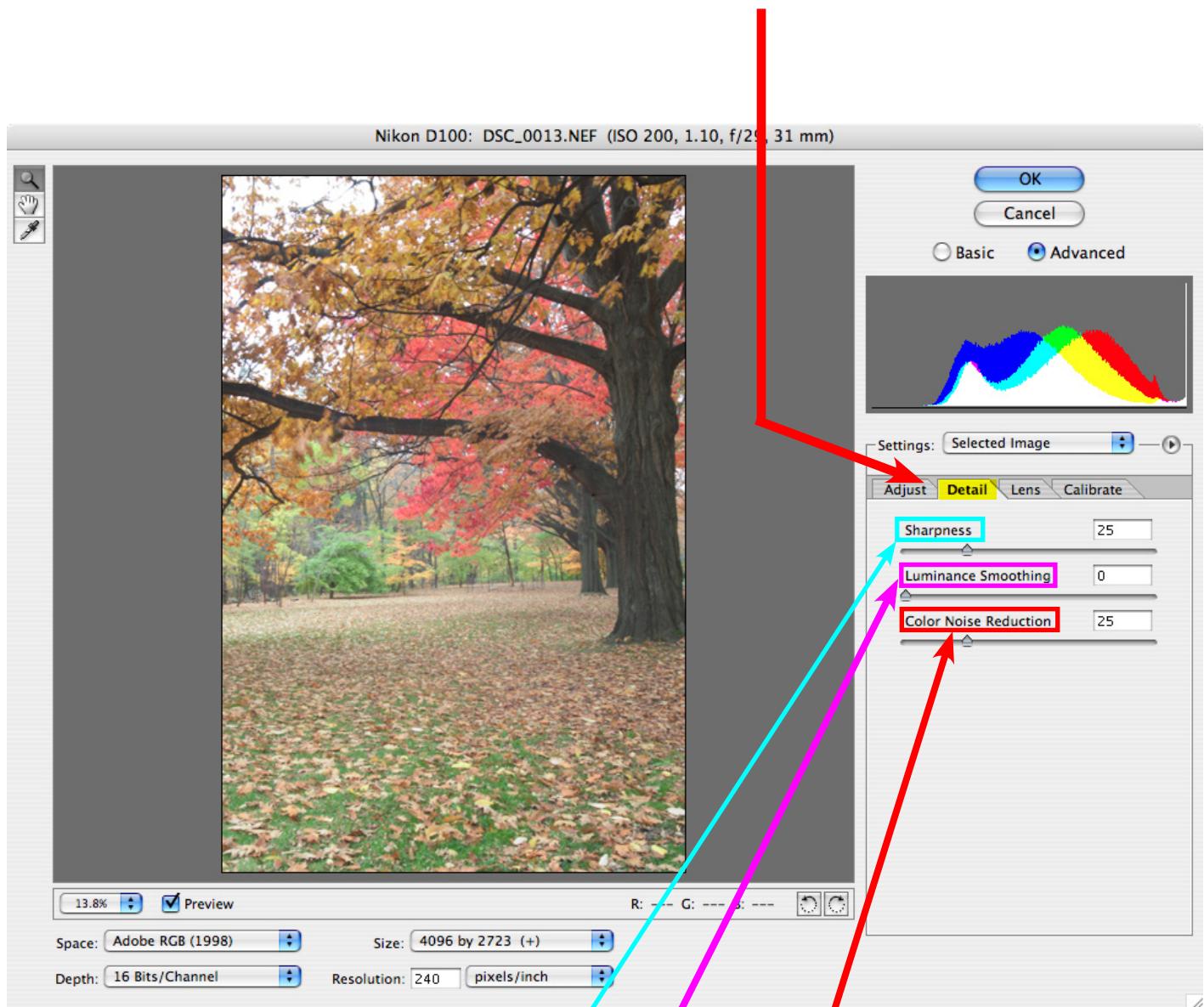
Shadows Maps the grays in the image to black depending on where the slider is set. Moving the slider right maps more areas in the image to black. Slider ranges from 0 to 100. Hold Alt(PC) Option (MAC) to see where shadows become black.

Brightness Use the brightness slider after the highlight and shadow clipping points have been set using the Exposure, and Shadow sliders. Adjusts overall brightness of the image.

Contrast Adjusts the midtones in the image. Higher values more midtone contrast. Lower values less midtone contrast

Saturation adjusts the color saturation of the image from (-100) monochrome to (+100) double color saturation.

Figure 5 Camera Raw Plugin window open Detail Tab selected



Sharpness adjusts image sharpness by providing more edge definition, this setting is essentially an Unsharp Mask Filter in the raw plugin.

Luminance Smoothing reduces grayscale noise.

Color Noise Reduction reduces color noise in the image

Chromatic Aberration is a lens defect in which the lens focuses different colors of light differently, this results in complementary color fringing in areas away from the center of the image. As an example you could have a blue fringe on the side of an object that is towards the center of the image, and on the other side which is away from the center of the image a yellow fringe. The Chromatic Aberration controls under the lens tab help control this problem.

