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Turn Photos into Illustrations with a Free Photoshop Action

By **Terri Stone**

Photographs excel at many things, from documenting reality to expressing the shooter's inner thoughts. But sometimes, only an illustration can break through the visual noise or fit a certain design. That's why we asked the talented [Photoshop](#) artist Nuwan Panditha (also known as [BlackNull](#)) to create the Scribble Artist Action Set exclusively for you, readers of Adobe Create magazine.

The Scribble Artist Action Set applies pen strokes, colors, and background textures to the light and dark areas of a photo. There are lots of ways to tweak the effects—this is not a cookie-cutter filter—so that you can transform photos into unique, custom drawings.

Download Scribble Artist Action Set & Guides

We hope you use the results of the action in both personal and commercial projects, but please don't re-distribute the action.



INSTALLING THE ACTION SET ELEMENTS



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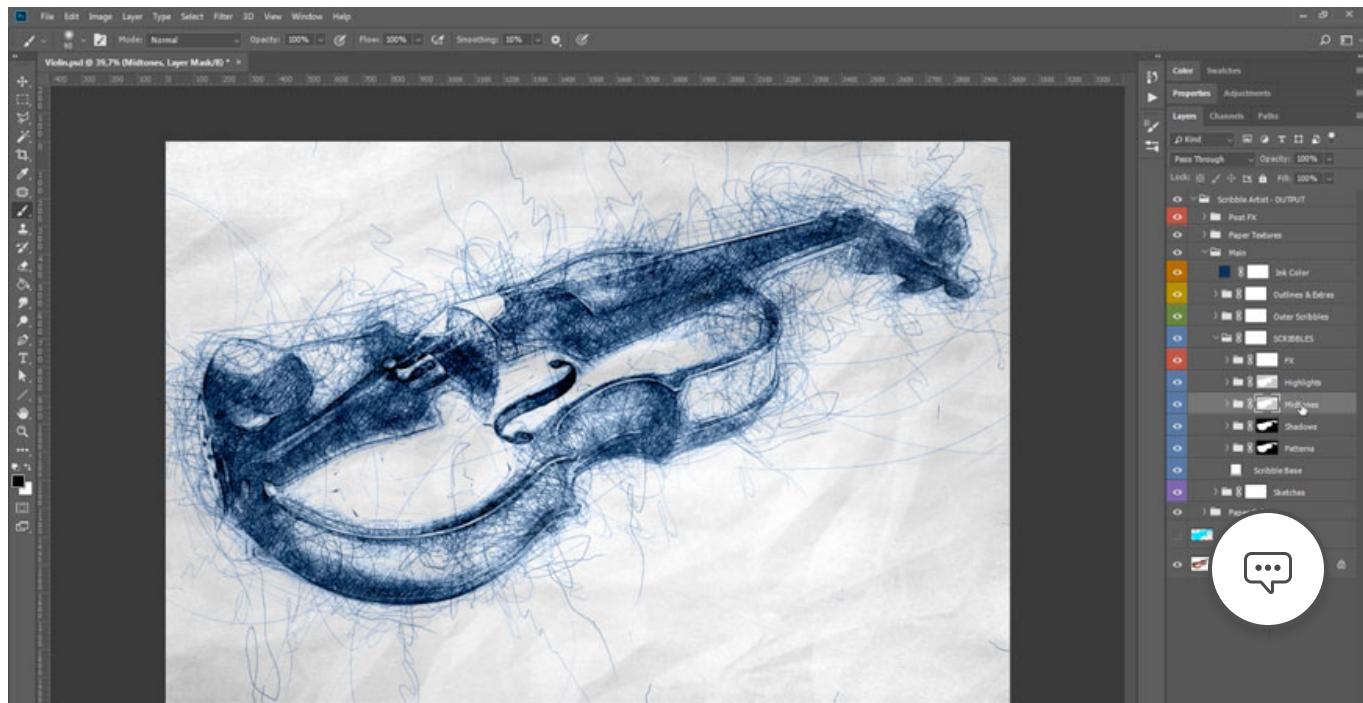
5. Open the Actions panel, select the SCRIBBLE ARTIST action, and click the triangular Play icon at the bottom of the panel. At the beginning of the playback, a message will appear: "In Photoshop's Options bar, the Brush tool's Opacity and Flow parameters must now be set to 100%." If they are, click Continue. If they are not, click Stop, correct the two values, and click the action's Play button again.

