



ARTISTIC TOOLS
VOLUME THREE
- SETUP INSTRUCTIONS -

www.KUBOTALMAGETOOLS.COM TOLL FREE 877.330.4330

“EFFICIENCY IS INTELLIGENT LAZINESS.” – DAVID DUNHAM

YES, WE WANT TO MAKE YOU INTELLIGENTLY LAZY. WHY SPEND HOURS TRYING TO ACHIEVE THE BEAUTIFUL LOOKS YOU LOVE, DO THEM IN SECONDS! WE HAVE COMPILED A COLLECTION OF OUR FAVORITE ACTIONS - TOOLS THAT WE USE EVERYDAY IN OUR BUSY STUDIO - FOR YOU TO EASILY APPLY TO YOUR OWN WORK.

TO USE THESE ACTIONS, YOU NEED TO HAVE PHOTOSHOP CS OR HIGHER. PHOTOSHOP CS2 OR NEWER IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AS THE NEW FEATURES ARE WELL WORTH IT. A FEW OF OUR ACTIONS NEED CS2 OR NEWER TO WORK, AS THEY USE SOME OF THE UNIQUE FEATURES IN THE NEWER VERSIONS. ACTIONS ARE RECORDED SEQUENCES OF EVENTS WITHIN PHOTOSHOP. SOME ACTIONS ARE EASY TO RECORD, SOME REQUIRE COMPLEX STEPS, TROUBLESHOOTING, AND PLANNING. ALL SHOULD SAVE YOU COUNTLESS HOURS OF TIME OVER THE LONG HAUL - GIVING YOU MORE TIME FOR THE REALLY FUN STUFF.

THIS BRIEF MANUAL WILL COVER SOME BASIC INFO ON USING ACTIONS, THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR, AND TIPS FOR USING OUR ACTIONS ON YOUR IMAGES.

1 RUN THE INSTALLER

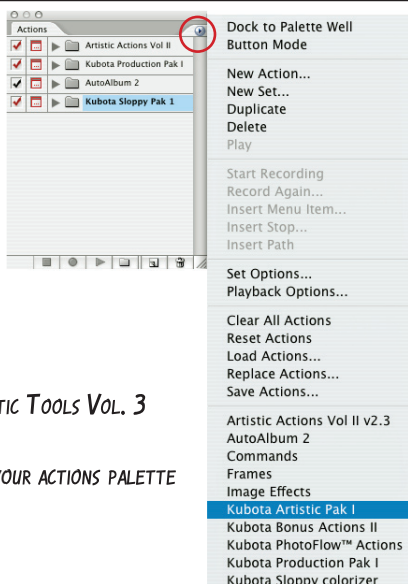
OUR INSTALLER WILL PLACE THE NECESSARY FILES IN THE CORRECT LOCATIONS, BUT YOU STILL NEED TO DO A FEW THINGS ONCE IN PHOTOSHOP TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS.

REMEMBER...ALMOST EVERY PROBLEM CALL OR EMAIL WE GET HAS TO DO WITH SOMEONE NOT FOLLOWING THE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY! WE LOVE TO TALK TO YOU, BUT LETS TALK ABOUT SOMETHING MORE INTERESTING, OK?

2

LOAD ACTIONS

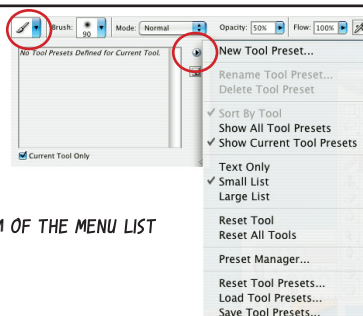
- OPEN YOUR PHOTOSHOP® APPLICATION
- OPEN YOUR ACTION PALETTE
WINDOW > ACTION
- FROM THE ACTION PALETTE,
CLICK ON THE LITTLE TRIANGLE
AT THE TOP RIGHT CORNER.
THIS OPENS YOUR ACTION OPTIONS.
SCROLL DOWN AND SELECT **KUBOTA ARTISTIC TOOLS VOL. 3**
- THE ACTION SET WILL NOW BE LOADED IN YOUR ACTIONS PALETTE
AND READY FOR USE.