Figure 6 Camera Raw Plugin window open Lens Tab selected

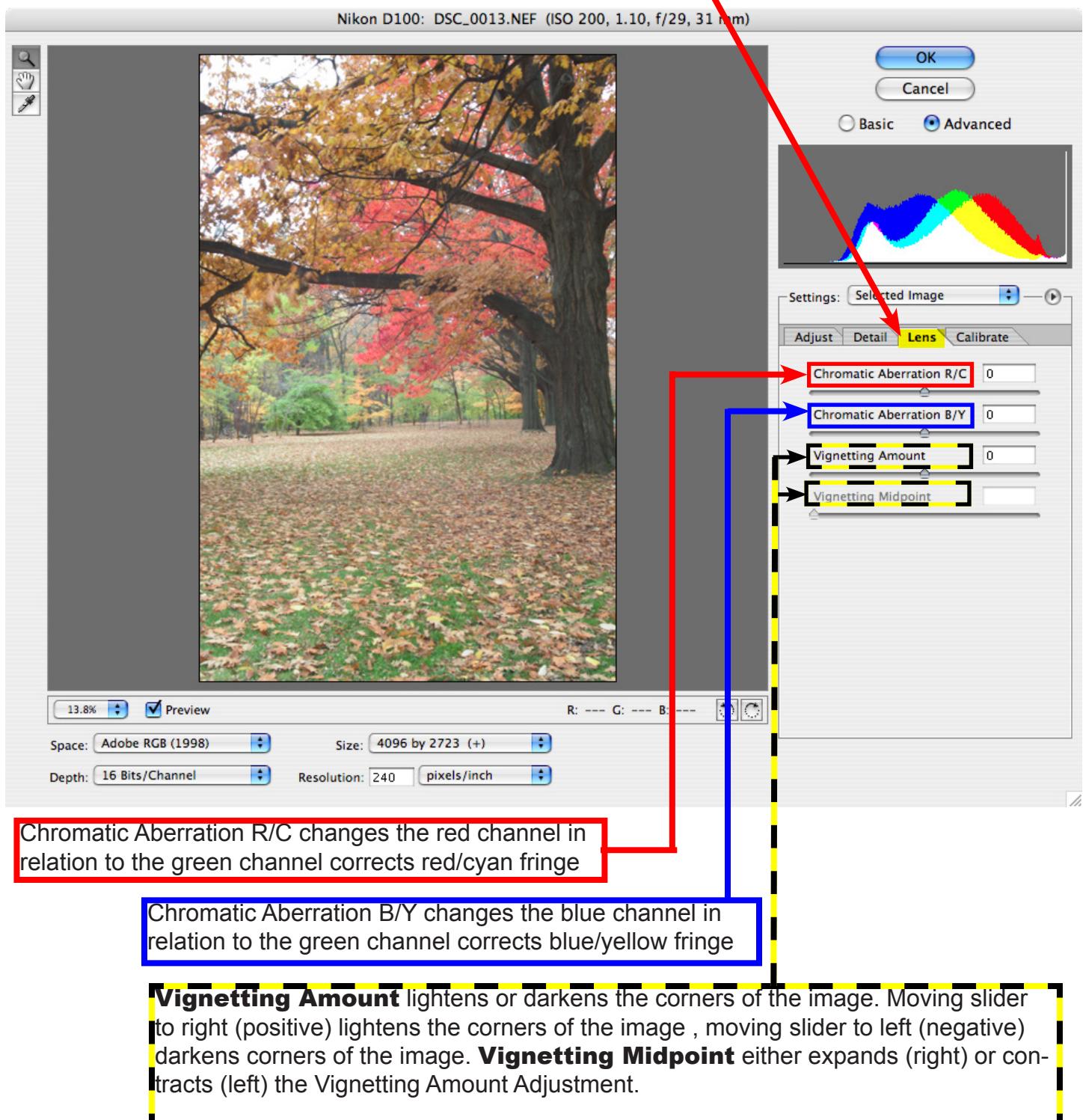
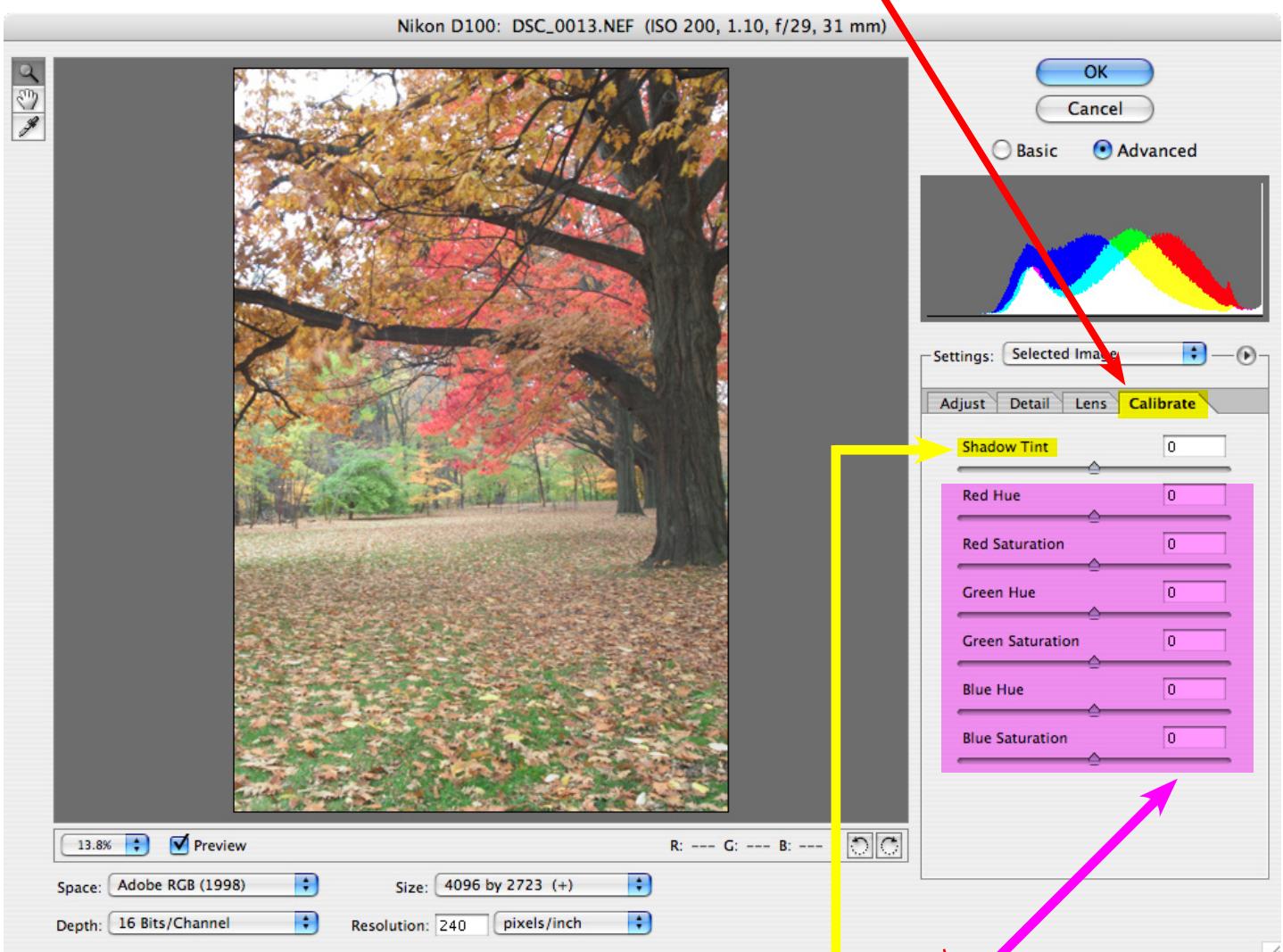


Figure 7 Camera Raw Plugin window open Calibrate Tab selected



Shadow Tint corrects the perceived color casts in shadows after the white balance has been set. Moving the slider left (negative) adds green to the shadows, moving slider right (positive) adds magenta to the shadows.

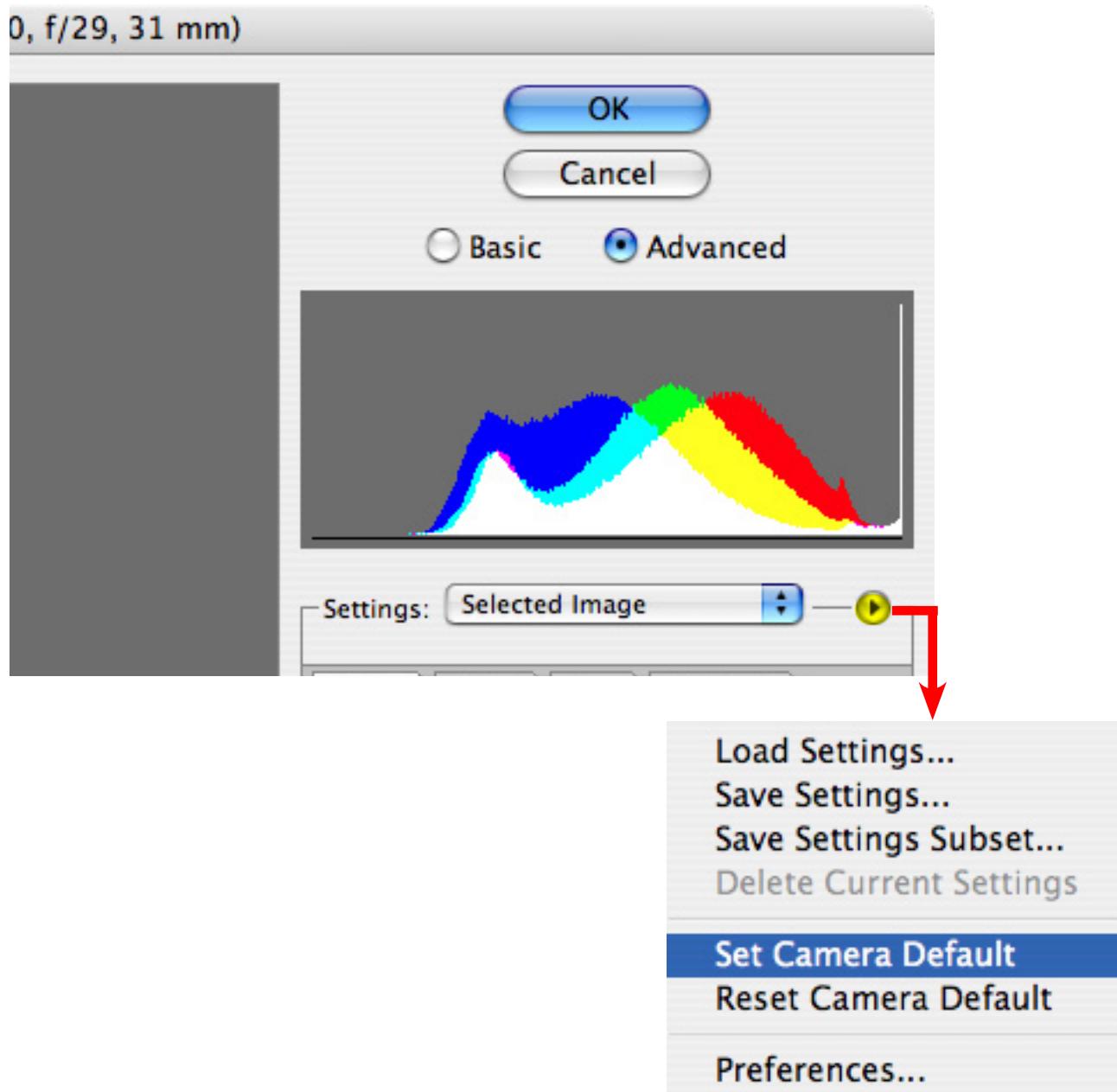
Hue/Saturation Adjusts the differences between the actual camera profile performance and the Camera Raw built in profile for that camera model.