The action will take from two to four minutes, depending on the resolution of the image and your machine, and will generate many layers.

CUSTOMIZING THE RESULTS

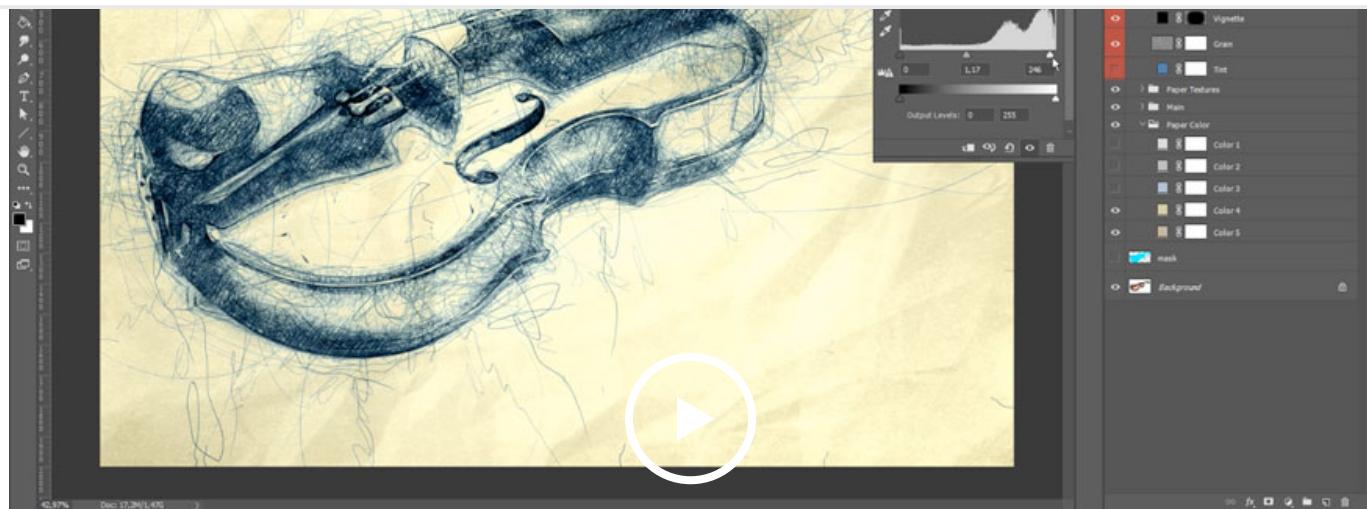
Every photo is different, and not all are well-suited to the base Scribble Artist action.

However, Nuwan Panditha is an action customization master—the two videos below explain some of the ways you can make each image your own.





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Don't pass up these customization videos—they're full of tips.

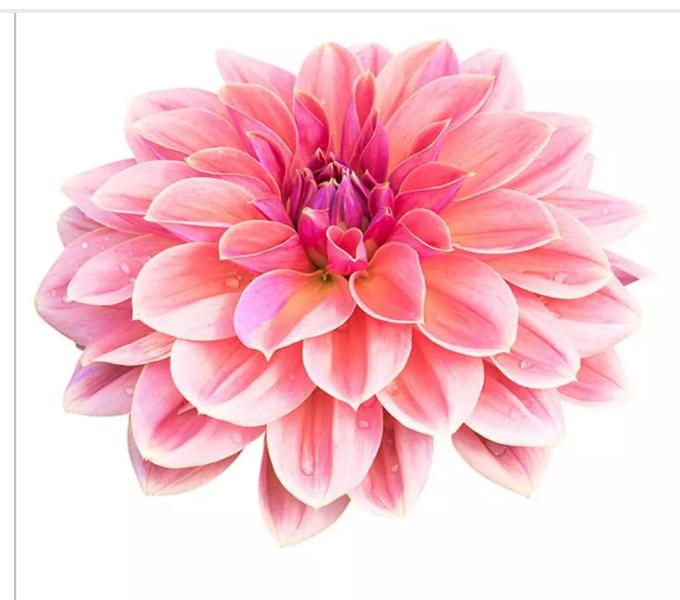
EXAMPLES

You can use the Scribble Artist Action Set on all sorts of subjects: Faces, flowers, buildings, and much more.





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