3

LOAD CUSTOM TOOL PRESETS

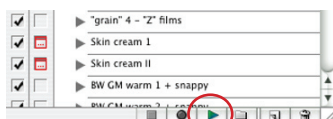
- SELECT YOUR BRUSH TOOL
- CLICK ON TOOL PRESETS
- CLICK ON THE LITTLE TRIANGLE AT THE TOP
RIGHT CORNER.
- CHOOSE **KUBOTAART3** TOOLS FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE MENU LIST
- SELECT **APPEND**



4

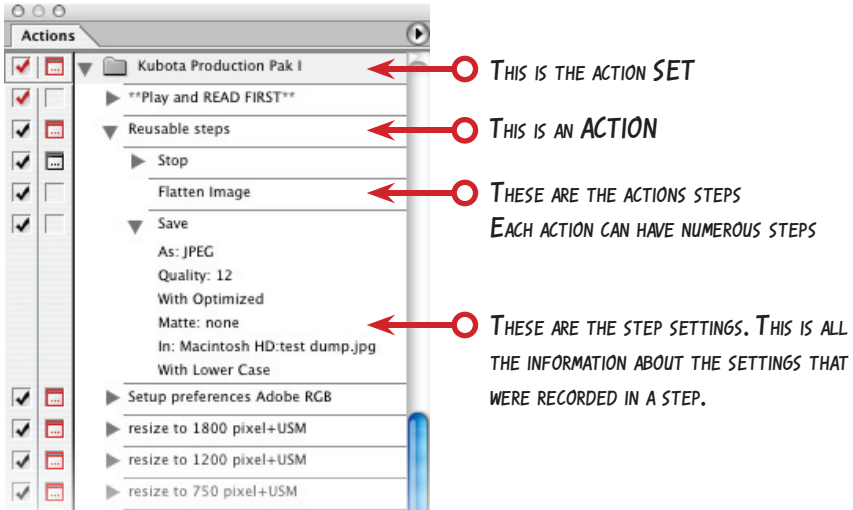
PLAY ACTIONS

- OPEN THE IMAGE YOU WISH TO ENHANCE
- SELECT ONE OF THE ACTIONS AND CLICK PLAY ON THE
BOTTOM OF THE ACTION PALETTE.



CLICK ON THE "PLAY" BUTTON

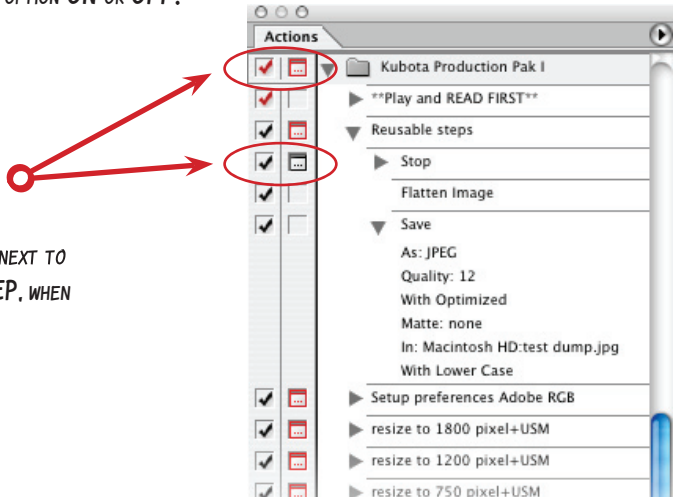
UNDERSTANDING THE ACTIONS PALETTE



CAUTION! DO NOT CLICK IN EITHER OF THESE COLUMNS UNLESS YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING! IF YOU CLICK A BOX NEXT TO AN ACTION OR ACTION SET, YOU COULD INADVERTENTLY TURN EVERY STEP OFF OR EVERY DIALOG OFF. THIS IS NOT UN-DOABLE OR REVERSIBLE! SOME ACTIONS NEED CERTAIN STEPS OFF AND CERTAIN ONES ON. IF IT HAPPENS, YOU'LL NEED TO THROW THE ENTIRE SET TO THE TRASH AND RE-LOAD IT FROM THE ORIGINAL .ATN FILE. PHOTOSHOP CS2 WILL DISPLAY A WARNING BOX BEFORE YOU ARE ABLE TO TURN THIS OPTION ON OR OFF.