Hue rotates the color positon on the color whell either CCW or CW.

Saturation left slider move (negative) desaturates the colors or right slider move (positive) saturates the colors

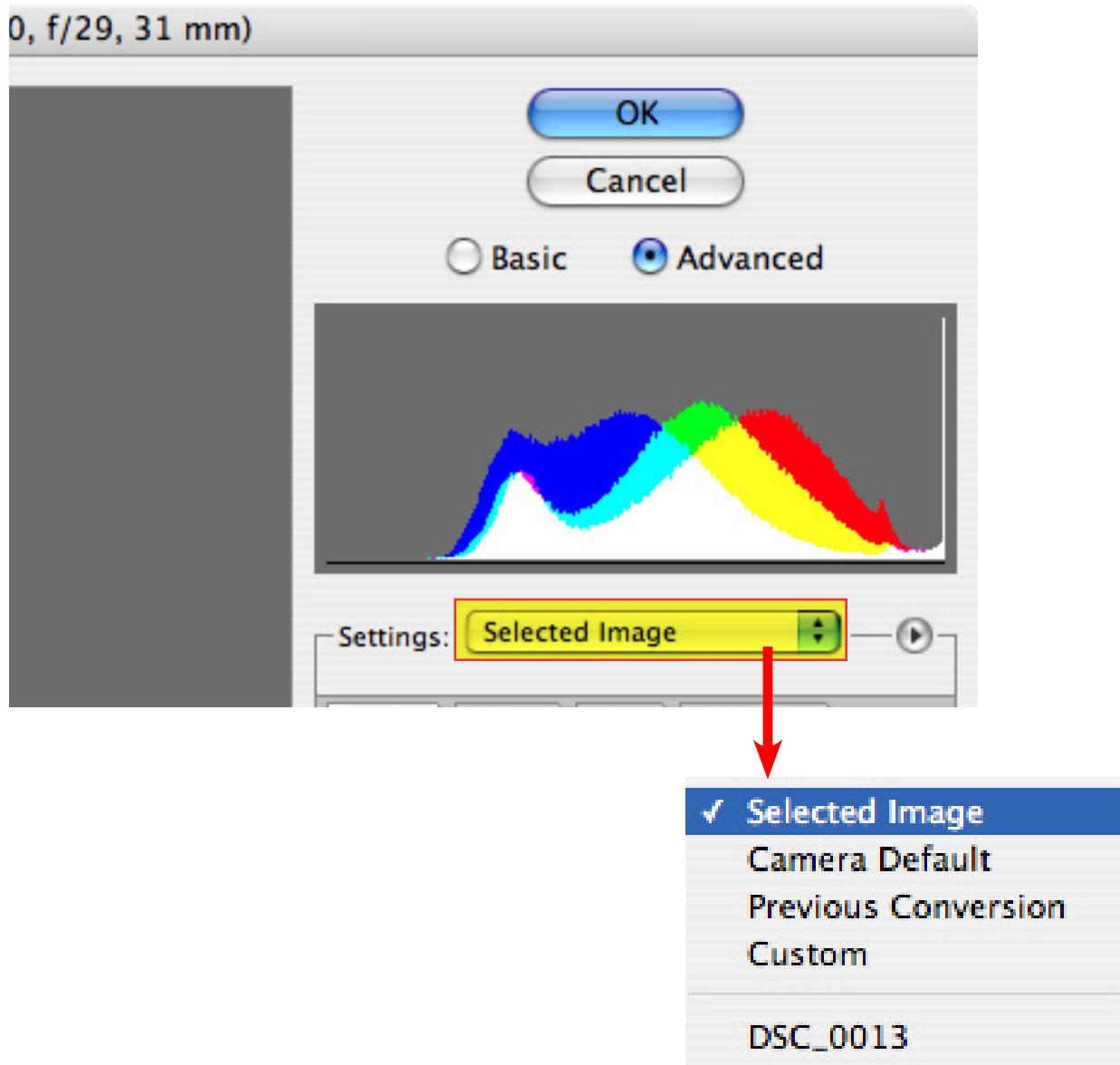
Figure 6 Camera Raw Plugin settings submenu open

Click on the small arrow to change the settings that image uses,I can also save the settings and apply them to other raw files. Or set he image back to the camera defult settings.



Set Camera Default applies the settings of the current camera, for example the camera used was a Nikon D100 so the plugin settings are configured for a Nikon D100 camera.
Reset Camera default returns the settings to the Camera Raw default settings.

Figure 7 Camera Raw Plugin settings submenu open



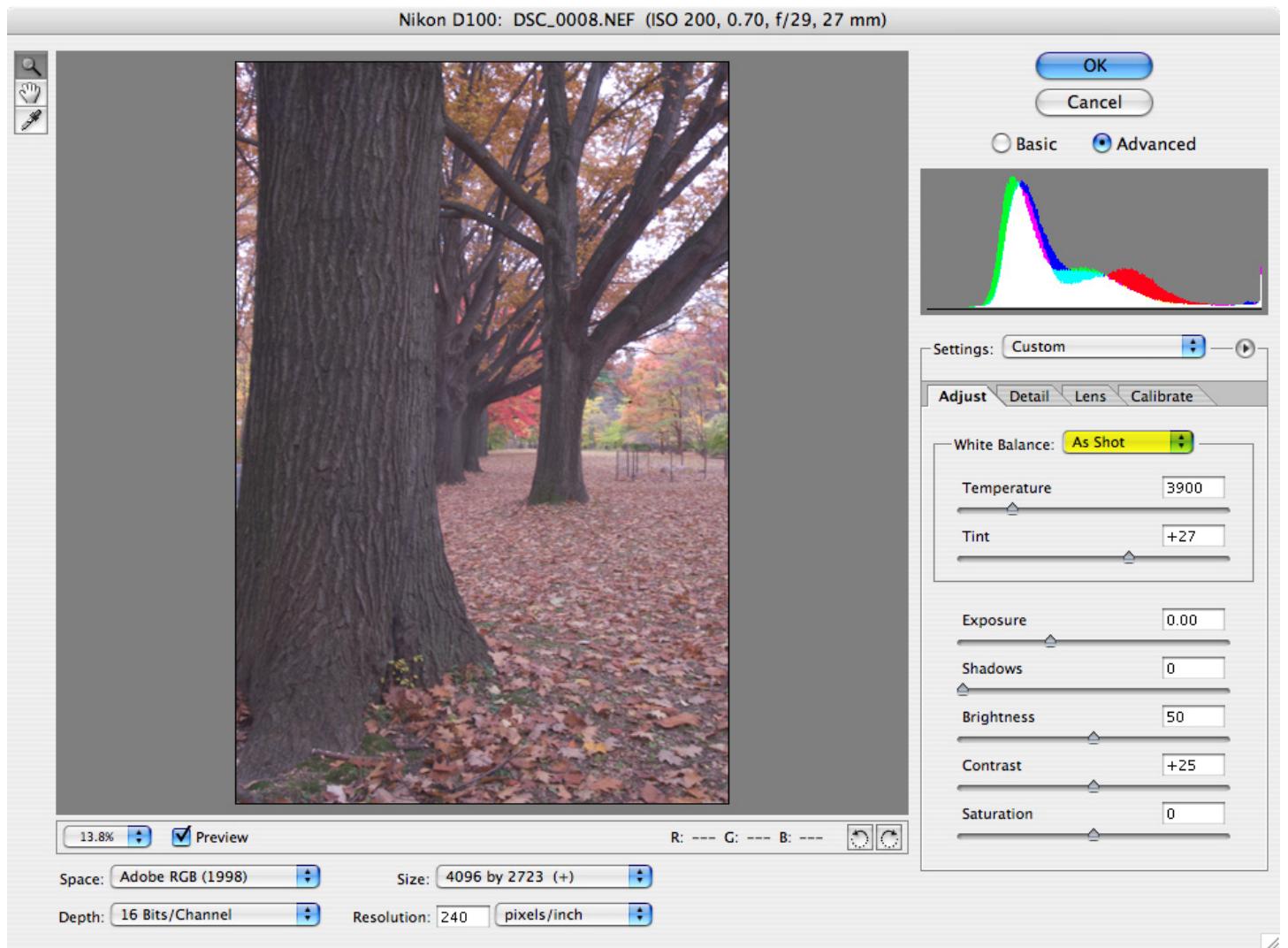
Selected Image uses the settings from the selected image, you can apply these settings to batch images.