NO TOUCHIE!

ONLY CLICK HERE, NEXT TO AN INDIVIDUAL STEP, WHEN NECESSARY.



IF AN ACTION IS STOPPED - BECAUSE A STOP STEP MAY ASK YOU TO DO SOMETHING BEFORE CONTINUING, YOU CAN RESUME WHERE YOU LEFT OFF BY SIMPLY CLICKING **PLAY** ON THE ACTION PALETTE AGAIN.

BEFORE AND AFTER

SOME OF THE ACTIONS USE COMPLEX LAYERING SCHEMES TO ACHIEVE A RESULT. IF YOUR DOCUMENT IS ALREADY HEAVILY LAYERED, THINGS COULD GET CONFUSING. ACTIONS THAT REQUIRE A FLATTENED IMAGE WILL FLATTEN YOUR IMAGE FIRST AUTOMATICALLY. DON'T WORRY, HOWEVER, A **SNAPSHOT** WILL BE TAKEN OF YOUR CURRENT IMAGE BEFORE THE ACTION RUNS, YOU CAN RESTORE IT TO PRE-ACTION CONDITION IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE EFFECT, OR WANT TO COMPARE IT TO ANOTHER ACTION. SIMPLY OPEN YOUR HISTORY PALETTE AND SELECT THE NAMED HISTORY STATE FROM THE TOP OF THE PALETTE.

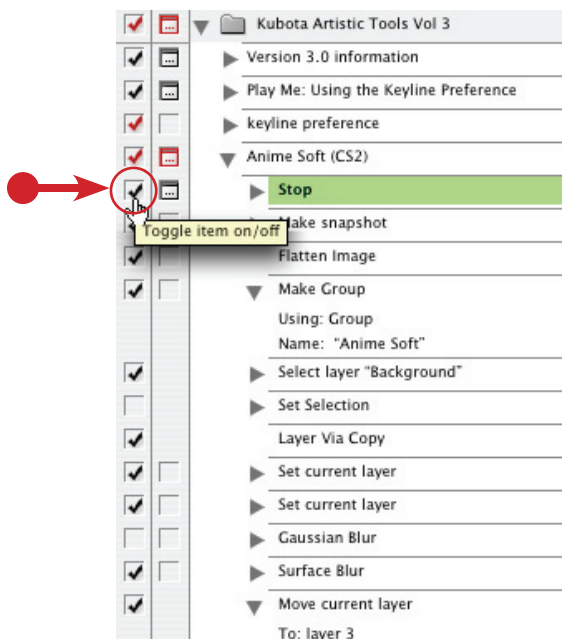
THIS IS ALSO A GOOD WAY TO COMPARE VARIOUS ACTIONS, SIMPLY RUN ONE, THEN CLICK THE **BEFORE** STATE, AND RUN THE NEXT ACTION. COMPARE THE RESULTS OF BOTH BY CLICKING THE **AFTER** STATES OF EACH ACTION.



CUSTOMIZING ACTIONS

MOST OF THE ACTIONS HAVE WARNING OR NOTE DIALOG BOXES THAT COME UP AT THE START OR FINISH. THIS IS TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IS HAPPENING. HOWEVER, ONCE YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH AN ACTION, YOU MAY NOT NEED THE DIALOG BOXES AND WANT TO TURN THEM OFF SO THE ACTIONS WILL RUN FASTER AND UNATTENDED. HERE IS HOW TO DO IT...

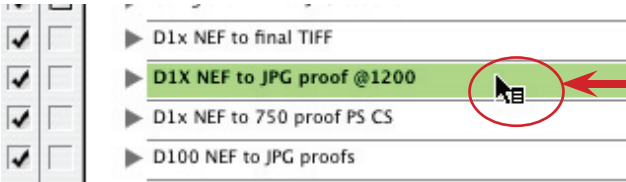
- 1) CLICK THE TRIANGLE NEXT TO THE ACTION YOU WANT TO MODIFY.
- 2) LOOK FOR THE **STOP** STEP.
- 3) TURN OFF THE CHECK BOX NEXT TO THE **STOP** STEP ONLY.