Camera Default uses the default settings for the camera type.

Previous Conversion uses the previous conversion settings from the image and same camera model.

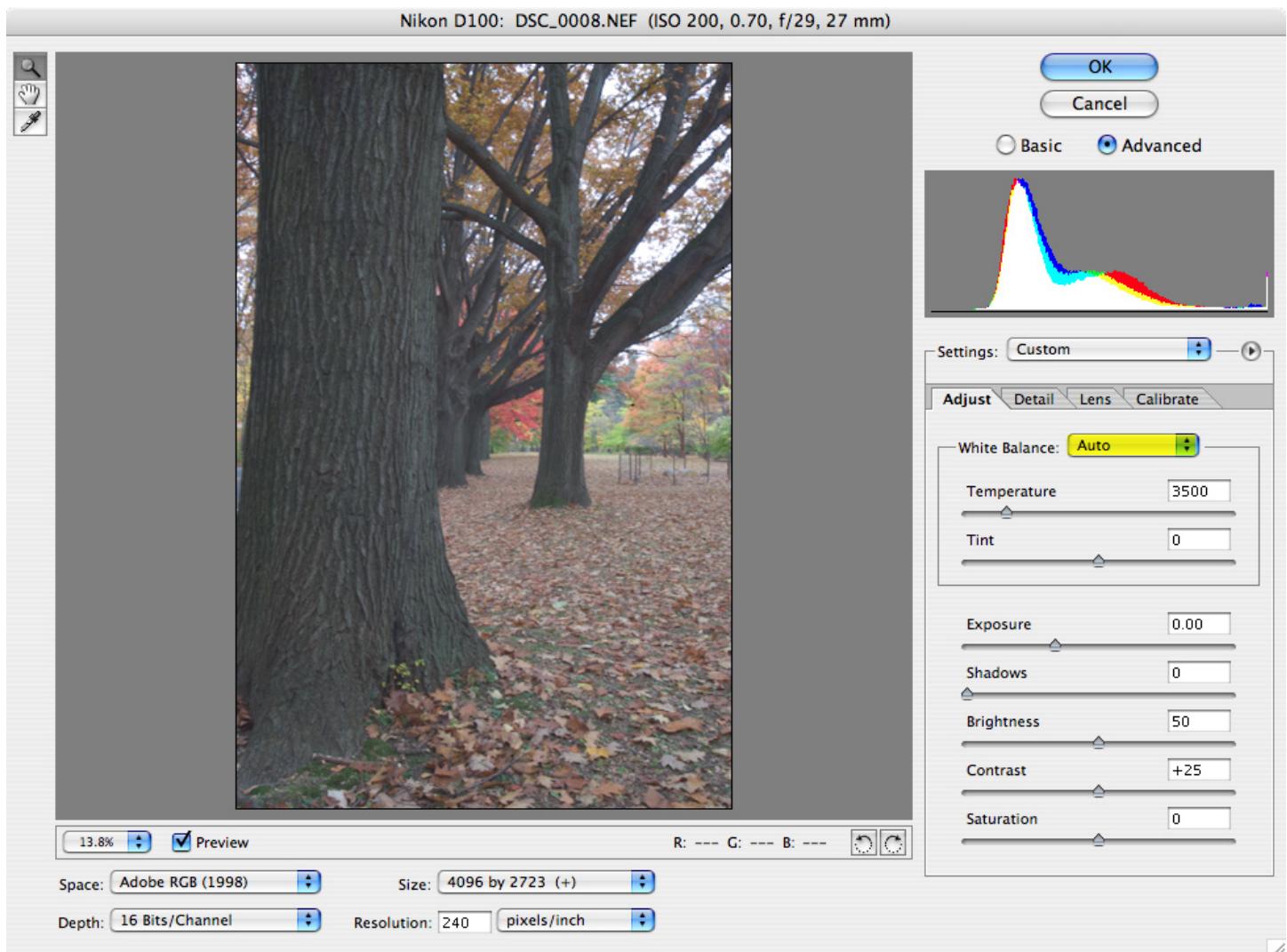
Custom apply customized settings to the image.