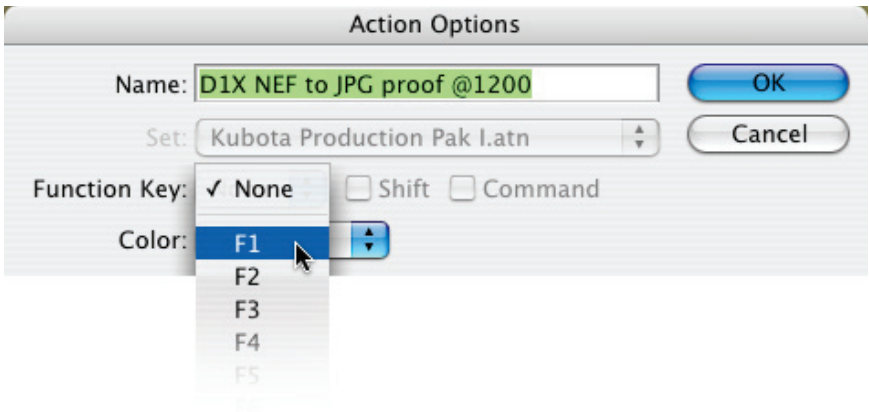
MANY OF THE ACTIONS WORK GREAT WHEN YOU COMBINE THEM. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU MAY RUN A COLOR ENHANCING ACTION, FOLLOWED BY A **BW** ACTION THAT YOU LIKE, FOLLOWED BY A BORDER AND KEYLINE. THIS IS HOW YOU CAN MIX-N-MATCH TO GET A VARIETY OF UNIQUE CUSTOM LOOKS.

USEFUL TIPS

DONT FORGET TO ASSIGN HOT KEYS TO YOUR FAVORITE ACTIONS! THIS ONE STEP ALONE CAN SAVE HOURS A MONTH (OK, MAYBE ONE HOUR A MONTH, BUT THAT'S ENOUGH FOR AN EXTRA SPECIAL LONG LUNCH!) IF YOU FIND YOURSELF USING A FAVORITE ACTION ALL THE TIME, DOUBLE CLICK NEXT TO THE NAME OF THE ACTION AND ASSIGN IT TO A FUNCTION KEY. WE PUT LABELS ON OUR KEYBOARD SHOWING WHAT EACH F KEY DOES.



MAKE SURE TO DOUBLE-CLICK TO THE SIDE OF THE NAME, HERE...



SOMEWHAT ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF ACTIONS



ACTIONS IN DETAIL

PLAY ME USING THE KEYLINE PREFERENCE

RUN THIS FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON SETTING UP THE FOLLOWING ACTION.

KEYLINE PREFERENCE

THIS IS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE BORDER AND KEYLINE SCRIPTS. TO USE, PLAY THE PREVIOUS ACTION FIRST FOR INSTRUCTIONS. IT ALLOWS YOU TO SETUP A KEYLINE COLOR OF YOUR CHOOSING IN ADVANCE, THEN RUN ONE OF THE SCRIPTS THAT USES THE PREFERENCE.

ANIME SOFT (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

A UNIQUE, PAINTERLY LOOK THAT SIMPLIFIES THE IMAGE AND MAKES IT LOOK HALF PAINTED, HALF PHOTOGRAPHIC. THIS SOFTER VERSION HAS A MORE MUTED COLOR PALETTE.

ANIME BOLD (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

A UNIQUE, PAINTERLY LOOK THAT SIMPLIFIES THE IMAGE AND MAKES IT LOOK HALF PAINTED, HALF PHOTOGRAPHIC. THIS BOLDER VERSION HAS A MORE VIVID COLOR PALETTE.

BLACK SATIN B&W

A NEW, RICH BLACK AND WHITE CONVERSION THAT TENDS TO LIGHTEN THE SKIN TONES. IT ALSO ADDS A RICH WARMING TO THE SHADOWS FOR A UNIQUE TONAL QUALITY.

BLACK SATIN B&W 2

A VARIATION ON THE ABOVE WITH LESS CONTRAST FOR MORE SHADOW AND HIGHLIGHT DETAIL.

BLACK SATIN B&W 3

A VARIATION ON THE ABOVE WITH A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT COLOR TONING AND SIMILAR CONTRAST TO ABOVE.

BLACK SATIN B&W 4

SAME COLOR TONING AS ABOVE BUT WITH LESS HIGHLIGHT CONTRAST.