Figure 8 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance as shot



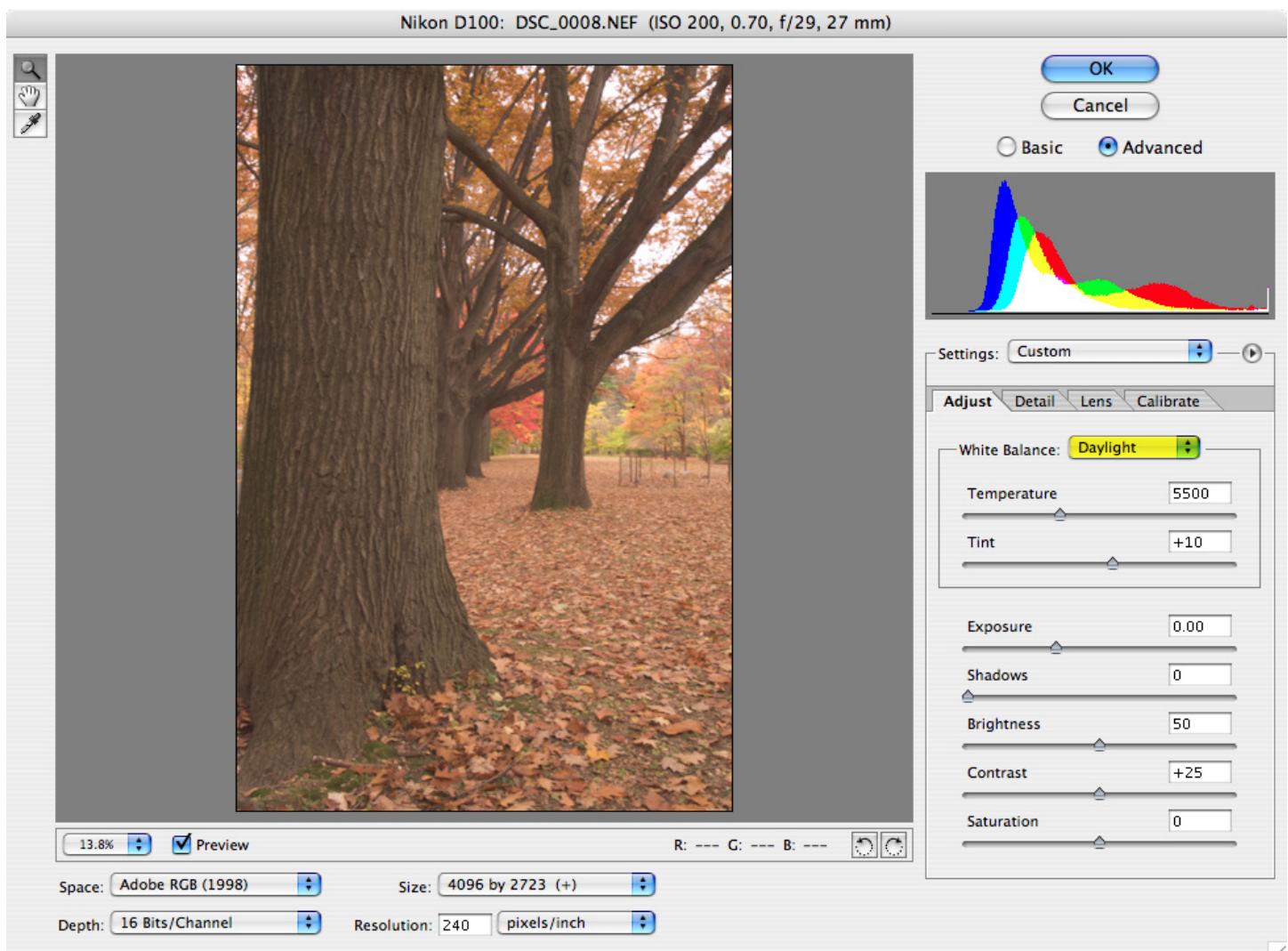
White Balance as shot

Figure 9 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance Auto



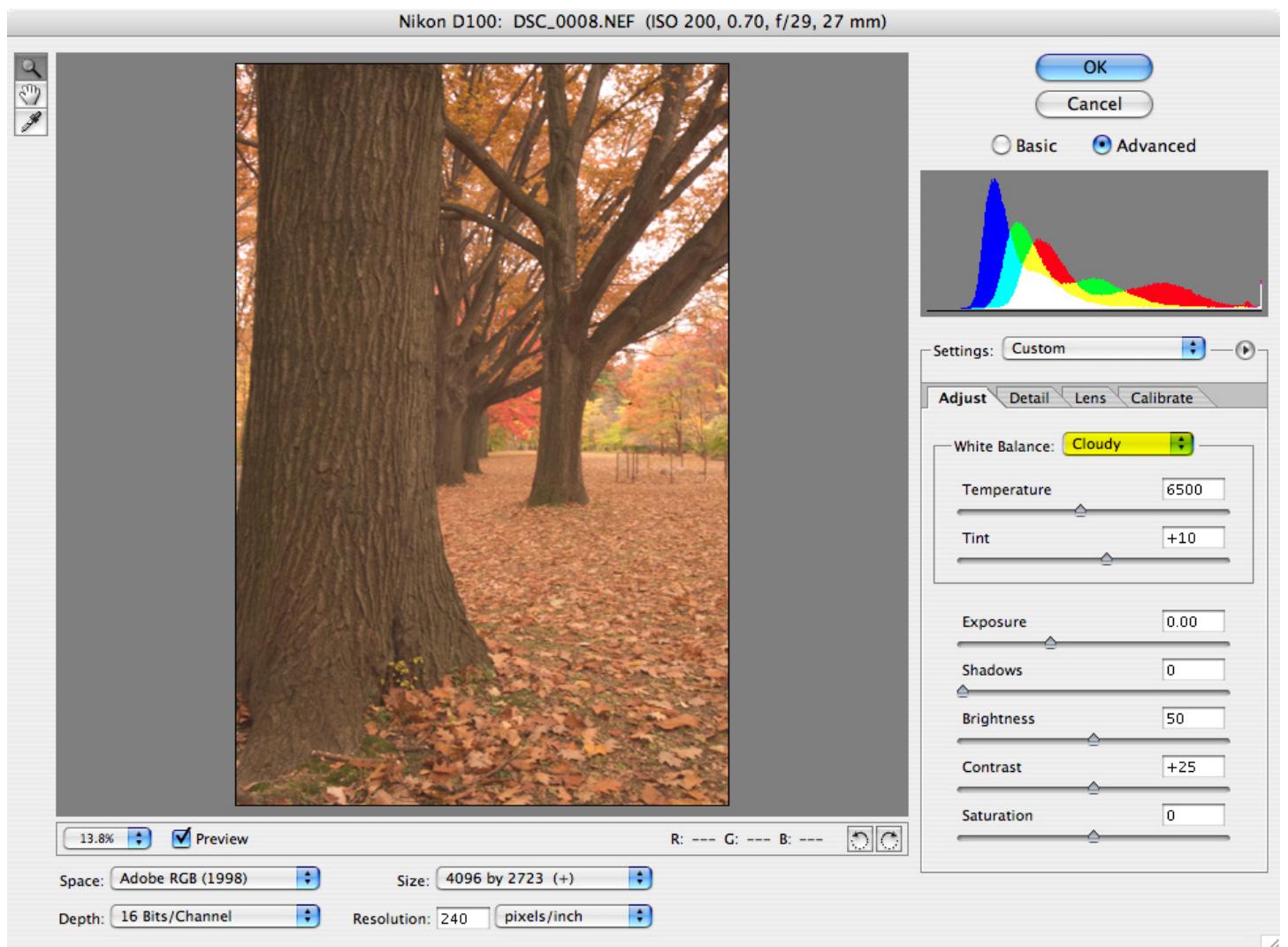
White Balance Auto

Figure 10 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance Daylight



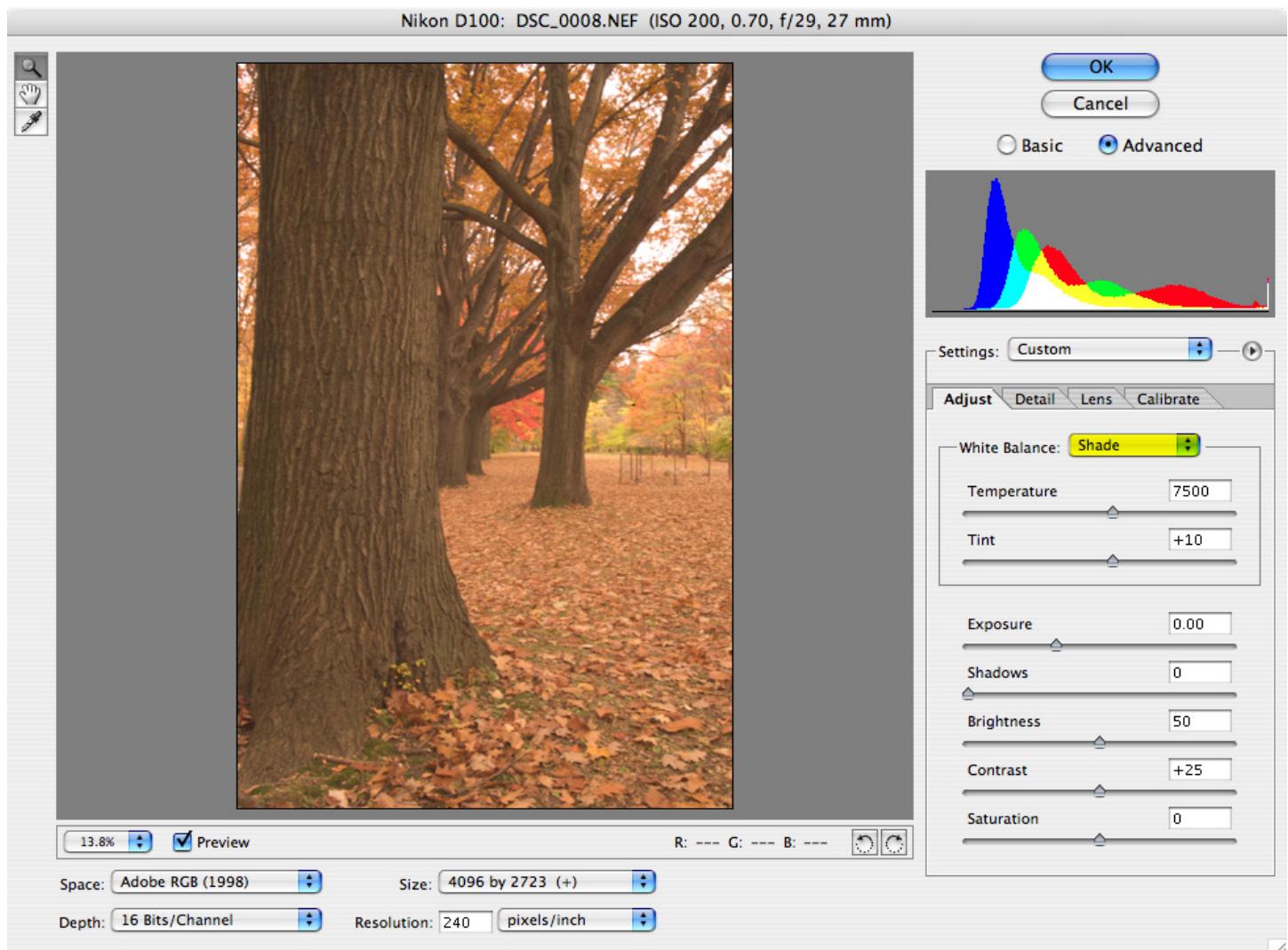
White Balance Daylight