BRONZED GOD 1

A BRONZE LIKE TONING ~ NOT QUITE SEPIA, BUT RICH AND FLAVORFUL.

BRONZED GOD 2

LIKE THE ABOVE, BUT WITH LESS OVERALL CONTRAST.

BRONZED GOD 3

LIKE THE ABOVE AGAIN, BUT EVEN LESS OVERALL CONTRAST.

DARK LINE ERASER

USE THIS TO REDUCE THE SHADOWS UNDER THE EYES, FOR EXAMPLE. REQUIRES THE CUSTOM TOOL PRESETS TO BE LOADED (INSTRUCTIONS IN THE BEGINNING OF THIS BOOKLET). AFTER RUNNING THE ACTION, START PAINTING WHERE YOU WANT TO LIGHTEN. PAINTING OVER AN AREA REPEATEDLY WILL CONTINUE TO LIGHTEN.

DEEP FOREST

YOU WANT RICH AND MOODY? YOU GOT IT. ONLY FOR THE ADVENTUROUS, CREATES DEEP, RICH COLORS AND GLOWING SHADOWS. TRY THIS ON YOUR ROMANTIC PORTRAITS AND SCENE SETTERS. AFTER RUNNING THE ACTION, A BRUSH WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE SELECTED FOR YOU. PAINT OVER THE EYES OR ANY AREA THAT YOU WANT TO RETURN SHARPNESS TO.

DOLL FACE (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

A BEAUTIFUL SKIN SOFTENING ACTION. DOES NOT ADD GLOWING. AFTER RUNNING THE ACTION, PAINT OVER THE SKIN TO SOFTEN IT. PAINT REPEATEDLY OVER THE SAME AREA TO INCREASE THE SOFTENING.

EYE COLOR ENHANCER

BRING THE EYES TO LIFE! SIMPLY RUN THE ACTION, THEN SELECT A BRUSH SIZE THAT IS JUST SLIGHTLY SMALLER THAN THE IRIS. DAB OVER IT TO BRING OUT THE COLOR AND MAKE THEM SHINE.

FASHION PASSION

FOR THOSE THAT LIKE CROSS-PROCESSED LOOKS, BUT WITH LESS BLUE IN THE SHADOWS AND MORE PLEASING SKIN TONES THAN A TRADITIONAL CROSS-PROCESSED EFFECT.

GLOW BABY

ADDS A BEAUTIFUL, SOFT GLOW AND ENHANCES THE COLOR AND CONTRAST AT THE SAME TIME. TRY THIS ON CHILDREN, GRADUATES, OR FASHION IMAGES.

HIGH FIDELITY

BRIGHT, INTENSE, LIKE GOLDEN SUNSHINE. EDGY AND VIVID.

HIGH FIDELITY MIDLIGHT

LIKE THE ABOVE BUT OPENS UP THE SHADOWS MORE.

HOLLYWOOD GLOW

BUILT AFTER OUR POPULAR HOLLYWOOD INTENSITY ACTION IN ART VOL. 1. HOLLYWOOD GLOW ADDS GLOWING SOFTNESS TO THE ORIGINAL LOOK. THIS BOLD COLORING ACTION IS GREAT FOR FASHION LOOKS AND OUTDOOR SCENES. DONT FORGET YOU CAN FADE THE INTENSITY OF ANY ACTION BY SIMPLY REDUCING THE OPACITY OF ITS LAYER SET.

KIYOKO PUNCH

A SUBTLE, EVERYDAY TYPE ACTION THAT WORKS GREAT TO ENHANCE COLORS - ESPECIALLY BLUE SKIES. THIS WAS DESIGNED FOR A WEDDING CLIENT PHOTOGRAPHED IN HAWAII AND USED ON THEIR COMPLETE SET OF IMAGES.

MOULIN ROUGE

PUNCHY CONTRAST AND AN OLD WORLD COLOR PALETTE. HINTS OF OAK AND SANDLEWOOD WITH A SMOOTH FINISH. TRY WITH CHEESE.

MOULIN ROUGE WITH GLOW

AS ABOVE BUT WITH A SOFT GLOW FOR MORE ROMANCE.

OVER-X HELPER - OVERALL

THIS WILL HELP TO RESTORE HIGHLIGHT DETAIL ON A SLIGHTLY OVER-EXPOSED IMAGE. IT ALSO WORKS WELL AFTER USING ONE OF THE OTHER CONTRAST ENHANCING ACTIONS WHEN THE HIGHLIGHTS BECOME TOO HOT. KEEP IN MIND THAT IF HIGHLIGHT AREAS IN THE ORIGINAL IMAGE ARE SEVERELY OVER-EXPOSED, NOTHING MUCH CAN HELP THAT.

OVER-X HELPER - PAINT IN

THE SAME AS ABOVE, BUT ALLOWS YOU TO SELECTIVELY PAINT OVER THE AREAS WHERE YOU WANT TO RESTORE HIGHLIGHTS. USED WHEN MOST OF THE IMAGE IS FINE, BUT CERTAIN AREAS NEED HELP.

POWER SOFT

A NICE OVERALL SOFTENING WITH VERY LITTLE GLOW. IF EYES BECOME TOO SOFT AFTER RUNNING, SIMPLY PAINT OVER THEM TO CLEAR ANY SOFTENING FROM THAT AREA.

PUNCH LITE

A LIGHT CONTRAST AND COLOR ENHANCING TOOL THAT YOU MAY WANT TO USE EVERYDAY.

RENAISSANCE

A DRAMATIC OLD WORLD FEEL WITH MORE PUNCH AND CONTRAST THAN MOULIN ROUGE.

RICH SHADOWS

SOMETIMES YOU JUST WANT TO RICHEN THINGS UP A BIT. THIS WORKS PRIMARILY ON THE SHADOWS, ADDING LOCALIZED CONTRAST AND COLOR BOOST. GREAT WHEN AN IMAGE FEELS HAZY OR LACKING IN OVERALL CONTRAST AND RICHNESS.

SIMPLE SOFT (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

A SUBTLE EVERYDAY SKIN SOFTENER. REDUCES THE MINOR IMPERFECTIONS IN SKIN. DOES NOT GLOW.

SKIN POWDER GENIE

WHEN YOU NEED COVER GIRL SMOOTHNESS, THIS IS THE TICKET. IT REQUIRES SOME MANUAL PAINTING, BUT IT WILL SETUP YOU ALL UP. SIMPLY RUN, THEN OPT/ALT-CLICK ON SKIN TO SAMPLE THE COLOR. THEN, START PAINTING WITH LARGE EVEN STROKES. RE-SAMPLE SKIN COLOR AS YOU MOVE AROUND TO DIFFERENT TONAL AREAS AND CONTINUE TO PAINT. THE EFFECT BUILDS AS YOU PAINT OVER THE SAME AREA. PROVIDES THE MOST REALISTIC SOFTENING AND SHAPING - SIMILAR TO USING SKIN POWDER AS MAKEUP PRIOR TO THE SHOOT.

SOFT WASH

A BRIGHT, SOFT, HIGH-KEY LOOK. TRY THIS WITH PORTRAITS ON A WHITE BACKGROUND FOR BEAUTIFUL, MODERN LOOKS.

SUPER HEROINE (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

HIGH CONTRAST, HIGH KEY. PUTS A SOFT WASH ON SKIN TONES. BOLD AND SASSY, LIKE YOUR FAVORITE SUPER HEROINE!

TEA STAINED

A SOFT, SUBTLE COLOR PALETTE SIMILAR TO WHAT YOU MIGHT GET FROM TEA STAINING A PRINT. ALL NATURAL, NO CAFFEINE.

THE LOOK

GENTLE ENOUGH TO BE USED EVERYDAY, BUT ADDS THAT PUNCH THAT MAKES IMAGES POP.

THE LOOK WITH SMOOTH (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

AS ABOVE, BUT WITH SKIN SMOOTHING AS WELL.

THE LOOK 2

A VARIATION ON THE COLOR PALETTE AND MORE CONTRAST.

THE LOOK 2 WITH SMOOTH (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

AS ABOVE, BUT WITH SKIN SMOOTHING AS WELL.

VELVETEEN 23 (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

THIS IS A RICH, COLOR PALETTE WITH SHADOWS THAT DIFFUSE OVER THE HIGHLIGHTS, SIMILAR TO TRADITIONAL DARKROOM DIFFUSION WHERE BLACK NETTING IS HELD UNDER THE ENLARGER LENS. 23 INDICATES THE INTENSITY AND HIGHER NUMBERS ARE STRONGER.