Figure 11 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance Cloudy



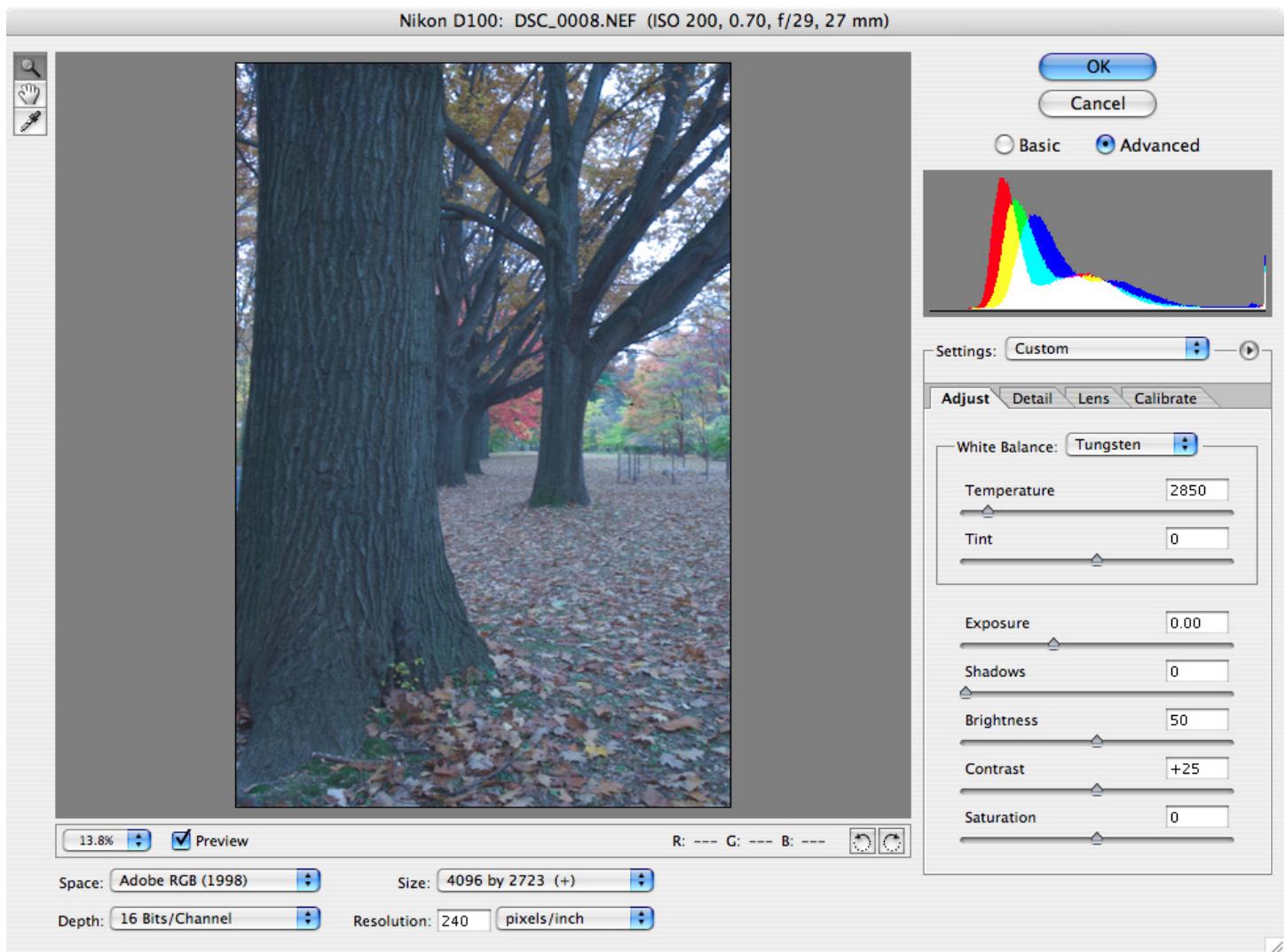
White Balance Cloudy

Figure 12 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance Shade



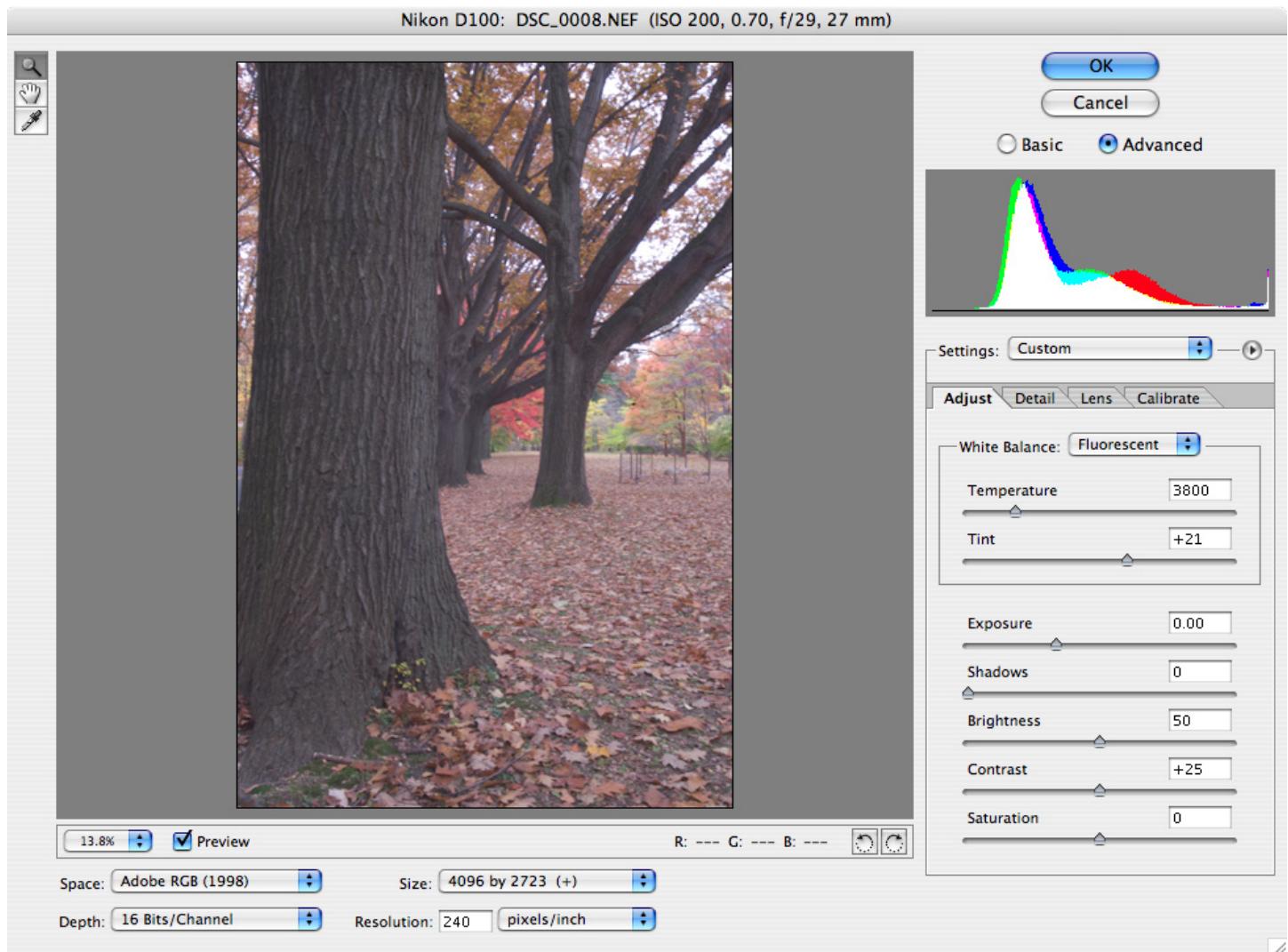
White Balance Shade

Figure 13 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance Tungsten



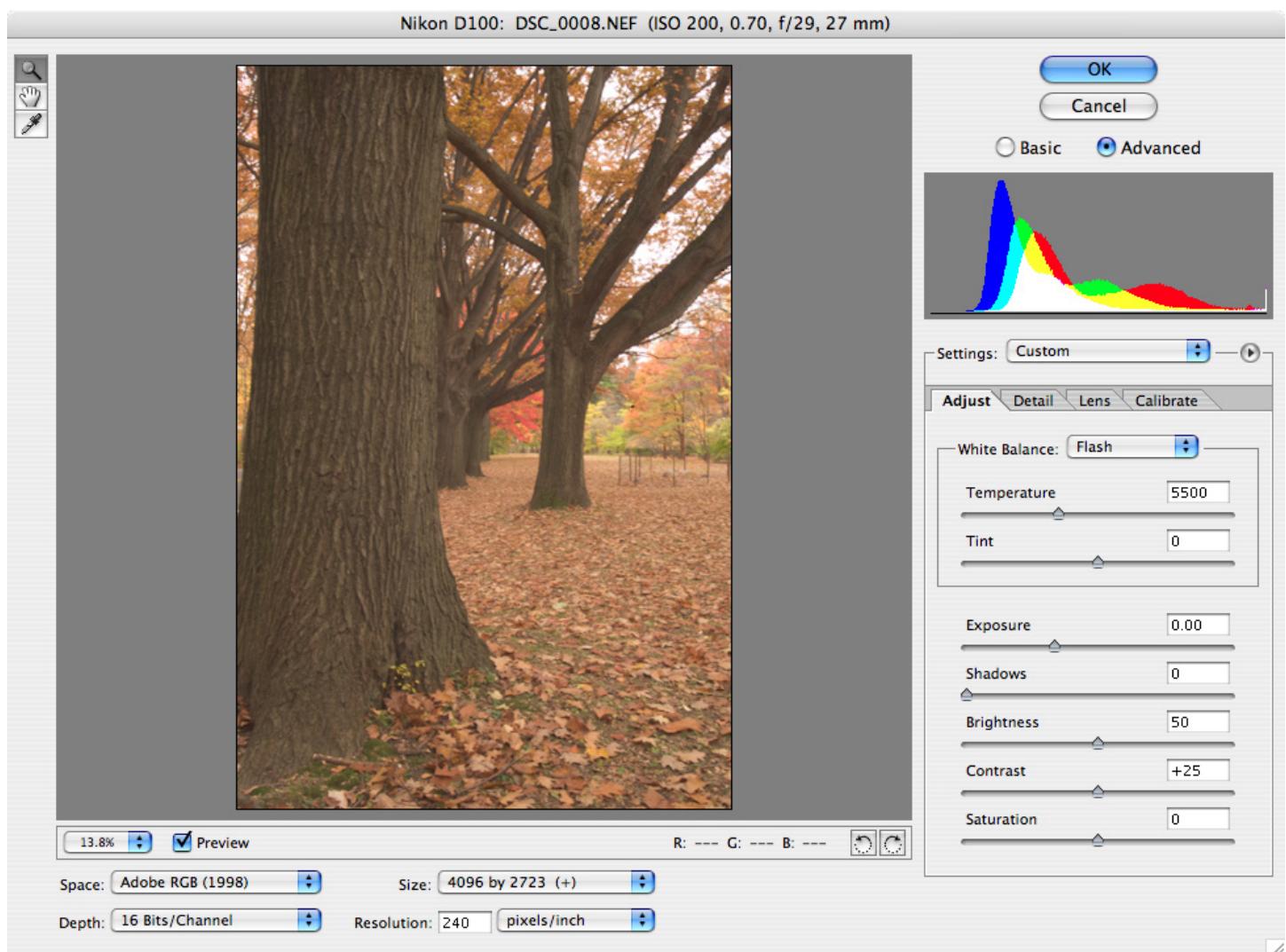
White Balance Tungsten