VELVETEEN 23 REDUCED (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

AS ABOVE BUT WITH REDUCED CONTRAST.

VELVETEEN 48 (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

STRONGER INTENSITY OF COLOR THAN VELVETEEN 23.

VELVETEEN 48 REDUCED (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

AS ABOVE BUT WITH REDUCED CONTRAST.

VELVETEEN 65 (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

STRONG, BOLD, AND MOODY.

VELVETEEN WITH EDGE DARK (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

AS ABOVE BUT ADDS AN EDGE DARKENING FOR MORE DRAMA, SIMILAR TO A VIGNETTE BUT FOLLOWS THE FRAME EDGES MORE CLOSELY - NOT A CIRCULAR VIGNETTING PATTERN.

VELVETEEN LIGHT (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

YOU MAY LOVE IT SO MUCH YOU WANT TO USE IT EVERYDAY, SO THIS IS THE BASIC VERSION.

VELVETEEN 48 AND B&W SATIN (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

COMBINES VELVETEEN WITH THE BLACK SATIN BW LOOK FOR A BEAUTIFUL COMBO.

VELVETEEN SHARPER AND B&W SATIN2 (REQUIRES CS2 OR NEWER)

SIMILAR TO THE PREVIOUS, BUT ADDS A SEPARATE LAYER ABOVE THAT RESTORES SOME OF THE FINE DETAILS AT THE EXPENSE OF SOME OF THE SOFT FEELING.

VELVETEEN ADJUSTER

SIMPLY SETS YOU UP ON THE PROPER LAYER TO BE ABLE TO REDUCE THE OPACITY OF THE LAYER SET SO THE EFFECT CAN BE FINE TUNED.

WASH OUT

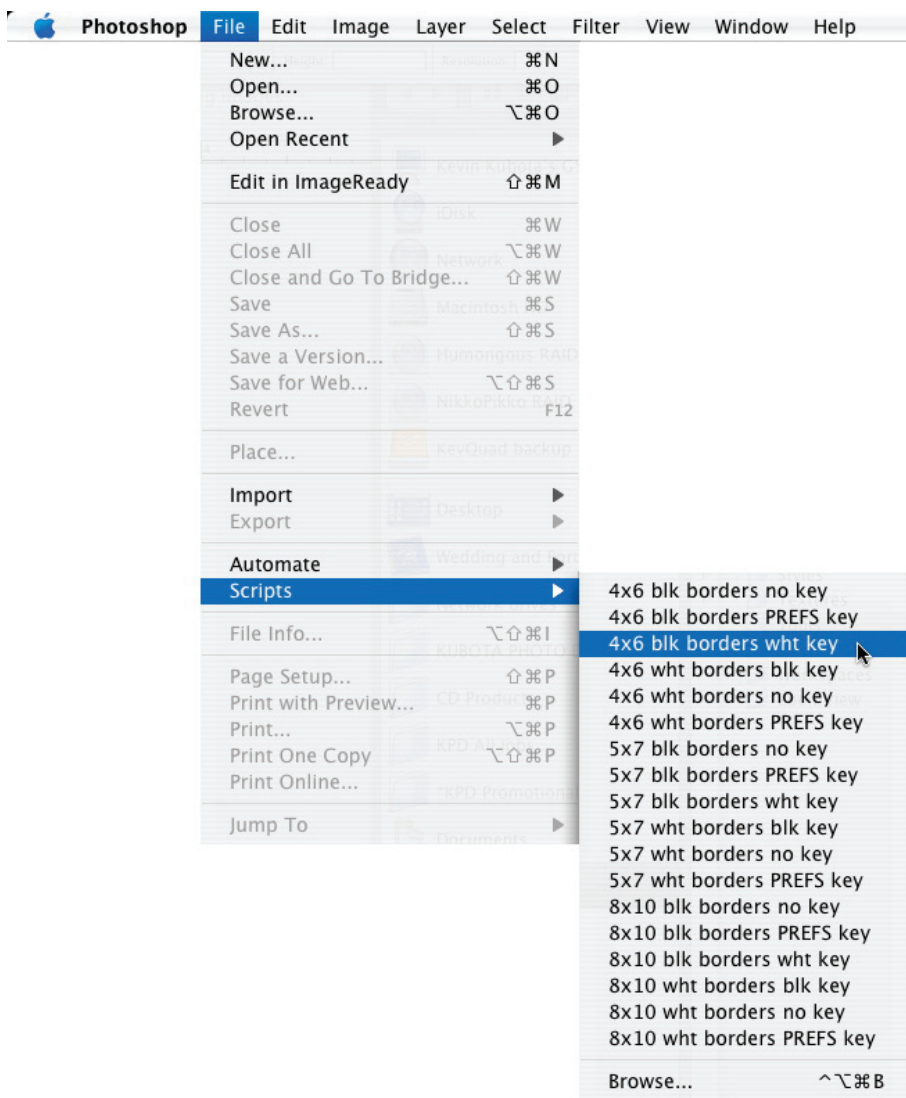
VERY HIGH KEY, CONTRASTY. GET THE OVER-EXPOSED LOOK WITHOUT LOSING HIGHLIGHT DETAIL.

USING THE SCRIPTS

THE SCRIPTS, WHICH ARE INSTALLED IN THE PHOTOSHOP/PRESETS/SCRIPTS FOLDER, ARE DESIGNED TO MAKE QUICK WORK OF AUTOMATING ADDING KEYLINES AND BORDERS TO IMAGES WHILE SIZING THEM TO COMMON PRINT SIZES. THE BLACK BORDERS WHT KEY SCRIPT LOOKS LIKE THE IMAGE BELOW



TO USE THEM, SIMPLY GO TO YOUR MENU - FILE-SCRIPTS AND SELECT THE ONE YOU WANT AS SHOWN BELOW



IF YOU PREFER TO CHOOSE YOUR OWN KEYLINE COLOR, OTHER THAN BLACK OR WHITE, USE THE SCRIPT WITH PREFS IN IT. PRIOR TO USING THE SCRIPT, MAKE SURE YOUVE SET YOUR PREFERENCE USING THE 2ND AND 3RD ACTIONS IN THE SET.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO USE THESE SCRIPTS IN A BATCH, SIMPLY CREATE YOUR OWN ACTION AND HAVE THE ACTION PLAY THE SCRIPT OF CHOICE. THEN RUN YOUR NEW ACTION FROM THE FILE-AUTOMATE-BATCH WINDOW.

HAVE FUN! AND DO NOT FORGET THAT YOU CAN CREATE LIMITLESS UNIQUE LOOKS BY SEQUENCING ACTIONS INTO YOUR OWN FAVORITE COMBINATIONS. ALSO, TAKE SOME TIME TO LOOK AT THE LAYERS THAT OUR ACTIONS CREATE AND SEE HOW WE DO THEM - IT IS A GREAT WAY TO LEARN TO CREATE YOUR OWN ACTIONS AND LOOKS. WE ARE NOT KEEPING ANY SECRETS FROM YOU!

YOU CAN VIEW A GALLERY OF BEFORE AND AFTER IMAGES USING THESE ACTIONS ON OUR WEBSITE [HTTP//WWW.KUBOTAIMAGE.COM](http://www.kubotaimage.com). FOLLOW THE LINK TO OUR PRODUCTS, AND SELECT THE PRODUCT YOU PURCHASED. THE LINK TO THE GALLERY IS IN THE PRODUCT DESCRIPTION. IT ALSO SHOWS SOME COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS THAT CREATE COOL NEW LOOKS.

WHILE YOU'RE ON OUR WEBSITE, BE SURE TO CHECK OUT TIPS & TRICKS FOR OUR FORUM THAT INCLUDES SUPPORT, FREE TUTORIALS, AND A GREAT EXCHANGE OF IDEAS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON OTHER TRAINING PRODUCTS THE DIGITAL RAW WORKFLOW FOR PHOTOSHOP CS2, AUTOALBUM, MINI-TUTORIALS, MORE ACTIONS, OR LIVE WORKSHOPS, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[WWW.KUBOTAIMAGE.COM](http://www.kubotaimage.com)

[INFO@KUBOTAIMAGE.COM](mailto:info@kubotaimage.com)

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