Figure 14 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance Fluorescent



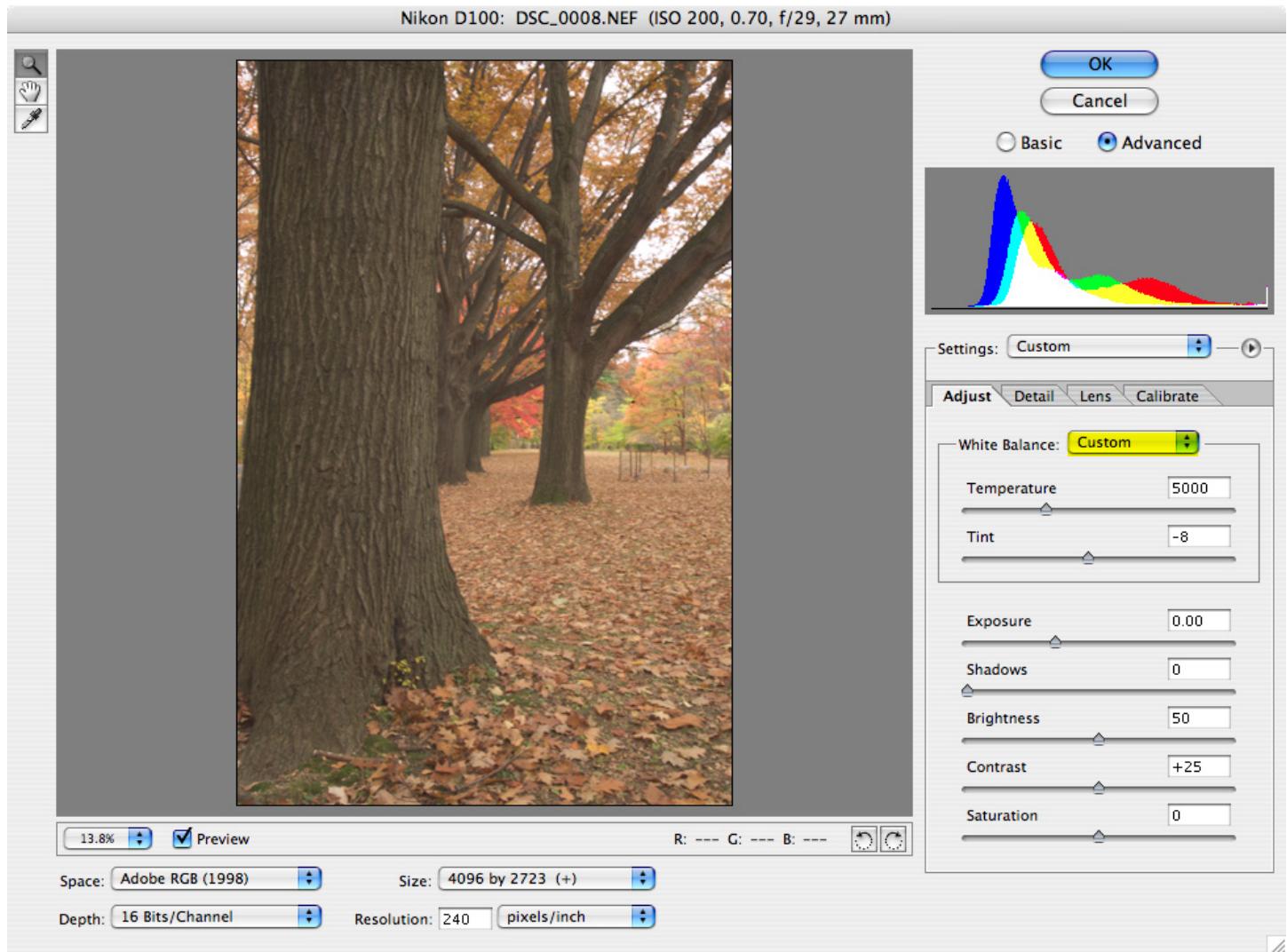
White Balance Fluorescent

Figure 15 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance Flash



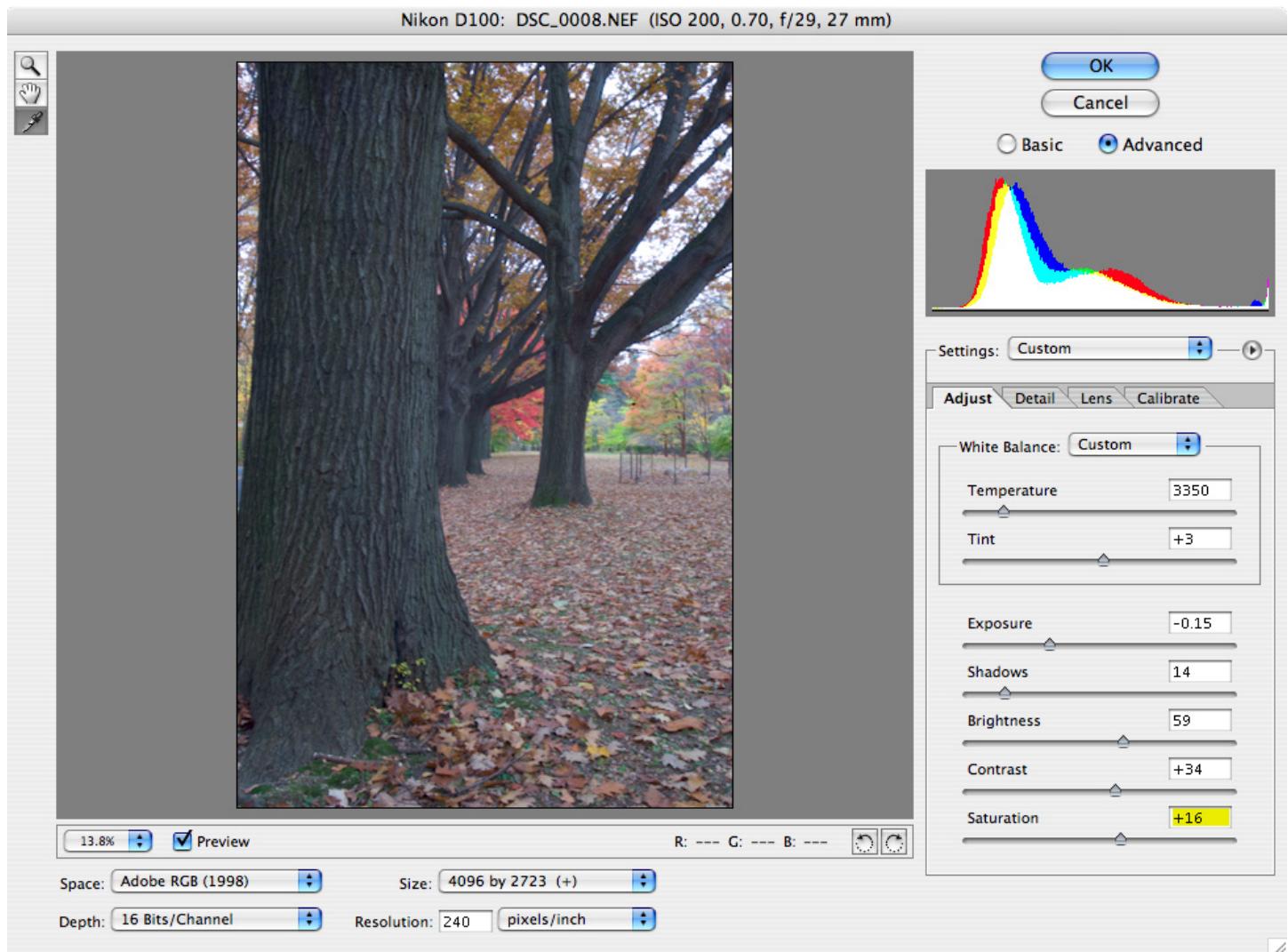
White Balance Flash

Figure 16 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance Custom light temperature 5000K tint -8



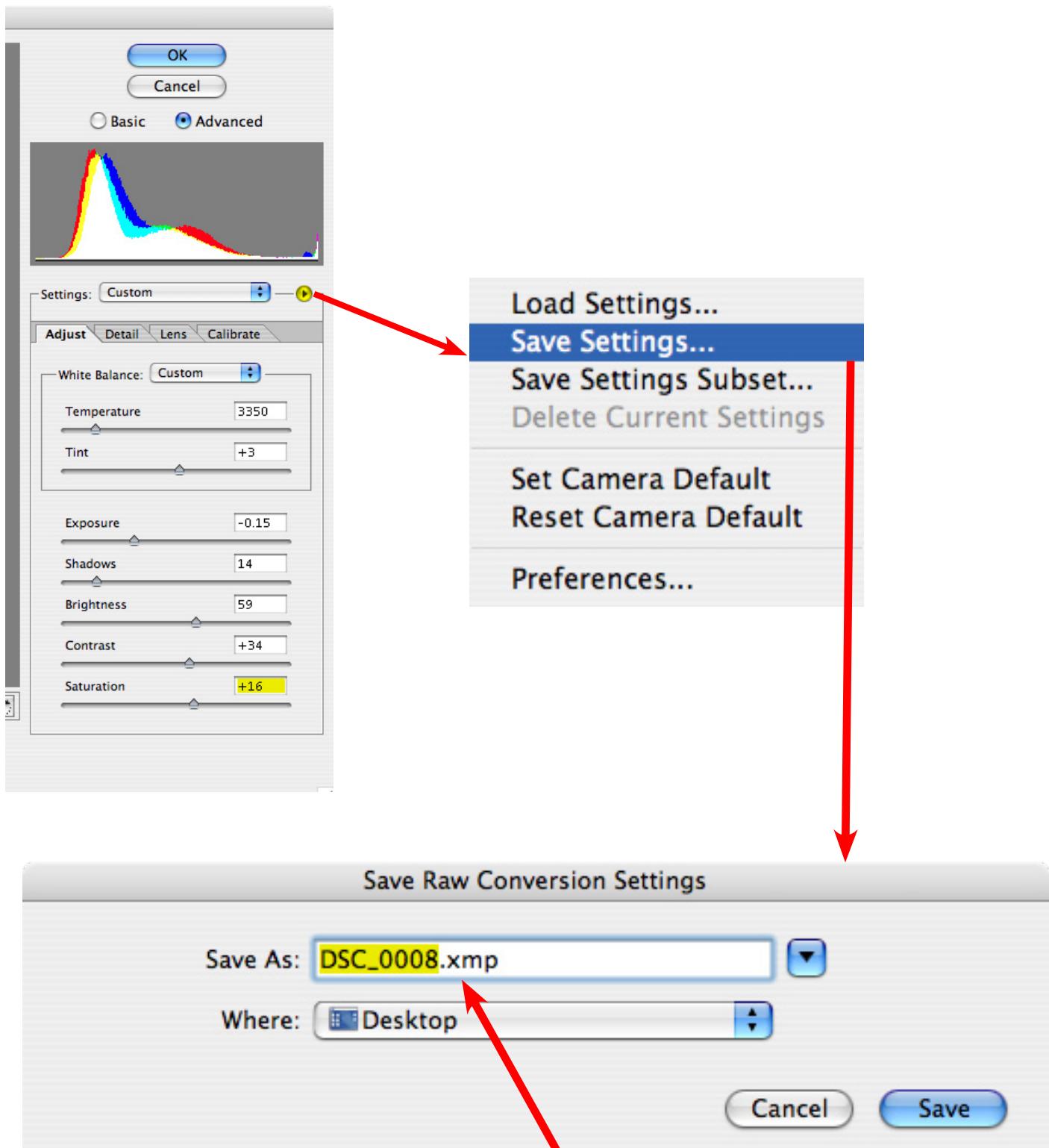
White Balance Custom light temperature 5000K, tint -8

Figure 17 Camera Raw Plugin White Balance Custom light temperature 3350K tint +3



White Balance Custom light temperature 5000K, tint +3

Figure 18 Camera Raw Plugin Save Settings submenu Open



Camera Raw Plugin Save Settings creates a sidecar file where the adjustments are saved.

Camera Raw Plugin Load Settings grabs the sidecar file and applies the image adjustments that were saved.